



## 2023 National 4-H Conference

**April 14 - April 19, 2023**

Applications must be submitted  
by 8:00 am January 16, 2023

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. The Conference brings together young people, volunteer leaders, county and state Extension staff, Land-grant University faculty and administrators, as well as state and federal government officials from across the United States and its Territories.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has administered the National 4-H Conference on behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture in Washington, DC since 1927. Known as "the Secretary's Conference," this Conference is the flagship youth development opportunity of USDA. Today, the Conference remains true to its original intent to develop the next generation of leaders while continuing to be future focused.

Purpose of California's Delegation to the National 4-H Conference

- Opportunity to engage in personal development experiences that increase their knowledge, resources, and skills while discussing topics affecting youth and 4-H programming nationwide
- Empower 4-H youth to create positive social change in their communities and practice and apply their skills in a real-world setting.
- Connect with youth from other states to exchange 4-H Youth Development programming ideas among states.
- Visit Legislators and make them aware of the tremendous impact of the 4-H program.

### Eligibility Requirements

Have not represented California 4-H Youth Development at the Conference within the past seven years:

Youth Delegates must be at least 16 years of age as of December 31, 2022 and enrolled as a 4-H Youth Member.

### Team Delegates

The aim of the selection committee is to select a team that encompasses the diversity of California and the University of California 4-H Youth Development Program. To this end, the selection committee aims to select up to six 4-H members from Community Clubs, School Enrichment, After-School programming, and one 4-H Professional. The State 4-H Office may actively recruit or modify the makeup of the team to ensure diverse representation.

### Sponsorship of the National 4-H Conference Program

The Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation support the California National 4-H Conference delegation through the California 4-H Foundation. Costs covered include expenses relating to participation in the National 4-H Conference:



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Agriculture and Natural Resources

■ 4-H Youth Development Program



travel for pre-conference meetings as needed; roundtrip travel, lodging and meals during the National 4-H Conference; and National 4-H Conference registration fees.

## Contact Information

Inquiries about the National 4-H Conference Program should be directed to

Jenna Colburn

State 4-H Office

2801 Second Street

Davis, CA 95618

530-750-1336 or [jcolburn@ucanr.edu](mailto:jcolburn@ucanr.edu)

## Expectations for Delegates

### Prior to Conference

- Attend the scheduled team meetings.
- Gather facts, opinions, and data from the 4-H Youth Development Program at the local, county, sectional, and state levels
- Interview a 4-H Professional in your county and submit a recap to the California 4-H Office about the variety of services and programs offered by the 4-H Program in your local county and throughout California.
- As a team, develop a consistent message from California 4-H to deliver at the conference.

### During Conference

- Be an active participant while attending the National 4-H Conference.
- Be flexible, adaptable, and able to get along well with many types of personalities

### After Conference

- Attend the team post-conference meeting via webinar
- Complete a team report about the conference.
- Write a thank you note to the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation.
- Complete a post conference project.

## Application Process

The completed application must be submitted online to the State 4-H Office no later than **8:00 am January 16, 2023**.

Completed Youth Applications must include the following:

- Application Form completed
- Resume emailed to [jcolburn@ucanr.edu](mailto:jcolburn@ucanr.edu)
- References submitted using online survey. One each of the following:
  - 4-H Staff (employee): Program Representative, Program Assistant, 4-H Advisor, or County Director
  - 4-H Member or recent 4-H alumni (not over 21 years of age)



References should not be a family member. Reference will only be accepted through the provided survey. Additional Letters of Reference will not be accepted.

**Timeline**

January 16, 2023	Application submitted online
February 1, 2023	Notification Letters emailed to applicants
February 8, 2023	Team Meeting- Online, 6:30-8:30pm

Additional pre-conference meetings will be scheduled by the team at the first meeting. Applicants will still be considered even if they cannot attend the Team Meeting listed above.

**Special Accommodations**



A candidate whose disability prevents him or her from completing the application in the usual method should contact Jenna Colburn at [jcolburn@ucanr.edu](mailto:jcolburn@ucanr.edu) for assistance.

**Selection Criteria**

- Able to work and communicate effectively with peers, executives, and the public.
- Have broad 4-H experience (within and beyond the county)
- Be well acquainted with the entire University of California 4-H Youth Development Program.
- Capable of participating fully in a very active and demanding program involving long hours.
- Act as a role model—through actions and words—a respect for human dignity and an appreciation for people of all races, ethnicities, genders, religions, abilities, and sexual orientations.

The evaluation of candidates is weighted as follows:

- Resume – 20%,
- Essay Questions- 50%,
- Unique characteristics and skills – 10%,
- References – 20%

It is the policy of the University of California (UC) and the UC Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources not to engage in discrimination against or harassment of any person in any of its programs or activities (Complete nondiscrimination policy statement can be found at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/215244.pdf>)

Inquiries regarding ANR’s nondiscrimination policies may be directed to UCANR, Affirmative Action Compliance & Title IX Officer, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618, (530) 750-1343.