



## Senior 4-H Member Opportunity for Higher Level Leadership and Travel!

The Maryland 4-H Program is proud to offer senior 4-H members the opportunity to participate in national level leadership trip opportunities through the Maryland 4-H Leadership Trips and the Senior Portfolio Process.

**Eligibility:** All Maryland 4-H members ages 14-18 (as of January 1<sup>st</sup> the year of the trip) are eligible to apply to attend one of the five national leadership trip opportunities listed below. To be considered, individuals must submit a Senior Portfolio (essay and resume) through 4-H Online and participate in an interview during one of the two Maryland 4-H National Leadership Trip application periods. Local 4-H Programs may approve 10 portfolios for the National Leadership Trip period and 3 portfolios for National 4-H Conference.

**Leadership Trip information and documents are available at:** <https://go.umd.edu/leadershiptrips>

### National Trip Opportunities:

- **National Leadership Trips**
  - National 4-H Congress
  - Camp Miniwanca
  - Virginia 4-H Congress
  - West Virginia Older Member's Conference
- **National 4-H Conference**

### Application Period:

- **National 4-H Conference** – September 1 – October 15.
- **National Leadership Trip** – November 1 – January 15.

### Selection Period:

- **National 4-H Conference** – November – December
- **National Leadership Trips** – January – February

### Notification Period:

- **National 4-H Conference** – by January 15
- **National Leadership Trips** – by March 15

### Delegate Confirmation:

- **National 4-H Conference** – by February 1
- **National Leadership Trips** – by April 1

### Application and Portfolio Submission Process:

Senior 4-H Portfolio must be submitted through the 4-H Online Event Registration for state consideration. Local 4-H Educators may request portfolios for pre-submission review and will approve all submissions for state level competition. Youth competing at the state level will be contacted by the selected interview site coordinator to schedule their interview time. Youth will be contacted by the State Leadership Trip Coordinator regarding the outcome of the judging process and whether they will be awarded a trip.

### Essay: 20% of overall portfolio score

The essay should answer the annual theme or question posted on the 4-H website at: <https://go.umd.edu/md4hleadershiptrips>

- Length – no more than two pages
- Double spaced



Photo: 2019 Maryland 4-H Delegation to National 4-H Congress. By Jamie Morris



Photo: Camp Miniwanca Instagram courtesy of Cait Gardiner

- Margins – no less than 1 inch
- Font Size – no less than 12 pt.
- Font Type – Times New Roman
- For some life skills suggestions, please refer to the Targeting Life Skills Model. Essays will be reviewed and scored by three anonymous judges using the Essay Scoresheet.

**Resume: 40% of overall portfolio score**

The resume should highlight your 4-H career and youth development experiences. A sample 4-H Resume is available on the 4-H website at: <https://go.umd.edu/md4hleadershiptrips>

- Leadership, Citizenship and Life skills based
- Length – no more than three pages
- Single spaced
- Margins – no less than 1 inch
- Font Size – no less than 12 pt.
- Font Type – Times New Roman

Resumes will be reviewed and scored by three anonymous judges using the Resume Scoresheet.

**Interview: 40% of overall portfolio score**

Youth will participate in three 10-12 minute interviews with 1-2 judges in each of the following areas: Citizenship, Leadership and Life Skills. Each interviewer/panel will ask applicants the same set of questions focusing on the three topic areas and will score them using



Photo: National 4-H Conference. By National 4-H

the Interview Scoresheet. Additional interview support materials are available on the 4-H website at:

<https://go.umd.edu/md4hleadershiptrips>

- **National 4-H Conference location –**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in November at the Maryland 4-H Center, College Park
- **National Leadership Trips locations –**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in February in the Queen Anne's County Extension Office, Centreville  
*Inclement Weather Date, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in February*
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in February at the Carroll County Extension Office, Westminster  
*Inclement Weather Date, the Last Sunday in February*
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of February at the Maryland 4-H Center, College Park  
*Inclement Weather Date, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in February*

**Selection:**

- An applicant's average essay, resume and interview score is compiled to determine their overall portfolio score. An applicant's overall score and trip preferential ranking (for National Leadership Trips) are used to select delegates for all National Leadership Trips with a minimum score for consideration (80 for Leadership Trips and 85 for Conference). Trip decisions and offers including number of delegates per trip are subject to change from year to year and are the discretion of the Maryland 4-H State Office and the Maryland 4-H Foundation.



Photo: 2019 Maryland 4-H Delegation to National 4-H Conference. By Jamie Morris

Additional information and rules may be found in the Maryland 4-H National Trip document.

