

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Douglas County

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Dear 4-H Member,

We believe in the benefits that the 4-H Program provides to young people, and that, eventually, those young people want to have a way to give back to the program in a positive way. An excellent way to do this is to commit to being a 4-H Ambassador.

Please read the enclosed materials carefully to learn more about the expectations we have for 4-H Ambassadors. You would serve as a team member and share a spirit of cooperation with your teammates. If that appeals to you, please apply. If you see the team as a priority in your busy life, please apply. If you have the time to devote to Ambassadors, please apply. If you are interested in using your talents to encourage more Douglas County children to be involved in the 4-H program, please apply. If your parents support your desire to be an Ambassador, please apply.

The application process includes an interview and presenting a short speech. The topic for the speech is: "What 4-H has meant to me" or "The person who has influenced my life for the better..." Please contact a valued adult, and pass on to them the enclosed **recommendation form**. This is time sensitive and please alert them to your deadline. They can submit the form directly to the extension office. You should submit your completed application to the extension office by the deadline on the application form. We will contact you about the date of your interview.

Thanks again for making the best better!

Sincerely,

Sue Ashcraft and Robyn Kelso
4-H Ambassador Advisors

Nickie Harding
4-H Youth Development Agent
Douglas County K-State Research & Extension

Kansas State University, County Extension
Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S.
Department of Agriculture Cooperating.

K-State Research and Extension is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

*Knowledge
forLife*





Kansas 4-H Ambassador Description

PURPOSE:

- To work together with a team of 3-8 Ambassadors and an adult advisor to develop a small scale public information program for the county/district 4-H program.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Promote 4-H to all audiences
- Tell the 4-H story through media and personal appearances
- Organize 4-H promotional events and activities
- Develop communication skills
- Promote County/District 4-H events
- Encourage financial support to 4-H
- Develop an understanding of Kansas and County/District 4-H Programs
- Support K-State Research and Extension
- Network with non-4H groups
- Attend training as scheduled

QUALIFICATIONS:

- High School Freshman to age 18
- Enthusiastic about 4-H
- Interest in promoting the 4-H program
- Ability to communicate with youth and adults
- Ability to accept and follow through with responsibilities
- Time and commitment
- Member of the County/District 4-H Program

CONTACT PERSON:

- County/District 4-H Ambassador Advisor
- County/District Extension Agent

RESOURCES AND TRAINING AVAILABLE:

- State 4-H Ambassador training held in the Spring
- 4-H Ambassador Handbook
- Local marketing and media professionals
- State 4-H Ambassador Action Team

TIME REQUIRED:

- 1 or 2 year term
- 4-8 hours per month

BENEFITS OF THE POSITION:

- Increased visibility and enhanced image for the 4-H Program

BENEFITS OF THE AMBASSADOR:

- Through this experience, Ambassadors will have the opportunity to learn, practice and prove communication, marketing, employability and job skills.



Ambassador Roles, Responsibilities

Ambassador roles vary from county/district to county/district. But, in general, 4-H Ambassadors are 4-H members who promote the county 4-H program to local residents. Audiences can include 4-H'ers, school groups, civic organizations, government officials, senior citizens, business people - any individual or group interested in learning more about 4-H!

The length of a term as an Ambassador is two years. The number of Ambassadors in a county range. Most counties have a formal application and interview process to select Ambassadors

Qualifications also vary from county/district to county/district. Some counties/districts have age or year-in-4-H restrictions. All county 4-H Ambassador programs require a sincere desire to promote 4-H, willingness to interact with the general public, interest in improving communication skills, willingness to speak in front of groups and a commitment of your time and energy.

