

## **2012 National 4-H Conference Application & Selection**

The 2012 National 4-H Conference application and information are enclosed. When making county selections, please note that a variety of opinions and views are being sought at National Conference so the delegation should also ideally be varied and diversified.

### **Selection Procedure for National Conference**

#### **County Selection:**

After each county selects one or two potential **10th-12th grade** delegates this fall (**maximum age of 18 by January 1, 2012**), nominees will be given copies of this application by their county 4-H staff with instructions to return packet to county office. The agent will mail the completed, signed original application and Agent reference so it **arrives** at the State 4-H Office before **December 1, 2011**. Late and faxed or electronic applications will not be considered for National Conference. Note that both the applicant's packet and County 4-H & Youth Development Agent's reference are required.

#### **State Selection:**

A State 4-H committee will review the applications and may call finalists for an informal interview. Selection of approximately six National 4-H Conference delegates and two alternates will be made in early January. Those people will be notified and asked to return an acceptance form stating whether or not they accept a position in the Wisconsin delegation.

### **Criteria for Selecting National Conference Delegates**

1. Should have state or national trip experience, such as WI 4-H & Youth Conference, Area Animal Science Days, State Arts events, Citizenship Washington Focus, etc.
2. Should be experienced in local, county, area, and/or State developmental committees, advisory groups, councils, etc.
3. Should be willing and able to work prior to Conference in collecting facts, ideas, etc, of local people regarding concerns of youth and possible action.
4. Should have time to stay involved in the work of conference throughout the year and make significant contributions in their communities.
5. Should be flexible as individuals to meet differing situations, have growth potential, and a curiosity about situations, people and events.
6. Should have an evident capacity to cope with ambiguity; be concerned about issues and be able to solve problems and get on with business.
7. Should possess strong interpersonal skills.
8. Should have good energy levels, capable of participating fully in an active and demanding program involving long hours.



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Cooperative Extension  
4-H Youth Development Programs

FROM: Kay Hobler, WI 4-H Outreach Specialist

October 31, 2011

TO: National Conference nominees

RE: 2012 National 4-H Conference Applications

**Congratulations** on being selected by your county to apply to represent Wisconsin 4-H at the 2012 National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. which will be held **Saturday, March 24 – Thursday, March 29, 2012**. The delegation will gather in Milwaukee for a meeting with the Adult Advisor **Friday, March 23, at 6:00 p.m.**

Those National 4-H Conference applicants who are also interested in being considered to represent the US 4-H program at the **2012 Canadian National 4-H Conference** (held in Toronto in November) which focuses on leadership and current agricultural issues should read the attached information flyer, discuss their interest with their county 4-H staff, and indicate their interest on the National 4-H Conference application. For more information visit: <http://www.4-h-canada.ca/core/conferences>.

**Purpose of the National 4-H Conference:** the National 4-H Conference is the Secretary of Agriculture's premier youth development opportunity to engage youth in developing recommendations for the 4-H Youth Development Program. As the sponsor for this conference, the National 4-H Headquarters—located within National Institute for Food and Agriculture at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)—is charged with sharing the recommendations that emerge from the conference with the Secretary of Agriculture, national Extension Program Leaders, and others who determine 4-H programs. At the same time, we want to ensure that the conference is a rich and meaningful experience for the youth and adult participants. For more information, visit <http://4hconf.4-h.org/>.

The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults - at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture - assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities. This event brings together youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension staff members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Provinces.

**Wisconsin's delegation** to the National 4-H Conference will be a cohesive team of approximately six diverse young people from across the state who will work together before, during and after the conference. You must be willing to work with the group on an Action Plan upon your return, which involves activities at the county, district and state level. The conference is a working conference. You will gain new ideas and wonderful friendships but do not expect to sit idly on the sidelines at this event.

**Application procedure:** As your county agent has probably already advised you, being nominated at the county level was the first step in becoming selected for this national trip. The second step is to complete, sign and deliver the original application to your County Agent in plenty of time for the Agent to complete a reference and mail your packet and reference so it arrives at the State 4-H Office **on or before December 1, 2011**. Faxed and electronic copies will not be accepted. To make it easier to complete, find an application in Microsoft Word at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/natlconf/index.cfm>.

A state 4-H identified committee will subsequently review the applications and make their selections. You will be notified of your status by early January. Selected candidates will be asked to complete and return an acceptance form.

(continued on reverse)

**Keep the objectives and expectations of the event in mind** while you are completing your application.

Conference objectives are:

1. to build the enthusiasm and confidence of delegates to take action to “Make the Best Better”;
2. to provide an opportunity to share ideas, programs and experience in 4-H to strengthen and expand local programs;
3. to establish a network to facilitate communication between delegates, states, and national program leaders; and
4. to develop plans of action for delegates and state teams to implement programs and collaborate with others.

