

Grade Definitions: Most of the grade definitions are self-explanatory. However, as you look at the ones “outside” the K-12 range, it’s helpful to know who might legitimately be recorded under those. Remember that the ES-237 is only one way to report various activities throughout the year, and that it is designed to primarily report K-12 educational activities of 6 hours or more.

What about people who do not fall within either the grade categories, or the definitions below? Pre-schoolers should not be counted in Blue Ribbon for inclusion in the ES-237—they should be reported by another means, perhaps Families reporting, or the county Stakeholder Report. Adults who attend educational events can be entered into Blue Ribbon in the Training Log, particularly if the topic was leadership or parenting education. Adults (and Youth) who help conduct educational events should be entered into Blue Ribbon under Youth Group Volunteers, as opposed to Youth Group Enrollments (only youth, and only those who are the recipients of 6 hours or more of educational programming).

Not in school: This grade category refers to those young people who are between 5-19 years of age, but are not attending school. The primary use for this designation would be drop-outs. It is NOT the place to record pre-schoolers (they are not K-12, so should not be recorded in Blue Ribbon for the ES-237 report) or for home-school children (they should be placed in the approximate grade level that their age would indicate).

Post-HS education: The use for this designation would be extremely limited. One possible example would be an educational event that was held for last year’s now-graduated county council members. If, however, they were conducting the event, they would be recorded as volunteers, not participants.

Special: This designation is reserved for “mentally challenged individuals of any age”.

Residence Definitions: These are also pretty self-explanatory, and for the most part, you can just assume with members that they live where they tell you they live.

Farm—Uses the US Census definition of “all persons living in rural territory on places from which \$1000 or more of agricultural produces were sold, or normally would have been sold, in the reporting year.” (If you know me, you KNOW I didn’t write that...)

Rural—“Persons who live in towns under 10,000 and in ... open country situations not reported as farm in above definition.” (again, who wrote that???)

The thing is, those definitions would separate participants who live on producing farms (Farm) from those who live on acreages, but whose parents do not farm (Rural). That’s a pretty fine definition, and not one that is crucial to micro-manage. Do the best you can, and accept what the kids/parents say about where they live.

Town/City 10K-50K—Pretty self-explanatory

Suburbs of cities over 50K—I suppose there could be a question about whether West Des Moines is a city or a suburb... there are few suburbs in Iowa, because there are few cities.

Central City over 50K—Our urban cities—Sioux City, Council Bluffs, Des Moines, etc.