MD 4-H Portfoli Program

Selection Process for Delegates:

1) Each 4-H unit will screen, and can submit, a maximum of 3 portfolios for the National 4-H Conference trip and 10 portfolios for the four additional major trips. Please note, a 4-Her can attend each trip only once with a maximum of TWO trips from this list during their 4-H career.

2) Each 4-H unit will be provided a 75% scholarship towards expenses for one National 4-H Congress delegate by the Maryland 4-H Foundation. National Conference, Camp Minniwanca, Virginia 4-H Congress and West Virginia Older Member Conference delegates will also be provided a 75% scholarship by the Maryland 4-H Foundation. The remaining 25% of costs is the responsibility of the youth delegate. A unit could receive additional scholarship(s) for additional delegates selected for major out-of-state trips.

3) The Maryland 4-H Portfolio Program (Resume, Essay and Interview) will be the method for the selection of delegates. Youth must also submit the cover sheet, i.e., the Maryland 4-H Application for Out-of-State Trips. The 4-Her must have met the minimum score established by the Awards & Recognition Committee.

4) All Resumes, Essays, and Applications for National 4-H Conference will be DUE October 15th to the State 4-H Office. All Resumes, Essays, and Applications for National 4-H Congress, West Virginia Older Members Conference, Virginia 4-H Congress, and Camp Minniwanca will be DUE January 15th to the State 4-H Office.

5) Interviews for National 4-H Conference will take place:
   2nd Tuesday in November from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. at the Maryland 4-H Center, College Park
   Sunday afternoon at the Volunteer and Teen Forum, Ocean City

6) Interviews for National 4-H Congress, West Virginia Older Members Conference, Virginia 4-H Congress, and Camp Minniwanca will be held in three different locations of the state during the month of February.

   1st Saturday in February in the Queen Anne’s County Extension Office, Centreville
      (Inclement Weather Date, 3rd Saturday in February)

   1st Tuesday of February from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. at the Maryland 4-H Center, College Park
      (Inclement Weather Date, 3rd Tuesday in February)

   2nd Saturday in February at the Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster
      (Inclement Weather Date, the Last Sunday in February)

Portfolios will be judged in February/March and each youth must be interviewed, but can select the location of their choice for the specified trip.
THE PORTFOLIO

Resume:
• 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

Essay Theme: There is a new theme each year
– check the Awards & Recognition page on the 4-H website.
• 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. (Do we have a reference for this?)

Scoring:
• Interview -40 points
• Resume - 40 points
• Essay -20 points
  Total 100 points

Additional Information:
To receive an application, helpful hints and additional information about the Maryland 4-H Out-of-State Trips, go to the Maryland 4-H Youth Development Website at http://www.maryland4h.org/ under the Awards and Recognition link or contact your local 4-H office.

EXPLANATION OF THE MAJOR TRIPS

National 4-H Congress: Congress is the flagship event of the 4-H program. For over eighty years, youth have participated in this youth leadership development event. Youth get a quality, educational, and cross-cultural experience while meeting other youth from the United States and its territories. Congress is designed to address the needs and issues of youth while helping to develop capable, competent, and caring citizens. This trip takes place in late November, beginning the Friday after Thanksgiving in Atlanta, Georgia.

Camp Miniwanca: Camp Miniwanca is a leadership development camp that offers a week-long program aimed at developing character, leadership skills, personal and group effectiveness, and nurturing balance within your life. This trip takes place in August in Shelby, Michigan. Youth interested in attending Miniwanca are required to apply for the “I Dare You Award.”

National 4-H Conference: At National 4-H Conference, teen delegates take the lead by serving on consulting groups to make recommendations for future directions for 4-H. Teens serve on one of the operations committees to help conduct the events and functions of the Conference. Activities include a visit to Capitol Hill and a meeting with your Senator or Representative. This trip takes place in late March or early April at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase.
**Virginia 4-H Congress:** Virginia 4-H Congress mission is to provide competitive and non-competitive educational experiences to Virginia teens and the adults who work with them, helping them to develop life skills and leadership abilities to become contributing citizens in their communities. A commitment to serve as an at-large delegate to Maryland 4-H Teen Council for a year following the trip is encouraged. This trip takes place in June on the campus of Virginia Tech.

**West Virginia Older 4-H Members Conference:** West Virginia Older Members Conference mission is to develop leadership among older 4-H members by giving them an opportunity to participate in discussion of timely issues and problems, and teach new skills which can be used in their local clubs and communities. A commitment to serve as an at-large delegate to Maryland 4-H Teen Council for a year following the trip is encouraged. This trip takes place in mid-June, normally the third week of June at West Virginia University, Jackson’s Mill State 4-H Camp.

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