At the conference, delegates can expect to:

- learn about 4-H Youth Development Programs in other states, the U.S. Territories and Canada
- share recommendations for future 4-H Youth Development programming
- learn about the work of National 4-H Headquarters and USDA
- visit your Senators and Representatives on Capitol Hill
- enhance youth-adult partnerships in your state
- participate in professional workshops
- learn new skills to apply back home
- make new friends and have fun!

**If you have questions** about National 4-H Conference, contact your county 4-H Youth Development Agent or call the State 4-H office at (608) 262-1557 or (608) 262-0575.

**NOTE:**

**Applications RECEIVED by the State 4-H Office after December 1  
will not be considered for National Conference selection.**

Attachment: Canadian National 4-H Conference flyer  
National 4-H Conference Application

# 2012 Canadian National 4-H Conference

Airport Marriott Hotel, Toronto, Ontario  
Wed., Oct. 31 – Sun., Nov. 4, 2012 **(TENTATIVE)**  
(Information current as of 7-27-11)



**Who can attend?** Sixty Canadian delegates based on Provincial quotas plus six delegates/one chaperone from the United States and three delegates from the United Kingdom will participate in this fun and educational event. Delegates must:

- be at least 16 years of age;
- be a 4-H member in good standing at the time of selection;
- have been in the 4-H program for at least two years;
- be prepared to be actively involved in the program;
- be interested in agricultural issues;
- be approved by their county and state 4-H office to attend.

**What is this program?** Canadian National 4-H Conference has been held annually since 1931 and is sponsored by Canadian 4-H Council. The program is designed to include a balance of educational sessions related to the agricultural themes as well as a variety of other activities. Portions integrate with National 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference.

**What are the program objectives?** Canadian National 4-H Conference provides the opportunity for delegates to interact with speakers and others on theme-related subjects by:

- participating in workshops and discussion sessions with an agricultural focus so that they can develop and voice their views and ideas;
- participating in on-site tours of a variety of industries (processing and manufacturing plants, financial institutions, innovative farming practices, Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, and much more);
- sharing opinions, ideas and attitudes with leader delegates in joint sessions;
- developing continental-wide friendships and having fun;
- talking about their future and about corporate involvement with Canadian 4-H Council Member Representatives and program sponsors;
- discussing highlights of their own 4-H activities;
- visiting points of interest in Toronto could but might not include all of the following : the Royal Ontario Museum (<http://www.rom.on.ca>); the CN Tower (<http://www.cntower.ca>); Hockey Hall of Fame (<http://www.hhof.com>); Niagara Falls (<http://www.niagarafallstourism.com>); or Casa Loma (<http://www.casaloma.org>); the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (<http://www.royalfair.org>); and live theater (<http://www.mysteriouslyours.com>). *Note: entry to scheduled sites are covered in registration. If you choose other activities during Provincial Free time, these may incur cost to you.*

**What will it cost for U.S. participants?**

- The registration fee of approximately **\$750 Cdn.** (\$850 Cdn for Adult Advisor) is due no later than **September 2, 2012 (tentative)**. The registration fee covers lodging, meals, transportation to off-site activities, and program content. The fee can be paid on-line by credit card during registration.
- Participants are responsible for their **own travel arrangements** from Wisconsin to Toronto, Ontario.
- Personal expenses include meals during travel, one dinner during the program, and any souvenirs.
- Participants need a current US Passport and *official* birth certificate to cross the international border.
- Participants are responsible for all of their own fees and transportation costs.

**How can I apply?**

- Discuss your interest in participating with your County and State 4-H Office staff.
- Complete and return a National 4-H Conference application.
- Applicants interested in being considered for the Canadian National 4-H Conference will be advised of their status. Selectees will be asked to register on-line in August. Further information and forms will be e-mailed to selected delegates from Canadian 4-H Council.
- Plan to join a teleconference orientation to be held in October, 2012. Date TBA.

**Questions?** Contact Kay Hobler, at WI 4-H Outreach: 608-262-1557 or [kay.hobler@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:kay.hobler@ces.uwex.edu).

# 2012 NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE APPLICATION

This application must be typed and may not exceed two pages to be considered.

