

# NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE



## OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM:

The National 4-H Conference is the premier civic engagement opportunity for 4-H members (15-19 yrs.) who are actively engaged in 4-H programs across the U.S. and its territories. The conference is administered by 4-H National Headquarters of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). This experience upholds a tradition dating back to 1927.

Delegates will not only learn while at the conference. Delegates have the opportunity to practice and apply in a real world setting their newly developed and refined skills. The delegates choose an important societal topic and in round table groups prepare a briefing. During the conference, the groups present their briefing to federal officials around the Washington, D.C. area.

## EVENT DATES :

Usually held in late March or early April.

## LOCATION:

National 4-H Conference will be held at the [National 4-H Youth Conference Center](#). The National 4-H Youth Conference Center is located in a quiet, 12-acre campus-like setting in Maryland, one mile from the nation's capital, making it the perfect gateway to Washington, D.C.'s leaders, monuments and museums. Now one of the largest non-academic youth education and conference facilities in America, the National 4-H Youth Conference Center has a colorful history that dates back more than a century. The Conference Center is operated by our private partner--National 4-H Council.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The National 4-H Conference requires youth who are focused and committed to working during the Conference and in their state. The Arkansas delegation will consist of up to 5 youth delegates, who need to engage in pre- and post conference work and participate in all scheduled conference activities. Applicants must be between 16 years of age by January 1 of the current calendar year, and 18 years old.

**SELECTION PROCESS:**

Each county may nominate **one** 4-H member. A committee will review the applications and make the selections. Interviews may be conducted to determine final selection. Up to five 4-H members will be selected to represent Arkansas. Consideration will be given to those youth who:

1. Have experience in local, county, area, and/or state developmental committees, advisory groups, councils, etc.
2. Are willing and able to work prior to Conference in collecting facts, ideas, etc., of local people regarding concerns of youth and possible action.
3. Have "time ahead" to make significant contributions in their communities within the next two years.
4. Are flexible as individuals who meet differing situations, have growth potential, and a curiosity about situations, people, and events.
5. Have an evident capacity to cope with ambiguity; concerned about issues involved, and in deciding to solve the problems and get on with business.
6. Possess strong interpersonal skills.
7. Have good energy levels, capable of participating fully in an active and demanding program involving long hours.

**APPLICATIONS AND DUE DATE:**

4-H'ers must complete the National 4-H Conference Applications are due in state 4-H Youth Development Office in November.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Delegates travel by air to participate in this conference. The delegation departs from the Little Rock Airport and flies into National Airport in Washington, D.C.

**PROGRAM COSTS:**

Most of the cost will be paid by Extension. The remaining cost must be paid by the delegate.