

CATEGORY: (OPPORTUNITY)
SUBMIT: OHIO 4-H AMBASSADOR APPLICATION FORM
WITH TRANSMITTAL FORM
TO: STATE 4-H OFFICE
BY: JANUARY 28, 2005

STATE 4-H AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Background and Purpose

The State 4-H Ambassadors program is a program designed to: 1) recognize 4-H teens who have achieved high standards of excellence in their 4-H program or project work, in community service and citizenship, and in leadership; 2) provide Ohio 4-H teens with opportunities and experiences to enhance their knowledge, skills, attitudes, and aspirations in leadership, citizenship & service, communications and public relations, scholarship, and related areas of interest and need; 3) enable teens to serve as 4-H spokespersons to develop internal and external 4-H partnerships of mutual benefit, and to update elected and appointed government officials, the media, state associations, donor groups, civic groups, parents, volunteers, and others on 4-H developments; 4) strengthen Ohio 4-H teen programs; 5) provide meaningful opportunities for teens to be actively involved and valued as equal partners in defining, developing, implementing, diversifying, and improving 4-H youth development education in Ohio; and 6) involve teens in expanding 4-H marketing and promotion and in managing the Ohio 4-H image to ensure compatibility with our vision, mission, and values.

Selection Procedures and Criteria

All Ohio 4-H'ers are eligible who: a) are a high school freshmen, sophomore, junior or senior before January 1, 2005; b) have achieved the standards of excellence outlined as criteria for the program; and c) have a permanent residence in Ohio at the time they participate in the program; d) have not previously been a State 4-H Ambassador.

To apply for this opportunity, members need to complete a State 4-H Ambassadors application form (according to the directions in the form) and submit it to the County Extension Office before the county deadline. County nominations must be submitted to the State 4-H Office by January 28.

Selections will be made through the 4-H Awards Selection process based on the candidates' achievements in the areas of 4-H Work, 4-H Participation, 4-H Citizenship, 4-H Teaching Leadership, Officer and Committee Leadership, and Non-4-H Leadership and Service.

All 4-H teens who meet the minimum required Standards of Excellence will be selected to participate in the State 4-H Ambassador program.

The Award and Its Presentation

State 4-H Ambassador applicants who meet the "standards of excellence" criteria will be selected. An "Ambassador Announcement Letter" will be sent to County Extension Offices by late February so that Educators can notify Ambassadors personally. Individual follow up letters will be sent directly to winners in mid-February along with an invitation to attend the **2005-06 State 4-H Ambassador Orientation Program and Installation Program on April 2, 2005**. After one year of representing Ohio 4-H as State 4-H Ambassadors; active Ambassadors who complete the program requirements will be recognized and receive "Life Member" status at a special ceremony.



State 4-H Ambassador Application



Directions: Please print the following information legibly in ink. It is not necessary to type the application nor to submit it in a folder. Simply staple the pages together on the top left side, and send the completed application to your Extension 4-H Educator before the county deadline.

Candidate Information (for use in program publicity)

NAME _____ COUNTY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

GRADE IN HIGH SCHOOL (as of 1-1-05) _____ YEARS IN 4-H _____

PHONE (_____) _____ BIRTHDATE ____/____/____ SS# _____ - _____ - _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PARENTS' / GUARDIANS' NAMES _____

POST HIGH SCHOOL & CAREER GOALS _____

Signatures

We certify that the all the information in this completed application is correct, and that the candidate has truly achieved at least 25 points in each of the six State 4-H Ambassador Standards of Excellence as indicated.

Candidate's Signature _____ **Date** __/__/__

Parent's Signature _____ **Date** __/__/__

I believe that the application is correct, and that the candidate has achieved at least 25 points in each of the standards of excellence indicated.

Extension Educator's Signature _____ **Date** __/__/__

I have reviewed this application and confirm that at least 25 points in each of standards appear to have been met.

State Reviewer's Signature _____ **Date** __/__/__

I have reviewed this application and confirm that at least 25 points in each of the standards appear to have been met and that the candidate has earned an invitation to become a State 4-H Ambassador.