**Program Description:** The purpose of the National 4-H Conference is for 10th-12th youth to gain leadership skills and learn about government processes through hands-on activities, workshops, large group discussions, committee work, role play, and youth networking time and to provide feedback to the National 4-H Center. The event is held at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD (<http://www.4hcenter.org/>). Participants depart home on a Friday, are away for seven days, returning Thursday. The Wisconsin delegation Adult Advisor is a county 4-H Youth Development Educator. The ratio of youth participants to adults is about 6:1. Participants will spend the most time under the direct supervision of trained Collegiate Facilitators and adult leaders. Health staff consists of volunteers who have first aid training. Participants will fly on regularly scheduled airline flight between Wisconsin and Washington D.C. Conference center lodging will be provided with multiple youth of same gender in rooms with bunk beds and use a dorm restroom with private showers; males and female participants are housed in separate rooms on the same floor of the dorm. To the best of our ability, Adult Advisors are assigned to rooms on the same floors as their assigned delegates. Participants will eat in public cafeterias, fast food or other restaurants. Meals are prepared in large industrial or restaurant kitchens so individual meal accommodations may not be possible. During the conference, adults and youth will participate in large group activities which may involve any of the following: discussion, writing, reading aloud; role plays or skits, running, dancing, climbing stairs, standing or sitting for long periods, or having personal contact with other participants; they will walk distances of several miles on sidewalks during off site excursions; they may ride the Metro subway/train and/or a chartered excursion boat; and may do physical activities such as hiking up to ½ mile over steep terrain.

I am applying for: \_\_\_\_\_ U.S.A. National 4-H Conference \_\_\_\_\_ Canadian National 4-H Conference

## Personal Information

Name (Please enter your name as it appears on photo identification such as drivers' license or passport.)

\_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
(first) (middle initial) (last)

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_ Male

Primary phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Check: \_\_\_home \_\_\_work) (Check: \_\_\_cell \_\_\_school \_\_\_work)

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Age (as of 4/2/12) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Years in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_

College address & telephone (if different than above) \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/guardians \_\_\_\_\_

Address/telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname (for badge) \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size: (adult) \_\_\_small \_\_\_med \_\_\_large \_\_\_XL \_\_\_2X \_\_\_3X

**Educational Status:** \_\_\_ High school student \_\_\_ High School graduate \_\_\_ College student \_\_\_ Other, specify

**How often do you utilize e-mail?** \_\_\_ Daily \_\_\_ Weekly \_\_\_ Bi-Weekly \_\_\_ 1-3 Months \_\_\_ None

**Where do you access the internet?** (Check all that apply.) \_\_\_ School \_\_\_ Home \_\_\_ County 4-H Office  
\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Residence:** (check one)

\_\_\_ farm: \_\_\_\_\_ acres \_\_\_ rural or town under 10,000 \_\_\_ town or city of 10,000-50,000  
\_\_\_ suburb of city over 50,000 \_\_\_ central city of over 50,000

**Race/Ethnic Code, optional** (used for statistical purposes only):

Ethnicity (check one): \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ Not Hispanic

Race (check all that apply): \_\_\_\_\_ American Indian/Alaskan Native \_\_\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_\_\_ Black/African-American  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hawaiian/Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Two or more races \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

1. Describe your most significant 4-H leadership and/or community service experience including the activity, its purpose, what was accomplished and your role in achieving the outcome.

(over)



**2012 National 4-H Conference**  
**CONFIDENTIAL COUNTY 4-H EDUCATOR REFERENCE**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The above named individual has applied to be a Wisconsin delegate to the National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. Your thoughtful evaluation of the applicant's ability to participate as a responsible delegate will be appreciated. All information is confidential. Thank you for your assistance.

1. Interpersonal Relations: As you observe this applicant in relationship to other people, is the applicant usually: comments
- Cooperative?                    \_\_\_ yes            \_\_\_ no    \_\_\_\_\_
  - Looked to for guidance? \_\_\_ yes            \_\_\_ no    \_\_\_\_\_
  - Respected?                    \_\_\_ yes            \_\_\_ no    \_\_\_\_\_
  - Outgoing?                    \_\_\_ yes            \_\_\_ no    \_\_\_\_\_
  - Sensitive toward others?    \_\_\_ yes            \_\_\_ no    \_\_\_\_\_

2. Will this applicant serve responsibly by setting aside time before, during, and after conference to: 1) gather ideas to present at conference, 2) be a good spokesperson for those ideas, and 3) bring information back to the county and district or state programs?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

3. In comparison with persons you have known, how would you rate the applicant in the following areas?

	Below average	Average	Above average	Top 10%
Emotional maturity	___	___	___	___
Leadership	___	___	___	___
Enthusiasm & energy	___	___	___	___
Self-confidence	___	___	___	___
Sense of humor	___	___	___	___
Creativity	___	___	___	___

4. Do you recommend this applicant for participation in the National 4-H Conference in Washington, DC?  
 \_\_\_yes\_\_\_no
5. Is this delegate approved to be considered for nomination to represent the US at the Canadian National 4-H Conference in Toronto? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_no
- Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Due December 1, 2011**  
**to**  
**WI 4-H Outreach Programs, 436 Lowell Hall, 610 Langdon St.; Madison, WI 53703**