



Senior 4-H Member Opportunity for Higher Level Leadership and Travel!

The Maryland 4-H Program is proud to offer senior 4-H members the opportunity to participate national level leadership trip opportunities through the Maryland 4-H Leadership Trips and the Senior Portfolio Process.

Eligibility: All Maryland 4-H members ages 14-18 (as of January 1st the year of the trip) are eligible to apply to attend one of the five national leadership trip opportunities listed below. To be considered, individuals must apply through the 4-H Online Event and submit a Senior 4-H Portfolio (essay and resume) and participate in an interview. Senior 4-H Portfolios for all National Leadership trips are due by January 15th. Local 4-H Programs will review and approve portfolios for the National Leadership Trip period and for National 4-H Conference.



Photo: 2019 Maryland 4-H Delegation to National 4-H Congress. By Jamie Morris

Leadership Trip information and documents are available at: <https://go.umd.edu/leadership>



Photo: 2022 Maryland 4-H Delegation to National 4-H Conference. By Gretchen Sumbrum.

National Trip Opportunities:

- **National Leadership Trips**
 - National 4-H Congress
 - Camp Miniwanca
 - Virginia 4-H Congress
 - West Virginia Older Member's Conference
- **National 4-H Conference**

Application Period:

- **National 4-H Conference** – October 1 – January 15
- **National Leadership Trip** – October 1 – January 15

Selection Period:

- **National 4-H Conference** – January – February
- **National Leadership Trips** – February – March

Notification Period:

- **National 4-H Conference** – by February 15
- **National Leadership Trips** – by March 15

Delegate Confirmation:

- **National 4-H Conference** – by March 1
- **National Leadership Trips** – by April 1



Photo: Camp Miniwanca Instagram courtesy of Cait Gardiner

Resume: 40% of overall portfolio score

The resume should highlight your 4-H career and youth development experiences. A sample 4-H Resume is available on the 4-H website at:

<https://go.umd.edu/leadership>

- Leadership, Citizenship and Life skills based
- Length – no more than three pages
- Single spaced
- Margins – no less than 1 inch
- Font Size – no less than 12 pt.
- Font Type – Times New Roman

Resumes will be reviewed and scored by three anonymous judges using the Resume Scoresheet.

Interview: 40% of overall portfolio score

Youth will participate in three 10-12 minute interviews with 1-2 judges in each of the following areas: Citizenship, Leadership and Life Skills. Each interviewer/panel will ask applicants the same set of questions focusing on the three topic areas and will score them using the Interview Scoresheet. Additional interview support materials are available on the 4-H website at:

<https://go.umd.edu/leadership>

• **National 4-H Conference location –**

Last Sunday in January via Zoom

• **National Leadership Trips locations –**

- 1st Saturday in February in the Queen Anne's County Extension Office, Centreville
Inclement Weather Date, 3rd Saturday in February
- 2nd Saturday in February at the Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster
Inclement Weather Date, the 3rd Sunday in February
- 2nd Sunday of February via Zoom

Selection:

- An applicant's average essay, resume and interview score is compiled to determine their overall portfolio score. An applicant's overall score and trip preferential ranking (for National Leadership Trips) are used to select delegates for all National Leadership Trips with a minimum score for consideration (80 for Leadership Trips and 85 for Conference). Trip decisions and offers including number of delegates per trip are subject to change from year to year and are the discretion of the Maryland 4-H State Office and the Maryland 4-H Foundation.

Additional information and rules may be found in the Maryland 4-H National Trip document.

Application and Portfolio Submission Process:

Youth may wish to have their local 4-H Educator for review their essay and resume before submitting, but must submit their Senior 4-H Portfolio through the 4-H Online Event portal by January 15th. 4-H Educators will approve portfolios in the 4-H Online Event portal for state level review and processing. Youth should receive notification from their 4-H Educator regarding their portfolio submission and will be contacted by the interview site coordinator to schedule their interview time. Youth will be contacted by the State Leadership Trip Coordinator regarding the outcome of the judging process and whether they will be awarded a trip.

Essay: 20% of overall portfolio score

The essay should answer the annual theme or question posted on the 4-H website at:

<https://go.umd.edu/leadership>

- Length – no more than two pages
- Double spaced
- Margins – no less than 1 inch
- Font Size – no less than 12 pt.
- Font Type – Times New Roman
- For some life skills suggestions, please refer to the Targeting Life Skills Model. Essays will be reviewed and scored by three anonymous judges using the Essay Scoresheet.



Photo: National 4-H Conference. By National 4-H