State Ambassador Advisor's Signature _____ **Date** __/__/__

State 4-H Ambassador Standards of Excellence Achievement Report

Directions:

- Indicate with a “√” checkmark the items/criteria you have achieved, and list your specific accomplishments for that item.
Notes: - You cannot receive points for checked items unless the specific information requested is listed below the item.
- Do not list the same activities more than once for points - i.e., If your 4-H group did a county-wide safety campaign service project, it could be listed for #39, #40, #41, or #42 - but not for more than one item.
- If you earn at least 25 pts. in all areas, send your completed application to your Extension 4-H Educator by the county deadline.

A. Standards of Excellence in 4-H Work in projects and/or program areas.

- _____ 10 pts 1. Demonstrates continued growth/progression in a project area or projects. *List project names, numbers, years and accomplishments:*
- _____ 10 pts 2. Completed at least one in-depth research study, survey, or experiment related to an advanced level project/program area, in addition to completing the project requirements. *Provide details:*
- _____ 10 pts 3. Authored or co-authored an article published in a refereed professional journal related to one of your 4-H project subject matter areas. *Provide bibliographic citation (author(s), date, article title, journal title, volume #, page#, URL, etc.):*
- _____ 10 pts 4. Reviewed at least five books, journals, videos, teaching packages, and/or similar resources to enhance project/program knowledge beyond the experiences provided in the project book or program materials. *List items reviewed and dates completed:*
- _____ 5 pts 5. Authored or co-authored an article published in a newspaper or non-refereed journal or magazine related to one of your 4-H project subject matter areas. *Provide bibliographic citation (author(s), date, article title, publication title, publisher, volume #, page#, URL, etc.):*
- _____ 5 pts 6. Completed at least three different advanced level 4-H projects. (Check Ohio 4-H Family Guide to verify projects are advanced level). *List projects and dates completed:*
- _____ 5 pts 7. Completed at least three different 4-H special emphasis programs/projects (Check with your county Educator to verify programs are special emphasis). *List programs/projects and dates completed:*
- _____ 5 pts 8. Completed at least three different 4-H in-school programs/projects. *List projects and dates completed:*
- _____ 5 pts 9. Planned and presented at least two demonstrations or talks related to a 4-H project/program area to a local 4-H group. *List dates, presentation topics, and name of group:*
- _____ 5 pts 10. Participated in a county 4-H project judging or evaluation related to a 4-H project/program. *List date and details here:*

_____ **TOTAL POINTS EARNED IN 4-H WORK (25 pts required)**

B. Standards of Excellence in 4-H Participation

- ____ 15 pts 11. Participated in National 4-H Conference. *List date:* _____
- ____ 15 pts 12. Participated in National 4-H Congress. *List date:* _____
- ____ 15 pts 13. Represented Ohio 4-H at least one regional or national subject matter conference such as National Dairy Conference, the Eastern Region Engineering Event, National Safety Congress, National 4-H Technology Conference or the equivalent. *List dates, conference(s), and locations:* _____
- ____ 10 pts 14. Participated in State 4-H Leadership Camp. *List date:* _____
- ____ 10 pts 15. Participated in State 4-H Conservation Camp. *List date:* _____
- ____ 10 pts 16. Participated in Ohio 4-H Expo. *List date:* _____
- ____ 10 pts 17. Participated in 4-H Sea Camp. *List date* _____
- ____ 5 pts 18. Participated in the Feb 28-29, 2004 State 4-H Camp Counselor Workshop at Camp Ohio. *List two workshop sessions attended:*
- ____ 5 pts 19. Participated in one of the state 4-H *Youth on Board* Conferences. *List date & location:* _____
- ____ 5 pts 20. Participated in at least one 4-H sponsored statewide subject matter conference such as the State 4-H Clothing Conference or 4-H Animal Science Youth Conference. *List date(s), program(s), and locations:* _____
- ____ 5 pts 21. Participated in at least one statewide 4-H sponsored program related to teen leadership development (and not reported elsewhere) such as 4-H Teen Community College, 4-H Carving New Ideas, or equivalent. *List date(s), program(s), and locations:*
- ____ 5 pts 22. Participated in at least one state or national conference sponsored by a group other than 4-H, related to the 4-H project subject matters such as Ohio Beef Expo, Quarter Horse Congress, Ohio Dairy Goat Conference, Ohio Forestry Camp, or equivalent. *List date(s), program(s), and locations:*
- ____ 5 pts 23. Participated in at least one state or national conference sponsored by a group other than 4-H, related to 4-H teen leadership development such as Junior Fair Board Conference, Buckeye Leadership Workshop, or equivalent. *List date(s), program(s), and locations:*
- ____ 5 pts 24. Participated in at least one county 4-H camp. *List the camp(s) attended, dates, and location(s):*
- ____ 5 pts 25. Participated in at least three county 4-H tours. *List dates and provide details:*

