# Meeting With Your Legislators

Schedule appointments for **June 25, 2018** between 10:00am– 1:00pm

[Submit confirmed appointments](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ivgeMeNY5HDatM_HujBfCRknU5AmDaTf0Z3QyMW-O8E/edit#gid=0) by **June 20, 2018** so we can coordinate chaperones and attendance.

One of the most exciting parts of the California Focus program is being able to meet with your legislators. Many Assembly Members and Senators represent several counties. Coordinate with the Cal Focus delegates from all the counties that your legislator represents.

*A list of participants by county with contact information will be emailed to the the email provided on your registration.*

**Tips**

* The best way to schedule an appointment with your legislator is by phone.
* Appointments normally are about 20‐30 minutes long.
* Legislator’s schedules change often. You should **reconfirm your appointment by June 22, 2018 and** [**confirm it in the online form**](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ivgeMeNY5HDatM_HujBfCRknU5AmDaTf0Z3QyMW-O8E/edit#gid=0) so we can split up into groups.
* Be prepared for the fact that you may have to meet with a legislative aide rather than your actual legislator. Don’t be oﬀended by this and don’t feel that your time has been wasted. Legislative aides are key staff members who research issues and make recommendations to their legislator. You may even get more action on your issue by speaking to their legislative aide!

**It is important for your legislator to be aware of your views, and what 4‐H means to you and the community in which you live.** Plan an eﬀective, yet brief way to communicate this. Suggestions:

* **Designate one person as “leader”** to introduce the others (individually if time permits) and keep the visit friendly and within time limits. As soon as the group is settled, the “leader” should make an introductory statement, identify the group and purpose of the appointment.
* **Prepare a folder or notebook** of newspaper clippings, letters, photos and other documentation of how 4-H is involved in your community.
* **Talk about what you and your 4-H club are doing in your area**. Many legislators have little knowledge of what 4-H is currently doing.
* **Explain your service learning project** for your community.
* **Share about your experience in the California Focus conference.**

Since you are representing 4‐H try to make it a visible part of what you do. If you wish to present a gift to the legislator, make sure that it has a big green clover on it!