

MISSOURI STATE 4-H COUNCIL REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATION

The Missouri State 4-H Council is an elected body of 4-H youth who serve as the voice of Missouri 4-H youth for one year terms. Council members help plan and implement events like State 4-H Congress and Teen Conference. They represent Missouri 4-H at national, regional, and state events, donating volunteer hours at the Missouri State Fair, State 4-H Contest Days, and other 4-H events. Council members are ambassadors and spokespersons for Missouri 4-H.

Four youth from each MU Extension Region and one youth from each Lincoln University Extension Region are elected as Regional Representatives each year. They are led by Adult Advisors and the Council's Executive Committee, which consists of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four State Representatives. Elections are held each year during Missouri's State 4-H Congress. *Youth must attend State 4-H Congress in order to run for a position on the Council and must attend all Council meetings once elected.* Anyone missing more than one Council meeting **can** be transitioned to the Alternate Representative role.

QUALIFICATION: Any 4-H participant, age 14-17 before January 1 of the election year, may apply to be a candidate for Regional Representative. The 4-H'er must meet the age requirements listed above, must be currently enrolled in a 4-H program, in good standing in their local 4-H club or unit, and have completed the previous year of 4-H work. It is assumed that candidates will be an active 4-H member in the region they are representing throughout their Council term, unless the candidate notifies the interview committee otherwise (i.e., if attending college elsewhere in the state, etc.). Candidates should be selected by their region on the following basis: 40% 4-H experience; 50% personal interview; 10% recommendation by county 4-H professional staff. Please note that personal interviews are conducted by a committee of 4-H professional staff from the region, *which has ultimate say in whether a candidate moves forward.*

COST: The Council meets 4-5 times per year in weekend meetings. Lodging and some meals are provided. All other expenses including travel, green jacket and gold tie are the 4-H member's responsibility (assistance available if needed).

HOW TO APPLY: Regional Representatives will be selected through the same general process, usually beginning in January. PLEASE NOTE: Each region sets its own dates, which may begin anywhere from late-fall to mid-winter, and interested applicants should check with their county 4-H office for the exact timeline.

Application and Cover Letter to County 4-H Office (Usually around January)

Eligible 4-H members will submit an application form and letter to their County Youth Specialist, Educator, or Program Assistant. The letter should state why they want to serve on the State 4-H Council and their qualifications.

Regional Candidates Selected and Interviews Scheduled (Usually around February)

Regional Representative Application and Recommendation Form from county's 4-H Youth Specialist or Youth Program Assistant are due to that region's point-of-contact, who is responsible for scheduling and facilitating regional interviews. For Lincoln University Extension applicants the point-of-contact will be a faculty member from LU Extension, regardless of the region the applicant resides in. A schedule for regional interviews is created and sent to all applicants by the point-of-contact.

State 4-H Council Regional Interviews (Usually around March)

Interviews are held in each region, and all applicants must interview in person. If an extreme circumstance prevents a candidate from attending the interview, a makeup interview may be scheduled at the discretion of the region point-of-contact and interview team. Up to nine candidates per region may run for Regional Representative.

Candidate Selection Due to State

March 15 – The region's point-of-contact sends all applications to the State 4-H Office, clearly identifying which were selected to be candidates for Regional Representative. *The region's point-of-contact then notifies all applicants as to whether they were selected to run for regional representative positions.* Candidates must register for State 4-H Congress by their county's deadline, and must complete this selection process before being allowed to run.

June

State 4-H Congress (May 31- June 2, 2017) - Candidates will be introduced during the first evening of Congress. Later during Congress, candidates will give campaign speeches and regional elections will be held. Installation of new members will take place the final morning of State 4-H Congress.

STATE 4-H COUNCIL REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATION FORM

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
 Phone Number _____ Your Age on December 31, 2016 _____
 Mailing Address _____ E-mail Address _____
 County _____ Parent's E-mail Address _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete the following, using only the front and back of this form (do not attach extra pages). It may be filled out electronically or handwritten. Remember to indicate the level of involvement: Club or local **(L)**; County **(C)**; Multi-county, Area, District, or Regional **(D)**; or State **(S)**.

1. Years in 4-H work completed: _____.
2. List 4-H offices you have held: (EXAMPLE: President, 4-H Council - C; Treasurer, Busy Bees - L).
3. List your other most significant leadership roles, both in 4-H and outside of 4-H. (EXAMPLE: Chaired "Share the Fun" Committee - C, Served as Council Youth Liaison - C, President of my High School Debate Club - L, etc.)
4. Describe some of your significant accomplishments as a *member* of your 4-H club/program:
5. Please list any learning opportunities and contributions that have *added to your level of 4-H experience*, including the date. Examples include 4-H demonstrations, writing a newspaper article, doing a radio interview, attending a workshop, participating in a state 4-H event (such as Teen Conference), attending camps, etc.
6. What do you consider your most significant 4-H experience, and why?
7. Why would you like to be a Regional Representative on the State 4-H Council?

8. Representing the counties in your region is a serious responsibility. Considering your other interests and involvements, if you are selected as a Regional Representative where will the State 4-H Council rank among your priorities?

Do you have any other commitments or other responsibilities that would prevent you from attending all State 4-H Council meetings, and from being active in all State 4-H Council initiatives?

9. Will you be living in the region for which you are applying to represent for the full term of the upcoming Council year? If not (i.e., going to college, etc.), please explain.

10. Please describe your leadership style:

According to the By-Laws of the Missouri State 4-H Council, Regional Representatives must meet the following criteria:

- Be currently enrolled in the 4-H program;
- Be in good standing in their local 4-H club or unit;
- Have completed the previous year of 4-H work.

I verify that I meet the above criteria as stated in the Missouri State 4-H Council By-Laws.

(Signature)

Application must include:

- Application Form
- Letter of Interest from applicant stating why you want to serve, along with a summary of qualifications
- Completed Reference Form from your County 4-H Youth Specialist or Youth Program Assistant.

LETTER OF INTEREST

Please indicate (1) why you wish to serve on the State 4-H Council, (2) what you could bring to the team, (3) how Council would stack up against your other commitments, and (4) how you would represent the youth in your region.

**MISSOURI STATE 4-H COUNCIL
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
REFERENCE FORM**

To be completed by County Youth Specialist or Youth Program Assistant

Name of applicant

County _____

Region

Please check the most appropriate response:

QUALIFICATON	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know
Overall Leadership Skills					
Ability to communicate with others					
Strength in working on a team					
Follow-through in managing tasks					
Ability to promote 4-H effectively					

Do you know of any concerns about this applicant's ability to represent your region on the State 4-H Council?
If yes, please indicate:

According to the Missouri State 4-H Council By-Laws a Regional Representative must meet the following criteria:

- * Be currently enrolled in the 4-H program;
- * Be a member in good standing in their local 4-H club or unit;
- * Have completed the previous year of 4-H work

Yes, this applicant has met the criteria

No, this applicant has not met the criteria

If no, please list the criteria not met:

Comments:

Signature of Youth Specialist or Youth Program Assistant

Date: _____