- ____ 5 pts 26. Participated in at least three county 4-H workshops. *List the workshops attended, dates, and locations:*
- ____ 5 pts 27. Participated in at least three county 4-H judging events or contests. *List the events attended, dates, and locations:*
- ____ 5 pts 28. Prepared and presented at least three 4-H displays/exhibits beyond the local 4-H group. *List the exhibit events, dates, and locations:*
- ____ 2 pts 29. Participated in at least three local educational 4-H group field trips or study tours. *List the trips, dates, and locations:*
- ____ 2 pts 30. Participated in at least three local 4-H group workshops. *List the workshops, dates, and locations:*
- ____ 2 pts 31. Participated in at least three local 4-H group camping experiences. *List the camps, dates, and locations:*
- ____ 2 pts 32. Participated in at least three local 4-H group contests. *List the contests, dates, and locations:*
- ____ 2 pts 33. Planned and presented at least three 4-H exhibits in local community. *List the exhibits, dates, and locations:*

_____ **TOTAL POINTS EARNED IN 4-H PARTICIPATION (25 pts required)**

C. Standards of Excellence in 4-H Citizenship

- ____ 15 pts 34. Traveled in at least one 4-H international study tour or exchange trip to another country. *List program, country(ies) visited, and dates:*
- ____ 15 pts 35. Served in a speaking role for the Mock Legislative Session at Ohio 4-H Expo. *List date and role:*
- ____ 15 pts 36. Participated in Citizenship Washington Focus. *Date:* _____
- ____ 15 pts 37. Hosted an international 4-H exchange delegate in your home. *List person(s) hosted, country of origin, exchange program, and dates hosted:*
- ____ 10 pts 38. Participated in a 4-H Expo Government or Citizenship Track Program. *List date and program:*
- ____ 10 pts 39. Responsible for planning, conducting, and evaluating at least one major community service project that made a positive difference for the community (other than for “Make a Difference Day”). *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and date(s):*
- ____ 10 pts 40. Responsible for planning, conducting, and evaluating at least one major community service project for “Make A Difference Day”. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and date(s):*
- ____ 10 pts 41. Participated in at least one county-wide 4-H community service activity. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 42. Participated in at least three different 4-H community service projects with local 4-H group. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 43. Provided at least 200 hours of volunteer service in the past calendar year to groups or individuals who are not relatives of the 4-H'er applying to become a State 4-H Ambassador. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 44. Served as a 4-H teen volunteer for at least one Election Day. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and date(s):*
- ____ 10 pts 45. Served as a volunteer in a candidate's campaign for a political office. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*