Being an Ambassador has many benefits:

- Increase your knowledge of 4-H
- Improve your self-confidence
- Improve your communication skills
- Gain new leadership skills
- Become more aware of your own strengths and capabilities
- Enjoy getting others excited about 4-H

There are many 4-H messages that you will want to share with audiences:

- 4-H encourages youth to take pride in their accomplishments
- 4-H gets youth involved in service to their community
- 4-H gives you the satisfaction of working with others
- 4-H helps youth develop life skills through projects, activities and recordkeeping
- 4-H helps youth learn to be responsible
- 4-H is an organization "of" and "by" youth
- 4-H is for all youth
- 4-H prepares youth for work
- 4-H teaches youth how to communicate
- As youth work together through 4-H, they learn to listen well and speak confidently, as well as work cooperatively and develop leadership skills
- Because 4-H clubs are lead by youth, members learn about cooperation, compromise, leadership and teamwork
- Parents and their children learn together through 4-H, benefiting the entire family
- Planning, competing and exhibiting a 4-H project teaches work place skills, such as goal setting, responsibility, priority setting, timeliness and accountability

To be an Ambassador, of course, you'll want to become as skilled as you can in areas of public speaking, news writing, radio, photography and visuals. But you'll also need to know and understand the 4-H program so you can become an effective spokesperson.

County/District 4-H Information

You'll need to know the county/district 4-H program well. Your county/district Extension Office can provide the important statistics about your county/district program, such as number of clubs, total number of 4-H members, number of members by age, number of 4-H families, number of adult and youth leaders, projects with top enrollments and major 4-H activities.

Douglas County 4-H Ambassador Application

Return this application and a letter of recommendation to:

Douglas County Extension Office

By: October 2, 2023

Ambassadors need to be interested in public speaking and making presentations in front of groups.

To qualify as a 4-H Ambassador, applicants must:

- be in the ninth grade or above
- have completed two or more years of 4-H
- agree to give presentations on 4-H each year
- be interviewed by judges to discuss your application
- give a speech on “What 4-H has meant to me” or “Someone who has influenced my life for the better”
- have approval and written recommendation by an authorized adult*

*Adults authorized to provide approval and recommendations are: County Extension Agent; 4-H Program Assistant; County Volunteer Ambassador Coordinator, 4-H Leader, or School Teacher.

Parents are not authorized adults, even if your parent is your 4-H Leader.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Grade in school _____ Years in 4-H _____ Email _____

Projects _____

ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. What leadership activities have you been involved in and what leadership positions have you held.
2. How do you think the 4-H Ambassador Program should benefit the Douglas County 4-H Program?
3. How has your participation in 4-H benefited you? Describe one or two of the most important ways.
4. List interests and talents, for example, photography, music, play an instrument, outdoor activities.
5. What activities are you involved with outside of 4-H?
6. One of the expectations of becoming an ambassador is to make a commitment of time to carry out the 4-H Ambassador role including attending many 4-H events and giving presentations. How are you willing to make this commitment?

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date:



Youth Leadership Team Application-Recommendation Form



Name of Applicant: _____

Name of Evaluator: _____

Evaluator Address: _____

Evaluator City, State, Zip: _____

Circle One: Extension Staff 4-H Volunteer High School/College Instructor Other: _____

Evaluator, please rate the applicant on the following (0-unknown, 1-disagree, 2-agree to 3-strongly agree). Each evaluator should place the completed form in a sealed envelope with the applicant's name on the front and the evaluator's signature across the seal. Envelopes should be returned to the 4-H member for attachment to the application.

Leadership; Teamwork; Volunteerism

	Unknown	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Ability to work w/different and diverse audiences (i.e. adults, younger children, ethnic groups, etc.)	0	1	2	3
Does fair share of work on join projects	0	1	2	3
Serves as an appropriate role model for peers and younger youth	0	1	2	3
Communicates ideas effectively	0	1	2	3
Ability to get others to work together	0	1	2	3
Volunteers to assist; carries through w/responsibilities; knows when to say "no"	0	1	2	3

Citizenship

Willingness to work with others, regardless of diversity within a group	0	1	2	3
Participates in activities involving issues of local importance	0	1	2	3
Takes a stand on issues that applicant believes in	0	1	2	3
Involvement in community service activities	0	1	2	3

Professionalism

Attitude (i.e. positive, professional, not arrogant)	0	1	2	3
Appearance (neat, well-groomed)	0	1	2	3
Accepts/completes work assignments	0	1	2	3
Exhibits enthusiasm in regard to increasing knowledge of subject matter	0	1	2	3
Use proper etiquette	0	1	2	3
Exhibits appropriate behavior in public venues	0	1	2	3

Please add any additional comments regarding this applicant on the reverse side.

Signature of Evaluator: _____ Date: _____