



June 2024

Potential 2025 Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council and National 4-H Conference Applicants:

The Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council (K4-HYLC) and Kansas 4-H'ers are looking for committed, enthusiastic members to serve on the 2025 Council, and we think that you might fit that description!

Through this application you can apply for **National 4-H Conference Delegate** and/or **Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council Representative**. Both groups serve on the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council. We are confident that, if selected (National 4-H Conference Delegate) or elected (Council Representative), you will acquire many valuable, life-building skills through your Youth Council experiences.

There will be 12 Council members (3 from each Extension Region, NE, SE, SW, NW) elected, and up to 6 National Conference Delegates selected at the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, November 23-24, 2024, to serve Kansas 4-H for the 2025 year.

Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 14 and 18 before January 1, 2025, may apply as a Council Representative.

Any Kansas 4-H member between the ages of 15-18 before January 1, 2025, may apply for National Conference Delegate.

The Application Process includes:

*Online Application submitted by 11:59 PM Central Time, Tuesday, October 1, 2024. **College and Career Tip** – *There is an application template on the web that shows you the application questions in order. Use that to formulate your application answers so you know what is being asked, you can plan ahead and be ready to just cut and paste your edited and spell-checked essay answers from your word processing program into the application.* (<https://tinyurl.com/2025KS4HYLCApp>)

*One Online Reference - from an Extension Staff member or 4-H Volunteer Leader. You will need to send this link (<https://tinyurl.com/2025ReferenceKS4HYLC>) to your references for them to fill out the online form. This should be completed on or before 11:59 PM Central Time, Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

*Signature Page scan and email to Kansas4H@ksu.edu before 11:59 PM Central Time, Tuesday, October 1, 2024. This requires signatures by your Extension Agent and your parent/guardian.

For Youth Council Representatives - After the applications are evaluated, up to 12 candidates from each region will be selected to interview by Zoom prior KYLF. Following the interviews, up to 6 candidates from each region will get the opportunity to run for a position on Youth Council. Those candidates will give a speech and be elected through a ballot vote by the delegates from their region during KYLF. Membership on Youth Council will involve travel to meetings and various functions. Members should expect to encounter out-of-pocket expenses. This will require commitment from you as well as your parent(s) or guardian(s).

For National Conference Delegates - After Applications are evaluated, those selected will be invited to interview prior to the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF). **There is a cost of approximately \$2000** (after scholarships from the Kansas 4-H Foundation have been applied) to attend the National 4-H Conference. That can be paid by the delegate, local scholarships, raised locally or a combination. If selected a \$1000 payment will be due January 15, 2025, and the remaining \$1000 payment will be due March 30, 2025. Membership on Youth Council will involve travel to meetings and various functions. Members should expect to encounter out-

of-pocket expenses. This will require commitment from you as well as your parent(s) or guardian(s). National Conference dates have not been set for 2025 but are typically in April.

National 4-H Conference offers opportunities for youth to learn, practice, and apply civic engagement skills through roundtable discussions, federal agency briefings, and more.

Conference Objectives

- **Learn** – Provide youth a broad-based learning experience in which they will acquire practical knowledge and skills to reinforce the attitudes and motivation that will give them a heightened sense of responsibility and capacity to connect as active members of their communities, nation and world.
- **Practice** – Engage youth in hands-on educational activities in which they explore, practice and master existing and newly developed skills/knowledge in civic engagement, civic education, and personal development.
- **Apply** – Facilitate direct opportunities for youth to apply what was learned in real world experiences in which they develop leadership skills using their voices, work, ideas and/or behavior to make a difference in their community, country and world.

In addition, All Youth Council Members (Council Representatives and National 4-H Conference Delegates) will be required to:

Attend meetings and conference calls regularly. Youth Council will have a full year of activities and will meet about 4-6 times throughout the year in person with a monthly Zoom Meeting as well. Additional work outside of meetings is necessary and expected. More than 3 absences may be grounds for dismissal from the Council. Some meetings will be via Zoom and require a device and internet access.

Tentative Plans for the year ahead: Attend the Youth Council Orientation Retreat January 4-5, 2025 most likely at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Youth Council will get acquainted, elect officers, and make goals and plans for the coming year. Attend Citizenship In Action February 16-17, 2025 in Topeka, Kansas, Kansas Youth Leadership Forum, November 22-23, 2025 at Rock Springs 4-H Ranch and other events to be determined including possible Regional Leadership Forums and other events sponsored or hosted by the Youth Council or Kansas 4-H. Establish and maintain good communication with the Extension Units (counties and districts) in your respective region, fellow members of Youth Council, and advisors of the Youth Council.

Reading and responding to e-mails must become a daily habit. Please consider these requirements before completing your application. Youth Council is a great commitment, but also a great opportunity! Youth Council will need all 12 elected members and National Conference Delegates to make this commitment to have a successful year.

Thank you for your time and consideration in applying for the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council. If you have any questions about the election process, please do not hesitate to contact Carson Fouard, Youth Council Elections Committee Chair KS4HYLCelections@gmail.com

Questions about the National 4-H Conference? - please contact Beth Hinshaw, bhinshaw@ksu.edu

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