- ___ 10 pts 46. Served as a volunteer in a campaign to pass or defeat a ballot issue. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ___ 10 pts 47. Participated in at least one county 4-H citizenship program such as a "4-H County Government Day", "4-H Volunteer Service Tour", etc. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 48. Helped with and participated in (but was not responsible for providing leadership for as in items 39 & 40) at least one major community service project for "Make a Difference Day". *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and date(s):*
- ___ 5 pts 49. Traveled in at least one 4-H interstate or intercounty exchange trip. *List program, state(s)/county(ies) visited, and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 50. Hosted an interstate or intercounty 4-H exchange participant in your home. *List person(s) hosted, state & county of origin, exchange program, and dates hosted:*
- ___ 5 pts 51. Assisted with a voter registration drive. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 52. Visited and observed a session of the Ohio House of Representatives or the Ohio Senate. *List details and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 53. Observed a local government official doing their job for at least a half-day. *List details about what was done, who was observed, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 54. Observed at least three county or municipal court trials. *List details about what was done, what was observed and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 55. Participated in a tour of local government offices and agencies. *List details about what was done, what was observed and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 56. Attended a county commissioners meeting or a school board meeting. *List details and dates:*
- ___ 5 pts 57. Attended a township trustee meeting or a city/town council meeting. *List details and dates:*

_____ **TOTAL POINTS EARNED IN 4-H CITIZENSHIP (25 pts required)**

D. Standards of Excellence in 4-H Teaching Leadership

- ____ 10 pts 58. Taught or co-presented a workshop or break-out session at the Ohio 4-H Volunteer Conference. *Provide details including names of co-presenters, workshop title, dates, times and locations:*
- ____ 10 pts 59. Taught or co-presented a workshop or break-out session at a statewide 4-H teen program such as Ohio 4-H Teen Conference, Youth Expo, Leadership Camp, Youth on Board Workshop, State Camp Counselors Workshop, or equivalent. *Provide details including names of co-presenters, workshop title, dates, times and locations:*
- ____ 10 pts 60. Successfully completed at least one term as a County 4-H Ambassador, County 4-H Awareness Team Member, 4-H CarTeens Team Member, or equivalent. *Provide details and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 61. Gave at least three original 4-H talks, demonstrations, or prepared presentations before a civic group such as Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, Farm Bureau, PTA/PTO, Association of University Women or other community groups other than 4-H. *List details about what was done, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 62. Gave at least three original presentations before 4-H groups other than your local club or group. *List details about what was done, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 63. Helped plan and teach a county-wide educational program for members such as a project clinic, communication or public speaking clinic, camp, etc. *List details about what was done, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 64. Instructed 4-H members or others in at least three workshops at 4-H camp, club or group meetings, or other meetings. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 65. Helped at least three members select, plan, and practice their demonstrations, health & safety presentations, or other presentations. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 66. Visited with all new members in your group to explain at least two of the following: a) 4-H projects, b) how 4-H meetings work c) 4-H judging, or d) fair activities. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*

- _____ 5 pts 67. Recruited 4-H members to host 4-H interstate or international exchangees in their homes. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- _____ 5 pts 68. Did a presentation on county 4-H opportunities, and helped 4-H members get involved throughout the year. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- _____ 5 pts 69. During the past year, took a leadership role in planning and conducting a 4-H group's fund-raising project or community service project or fair booth or club tour or field trip or a new, fun, exciting activity that they've never tried before. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- _____ 5 pts 70. Took a leadership role in planning and conducting the club or group achievement meeting. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- _____ 5 pts 71. Promoted 4-H Camp and/or organized fund-raisers to help pay camp fees for your club or group members. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- _____ 5 pts 72. Worked with the 4-H group's recreation leader and song leader to improve the fun and social things you do at each meeting or with other officers to perform their jobs well. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- _____ 5 pts 73. Planned and presented at least five demonstrations or talks to local 4-H group. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*

