

2009 WISCONSIN 4-H CHAPERONE OPPORTUNITIES

Love working with youth? Interested in dairy? Aerospace? Citizenship? Leadership? International travel?

Wisconsin 4-H Wants You!

What opportunities exist?

Citizenship Washington Focus bus trips to Washington, D.C. (June-July);
National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia (late November);
National 4-H Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin (end of September);
U.S. Space Camp bus trip to Huntsville, Alabama (late April);
International trips to Australia, Costa Rica, Finland, Japan, Korea, Mexico or Norway (summer).

Who can apply?

Applicants must be at least 21 years old at time of trip and certified Wisconsin 4-H Leaders.
Applicants must be in good health. (Sleep deficit, some lifting and much walking are common!)

What are the requirements?

A complete application must be submitted by March 1 (January 1 for international trips).
A county 4-H Youth Development Agent's reference is required. Other references may be required.
Selected international chaperones will need passports and physicians' reports.

How much time does it require?

Most trips are for three to seven days but international trips last one month. In addition, chaperones are required to attend both chaperone and delegate orientations. Preparatory time and time to complete a follow-up report and evaluation must also be scheduled.

What does it cost?

Registration and travel expenses are covered; some meals may be at the chaperone's expense.

What are the criteria for chaperone selection?

- Experience: An applicant must have previous experience chaperoning local, county, district or state overnight or extended trips, whether for 4-H, school, Scouts, or other youth groups.
- Gender: Youth must be represented by adults of their same gender.
- Geographic location: Bus trips for CWF and Space Camp originate in Eau Claire where a chaperone is needed at the initial loading site for each trip. If a leader is not from that area, it should be noted on the application if he/she is willing to board/disembark at Eau Claire. National Congress requires chaperones at four or five widely dispersed airports.
- Interpersonal communication: Leaders must be team players who work together.
- Leadership ability. Effective teams unify a variety of talents: organization, "people skills", guiding....
- Motivation: An applicant's first and foremost reason for applying must be motivated by a genuine desire to lead a youth group, attending to the group's welfare and education, ***not for a vacation or to experience a son or daughter's trip.***
- Previous travel experience: National Congress leaders must have flight experience; international chaperones must have traveled internationally at least once.
- Sense of humor! A vital part of state and national 4-H trips is having fun, both for youth and adults.

How do I apply?

Contact a county 4-H office or call 4-H Outreach at 608/262-1557 or 608/262-0575 for an application.

Each trip has a different focus with different desired attributes for leaders. If someone doesn't fit into one position, they might be great elsewhere. Chaperone applicants will experience some wonderful hot competition for a few positions! If you are not selected this year, please don't be discouraged! Apply again next year!

National 4-H Opportunities

Learn more about them!

Citizenship Washington Focus, Washington, D.C.

www.4hcnw.org

www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/cwf

Four trip weeks are offered in June-July each year to Wisconsin 4-H.

National 4-H Congress

www.national4-hcongress.com

www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/congress

Experience exuberance with 1300 4-H'ers from all over the US including Hawaii and Puerto Rico in Atlanta in November.

National 4-H Dairy Conference

www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/dairyconf

Join youth from over 30 states and several Canadian provinces to share experiences, tours, workshops, World Dairy Expo and fun in Madison.

Space Camp, Huntsville AL

www.spacecamp.com

www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/spacecamp

Wisconsin 4-H travels to Huntsville each April to join the fun!

Wisconsin 4-H and Youth Conference

www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/youthconf

Over 650 participants visit the UW Madison campus in June for this conference.

For more information,
Contact your local 4-H office or
the State 4-H Outreach office at (608) 262-1557 or
kay.hobler@ces.uwex.edu

2009 National 4-H Trips Wisconsin Adult Leader Application

Adult Leader Positions Available:

Group Coordinator: (GC) is the primary contact with the national conference staff. The GC is responsible for logistical arrangements, delegating responsibility to adult and/or youth advisors and communicating with the State 4-H office.

