

Chaperone Expectations

Thank you for choosing to attend 4-H Citizenship Weekend and for sharing your time and talents with the 4-H youth. Adult partnership is essential to a successful conference. Citizenship Weekend operates as a dynamic youth driven program with the guidance of adult advisors who provide support and direction for the conference.

Following are some guidelines that will help you as a chaperone to our delegates.

In general:

- Ensure the health and safety of all delegates, not just your members.
- Be informed about any delegates needs and communicate special needs as appropriate.
- Serve as the “adult voice” and provide guidance to all youth delegates at all times.

Before Conference:

- Review the code of conduct and dress code.
- Sign the Chaperone responsibilities form.

During Conference:

- Attend the chaperone orientation which will be held within the first few hours of conference.
- Attend assemblies, workshops, and activities as assigned by the committee
- Help facilitate workshops when needed- ex. if a youth delegate is having behavior problems.
- Assist in getting delegates to activities on time.
- Report emergencies to Supervising Adult advisor as needed.
- Enforce the dress code and adhere to the dress code.
- Enforce the code of conduct and adhere to the code of conduct.
- Provide additional assistance when needed.
- If ill alert the committee and arrange for another chaperone to cover your assigned duties.

End of Conference:

- One designated chaperone from your county will help with your county check out

Please help us make this event a better youth - adult partnership. Many people believe that a youth-adult partnership occurs any time youth and adults are present in the same room. This is not correct. Youth-adult partnerships take place when youth and adults plan, learn and work together, with both groups sharing equally in the decision-making process. This is very different than many typical relationships in which adults take the leadership roles and the youth are assigned inferior roles, or programs where youth make all the decisions while the adults sit back and watch. Instead, youth-adult partnerships build on the strengths of each group and the final program or activity is stronger than a program or activity devised and delivered individually by either group.

Research studies indicate that successful **youth-adult partnerships require a variety of elements** to be in place including:

- Youth and adults share equally in the decision making process.
- Together youth and adults achieve better results than either would if working alone.
- Roles for youth and adults are authentic and meaningful.
- Youth and adults learn together and serve as resources for one another.
- Each group is treated with respect and dignity by the other group.
- <http://www.ca4h.org/4hinfo/proginfo/yapartnership.asp>

Chaperone Responsibilities

I understand that as a chaperone, I may be roomed with members from other counties. I will be expected to rotate through sessions and will be assigned randomly to a group of youth. Leadership Team Advisors will be expected to supervise and assist their leadership teams. All adult chaperones will attend the chaperone orientation, chaperone the youth assigned to their group and will chaperone all delegates during group activities, as well as assist in getting delegates to activities on time and provide additional assistance when needed.

As part of my duties I will assist conference staff in correcting violations of dress code and code of conduct. I will report violations of the code of conduct to the Supervising Adult Advisor who will bear responsibility for disciplinary action.

I agree to accept all of these responsibilities.

Signature of Chaperone _____ Date _____
County _____

(Signature required as part of adult registration and to be accepted as a chaperone.)