_____ **TOTAL POINTS EARNED IN 4-H TEACHING LEADERSHIP (25 pts required)**

E. Standards of Excellence in Officer & Committee Leadership

- ____ 15 pts 74. Served as a State 4-H Teen Council Member. *Year* _____
- ____ 15 pts 75. Served as a State 4-H Tech Team Member. *Year* _____
- ____ 15 pts 76. Served as a State 4-H Fashion Board Member. *Year* _____
- ____ 15 pts 77. Served as a state 4-H representative on the State Junior Fair Board. *Year* _____
- ____ 15 pts 78. Served as a Youth Representative on a Regional/District OSU Extension Advisory Committee *Year* _____
- ____ 15 pts 79. Elected or ran for an office such as president, secretary, reporter, etc. for a regional or district 4-H group such as a District 4-H Teen Council, District 4-H Committee, etc. *List office, group, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 80. Served as a member of a regional/district 4-H group such as a District 4-H Teen Council, District 4-H Committee, or equivalent. *List program and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 81. Served as a teen representative on the County OSU Extension Advisory Committee. *Dates:* _____
- ____ 10 pts 82. Served as a teen representative on the County 4-H Advisory Committee. *Dates:* _____
- ____ 10 pts 83. Served as a camp counselor for at least one county 4-H camp. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 84. Served as a 4-H representative on the County Junior Fair Board. *Dates:* _____
- ____ 10 pts 85. Was elected or ran for an office such as president, vice-president, treasurer, reporter, for a county 4-H group such as a 4-H Teen Leadership Club, a CarTeens Team, a County 4-H Food & Fashion Board, 4-H TAP Board, or equivalent. *List offices, groups, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 86. Served as a member of a county-wide 4-H group such as a County 4-H Teen Council, 4-H Teen Leadership Club, a CarTeens Team, 4-H TAP Board, County 4-H Food & Fashion Board, etc. *List programs and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 87. Served on a local 4-H program development committee or project development committee to plan, implement, and evaluate a new 4-H project or program. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 88. Held at least two separate offices in a local 4-H club or group. *List offices held, group, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 89. Chaired a committee of a local 4-H club or group. *List committees, group, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 90. Served on at least three committees of a local 4-H club or group. *List committees, group, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 91. Coordinated officers or committee chairs' training for local 4-H group, and helped and encourage them at each meeting in doing their job. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*

_____ **TOTAL POINTS EARNED IN 4-H OFFICER & COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP (25 pts required)**

F. Standards of Excellence in Non-4-H Leadership and Service

- ____ 10 pts 92. Served as an officer, committee chair, team captain, or in an equivalent leadership role for a school organization, program, or team. *List leadership position, group, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 93. Served as an officer, committee chair, team captain, or in an equivalent leadership role for a church or other religious organization, program, or team. *List position, group, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 94. Served as an officer, committee chair, team captain, or in an equivalent leadership role for a community organization, program, or team. *List leadership position, group, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 95. Served as a volunteer to help plan or conduct a local charity drive. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 10 pts 96. Served as a volunteer to help plan or conduct a local community service other than through 4-H. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 97. Served as a committee member, team member, or in an equivalent leadership role for a school organization, program, or team. *List role, group, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 98. Served as a committee member, team member, or in an equivalent leadership role for a church or other religious organization, program, or team. *List role, group, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 99. Served as a committee member, team member, or in an equivalent leadership role for a community organization, program, or team. *List role, group, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 100 Contributed to a local charity drive. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was done, and dates:*
- ____ 5 pts 101 Contributed volunteer time to a local community service other than through 4-H. *List details about what was done, who was involved, what was accomplished, and dates:*

_____ **TOTAL POINTS EARNED IN NON-4-H LEADERSHIP (25 pts required)**

STATE 4-H AMBASSADOR PROGRAM DETAILS

The State 4-H Ambassador program is a program that was introduced in 1995 to recognize teens for achievement of standards of excellence. All Ohio 4-H teens who have achieved excellence in 4-H work, 4-H participation, 4-H citizenship, 4-H leadership, 4-H officer/committee work, and non-4-H leadership are invited to apply for this prestigious opportunity.