Adult Advisor: (AA) works with the Group Coordinator to carry out the duties necessary for a successful group experience. This includes monitoring the conduct and discipline of delegates and working in cooperation with the national conference staff.

Expectations: All leaders must be in good physical condition to withstand rigors associated with the trip. Expect much walking on hard surfaces, handling luggage, and sharing a sleeping room. Space Camp and Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) leaders can expect long periods of riding on a bus. CWF participants usually experience high temperatures with humidity in Washington D.C.

Obligations: All chaperones must be 21 or older at time of trip and be certified Wisconsin 4-H leaders. Chaperone expenses for transportation to the conference site, lodging and registration are covered by delegate fees. Any expense to the chaperone will be minimal. Adult leaders must work cooperatively with fellow chaperones and remain with the delegation at all times during the trip. Adult leaders are required to submit a report and evaluation upon completion of the program. Orientation will be held via teleconference and/or in person. **Participation at all scheduled orientations is mandatory. Sorry, no exceptions can be made!**

Mark your calendar now for these orientation dates:

Space Camp Chaperone Workshop	Sat., March 28, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Madison;
CWF Chaperone Workshop	Sat., April 18, 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Stevens' Point;
National Congress Chaperone Orientation	Tues., Oct. 20; 7:30-9:00 p.m. teleconference

I wish to apply for the following position(s): Group Coordinator Adult Advisor
for (check all for which you would like to be considered):

- Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF), Washington D.C. (June & July dates**)
- National 4-H Congress, Atlanta GA (November 27 - December 1, 2009)
- National 4-H Dairy Conference, Madison WI (September 27 – 30, 2009)
- Space Camp, Huntsville (*tentatively* April 23 - 27, 2009**)

**Confirmed dates will be available around December 1, 2008. Watch the Wisconsin 4-H website.

*(International leaders also needed for Australia, Costa Rica, Finland, Japan, Korea, Mexico, and Norway.
For more information and an application, contact your county 4-H office or call (608) 262-1557.)*

Name _____ County _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 E-mail address _____ Gender _____ Birth date _____
 Telephone (days) _(____)_____ Telephone (nights) _(____)_____
 Best time to call: _____ Cell phone _(____)_____
 Occupation: _____ Years 4-H leadership experience _____
 Experience in health care or First Aid _____
 Experience in working with disabilities _____
 Date Youth Protection completed _____ Health: excellent good fair
 Please read the expectations listed above. Do you have a physical condition that may affect your ability to complete this trip? If yes, explain: _____

List experience chaperoning youth organizational trips in the past: _____

What has been your greatest challenge with chaperoning youth? _____

Provide a brief narrative addressing the following: supervisory experience; experience coordinating events; reasons for wishing to be involved; and what you hope to gain from the experience. _____

T-Shirt size: ___ small ___ med ___ large ___ XL ___ 2X ___ 3X (some sizes not avail on all trips)

National 4-H Congress Applicants only:

Have you been to National Congress _____ When? _____
List air travel experience _____

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) Applicants only:

Have you traveled to Washington, D.C.? _____ Purpose of trip _____

Have you been on a CWF trip? _____ When? _____

*City/State of Birth: _____

*Are you a U.S. citizen? _____ (*Needed for security reasons for tours of government buildings.)

Tentative trip dates:** Please examine your calendar, taking into consideration such conflicts as work requirements, family vacations, weddings, etc., then rank preferences 1 - 4 or write "ok" or "no" for **all** trip dates

_____ June 13-21** _____ June 20-28** _____ July 4-12** _____ July 11-19**

**Confirmed dates will be available around December 1, 2008.

Please sign and date this application and take it to your County 4-H Office to be signed and mailed.

Applicant's Signature Date

County 4-H & Youth Development Agent's Signature Date

County 4-H & Youth Development Agent:
On a separate page, please provide your professional and confidential comments on the applicant's attributes and mail with this application (no faxes, please) by **March 1, 2009**
to Wisconsin 4-H Outreach, 431 Lowell Hall, 610 Langdon St., Madison WI 53703