State 4-H Ambassador Purposes

1. to recognize 4-H teens who have achieved high standards of excellence in their 4-H program or project work, in citizenship, and in leadership.
2. to provide Ohio 4-H teens who become Ambassadors with opportunities and experiences to enhance their knowledge, skills, attitudes, and aspirations in leadership, citizenship, communications and public relations, scholarship, and related areas of interest and need.
3. to enable teens who become Ambassadors to serve as 4-H spokespersons in order to develop and strengthen 4-H partnerships with government officials, the media, state associations, donors, civic groups, parents, volunteers, and others.
4. to provide meaningful opportunities for teens to be actively involved and valued as equal partners in defining, developing, implementing, diversifying, and improving 4-H youth development in Ohio.
5. to involve teens in expanding 4-H marketing and promotion efforts and in managing the Ohio 4-H image to ensure compatibility with our vision, mission, and values.

State 4-H Ambassador Responsibilities

Being a State 4-H Ambassador is both a tremendous honor and an important responsibility. Teens who are installed as State 4-H Ambassadors hold that title for life, unless they resign or are discharged for cause from the program. The term of active status for each State 4-H Ambassador is one program year. The year of active status begins with the Orientation Program at which the individual is initiated into the program, and ends at the conclusion of the Recognition Program after which the next group of State 4-H Ambassadors is installed.

Throughout their tenure as active and graduate State 4-H Ambassadors, Ambassadors have the responsibility of maintaining high standards of excellence related to the 4-H pledge commitments of clearer thinking, greater loyalty, larger service, and better living, for the betterment of their clubs, communities, country, and world. 4-H teens who meet the Standards of Excellence, and accept the invitation to become State 4-H Ambassadors will be expected to complete the following during their one year active term:

- ★ Maintain high standards of excellence related to 4-H pledge commitments of:
 - clear thinking,
 - great loyalty,
 - large service, and
 - better livingfor the betterment of their club, community, country, and world through positive community service, citizenship, and leadership.
- ★ Develop knowledge, attitudes skills & aspirations related to:
 - leadership,
 - citizenship & service,
 - communications & public relations,
 - scholarship, and
 - personal areas of interest.
- ★ Participate in the State 4-H Ambassador Orientation Program April 2, 2005.
- ★ Take part in at least three additional Ambassador meetings. Tentative meeting dates are:
 - June 8, 2005 - State 4-H Ambassador Meeting, 10 AM - 3 PM
 - July 27, 2005 - State 4-H Ambassador Meeting (1-3 PM, at Leadership Camp)
 - October 1, 2005 - State 4-H Ambassador Meeting, 10 AM - 3 PM
 - December 29, 2005 - State 4-H Ambassador Holiday Party, Noon - 3:30 PM
 - March 18, 2006 - State 4-H Ambassador Meeting, 3-5 PM
 - June 6, 2006 - State 4-H Ambassador Recognition & Graduation Luncheon, Noon-1:30 PM

- ★ Accomplish at least five personal Ambassador goals identified during orientation.
- ★ Serve as emcees, committee members, and in other roles at the Ohio 4-H Teen Conference, State Fair 4-H Events, and other state 4-H programs.
- ★ Assist as needed in planning, implementing, and evaluating statewide 4-H programs such as: subject matter conferences, volunteer training sessions and recognition programs, member recognition programs, new 4-H project development, etc.
- ★ Represent Ohio 4-H members on statewide program and development committees.
- ★ Work with other State 4-H Ambassadors to plan, implement & evaluate an Ambassador project to:
 - a) Strengthen
 - b) Promote, and
 - c) Publicize
 the Ohio 4-H youth development program.
- ★ Participate in at least five State 4-H Ambassador “Leadership Opportunities” identified during orientation.

Costs

The State 4-H Ambassador program is organized to be as cost-efficient as possible...

- ... Expenses associated with Ambassador presentations and appearances will be handled by the hosting program. For example, the State Fair will provide admission passes and lunch tickets for Ambassadors who have responsibilities there. Similarly, Ambassadors who speak at banquets or conduct Ambassador programs at conferences should receive free meals and registrations.
- ... Meeting facilities, speakers, programs, educational materials and other resources will be sought free-of-charge or for very little cost to the Ambassadors. However, Ambassadors will be expected to provide their own transportation, meals, and related expenses associated with attending the regular statewide Ambassadors meetings.
- ... Ambassadors are also expected to secure the funds necessary to pay their own program costs, meals, lodging if necessary, and transportation for the State 4-H Ambassador Orientation April 2, 2005, and for their Recognition and Graduation Commencement in 2006. A limited amount of sponsorship to support these expenses is available in many counties. Contact your Extension 4-H Educator to see if such support is available in your county.

How To Apply

All Ohio 4-H teens are eligible who:

- a) are high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors on January 1 of the year of application,
- b) document in the application that they have achieved 25 points in each of the six standards of excellence,
- c) accept the invitation to be State 4-H Ambassadors,
- d) agree to meet the terms and conditions of the program, and
- e) participate in and complete the State 4-H Ambassadors Orientation April 2, 2005

All Ohio teen 4-H'ers are invited to complete the *State 4-H Ambassador Application* to apply to become a State 4-H Ambassador. This application is included on pages to of this document. To apply, complete the application form and return it to the County Extension Office before the county deadline. Deadlines vary from county to county, but are usually in early January.

Commonly Asked Questions

How many teens from each county are eligible to become an Ambassador?

There is no limit to the number of teens in a county who may become State 4-H Ambassadors. Everyone who achieves at least 25 points in each of the six standards areas, and meets the other criteria listed will be invited and installed as **2005-06** State 4-H Ambassadors.

What if I've done something important that seems to "fit" under one of the standards headings, but isn't listed?

Sorry, no substitutions are permitted. However, recommending standards for future use will be one of the responsibilities of those installed as State 4-H Ambassadors. Their recommendations will be considered at the September State & Center 4-H Faculty Conference, and the resulting decisions incorporated for the **2006-07** State 4-H Ambassadors program. If you have suggestions for additional or improved standards, please send them to one of the State 4-H Ambassadors or their advisors.

What if I haven't earned 25 points in all six standards areas?

A minimum of 25 points must be earned in each and every area in order for you to qualify for an invitation to become a State 4-H Ambassador. If time permits before the application deadline, you may complete enough additional activities just prior to applying to earn the 25 points required in each area. If you are not able to earn enough points in each section prior to submitting your completed application, please work to strengthen your record of achievement where needed, and reapply again in the future.

What if I've earned a lot more than 25 points in some areas?

You only need 25 points in each area to qualify to receive an invitation to become a State 4-H Ambassador. It is not necessary for you to report additional accomplishments beyond the 25 point minimum on the application form, especially if you are certain that the information you list about specific activities under each item checked is complete and does in fact "count" toward that item.

You may want to report a few additional accomplishments in each section, as a "cushion" just in case you make a mistake (ie - misinterpret an item, do not list all of the information required for an item, make a math error, etc.). This could help assure that when your application is reviewed at the county and state levels, reviewers will be able to verify at least 25 earned points in each section.

However, in keeping with the intent of recognition for achievement of standards, such things as the number of additional points beyond the 25 point minimum, and the sum of scores from all the sections will not be used in any way.

What if I cannot attend the April 2 State 4-H Ambassador Orientation?

Participating full-time in the April 2 program is required for you to become a State 4-H Ambassador. If your schedule prevents you from attending, please reapply another year when you can meet all the program requirements. However, if finances are the problem, please contact your County Extension Educator. Many counties have some sponsorship assistance available, and there is also some funding available through the Ohio 4-H Foundation.

What if I'm not sure I can attend the required number of meetings and do all the other Ambassador responsibilities?

Being a State 4-H Ambassador is a tremendous honor which is well worth the time commitment it requires. If you accept the invitation, being a State 4-H Ambassador needs to be a priority commitment for you.

As with all programs which involve busy people, an occasional excused absence will not be a problem. If you receive an invitation to become a State 4-H Ambassador and think you will be able to complete the large majority of responsibilities, we hope you will accept the invitation. You should be able to work with the Ambassador advisors and the other commitments on your schedule to make arrangements that are satisfactory for everyone.

However, if your **2005-06** calendar is so full of priority commitments that you aren't able to fit in Ambassador activities, then you may want to postpone your participation and re-apply another year.