

## 2023-24 4-H APPLICATION FOR 4-H AWARDS AND OPPORTUNITES

All materials are due November 6, 2023

In-Person Interviews will be held in November or via ZOOM

This packet contains:

- Page 1: Overview of 4-H Trips and Opportunities
- Page 2: Tips for Creating Cover Letter and Resume
- Page 3: Cover Letter Outline
- Page 4: Cover Letter Sample
- Page 5: Resume Outline
- Page 6: Resume Sample
- Page 7: Discussion Questions
- Page 8: Adult Recommendation (Include a stamped, addressed envelope)

**REQUIRED TO BE AWARDED FUNDS: A member of Iowa County 4-H and complete a record book in the previous year. Club 4-H leaders will be contacted to verify record book.**

**THESE ITEMS ARE DUE TO THE EXTENSION OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 6th:**

- ✓ Overview/Ranking of 4-H Trips and Opportunities
- ✓ Cover Letter
- ✓ Resume
- ✓ Discussion Questions
- ✓ Two Completed Recommendations (Have them returned to the UWEX office in the envelope you provide.)

If you have any questions regarding resumes, cover letters or any part of what is expected, call Dan Brandt at 930-9850 or e-mail [dan.brandt@wisc.edu](mailto:dan.brandt@wisc.edu)

**NOTE ON TRIP COSTS:** The chart shows the approximate costs for each trip. This could vary. The Iowa County 4-H Leaders pays 1/3 of the cost of trips, except for Fall Forum, for which they pay ½ of the cost. If a youth chooses to go on two trips, the 4-H Leaders will pay 1/3 of the cost of one trip. If a youth is participating in a trip or State Team for the second time, the 4-H Leaders will not provide any support. Some 4-H clubs in Iowa County also provide financial support to members who go on 4-H trips.

If you are unable to participate in an interview on the scheduled date, contact Dan Brandt at 930-9850 or e-mail [dan.brandt@wisc.edu](mailto:dan.brandt@wisc.edu) to set up a time to record an interview.

## OVERVIEW/RANKING OF 4-H OPPORTUNITIES and KEY AWARD

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_ Year in School \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your preference in rank order or the year you participated	Trips and Awards	Age eligibility	Total Cost	Your cost (approximate)
	<p><b>Advanced Space Academy</b> Fly to Huntsville, Alabama. College and career experiences, astronaut exercises, engineering challenges. Held in 2025</p> <p><b>Space Camp</b> April 18-22, 2024 a camp experience where you learn and experience a ton of different aspects of life exploring places beyond Earth!</p>	<p>10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade</p> <p>6 to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, max age 15</p>	<p>About \$2000</p> <p>About \$900</p>	<p>About \$1340</p> <p>About \$600</p>
	<b>Summer Academy</b> , Madison, WI, June 24-27. Participate in a variety of seminars, motivational speakers, dances, recreation, and more. Stay on campus at UW-Madison.	7 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> grade at time of selection	About \$450	About \$225
	<b>Citizenship Washington Focus:</b> 9 days across the country and in Washington, D.C., meet 4-Hers nationwide, learn about citizenship, government, history. Lots to see and do. Two weeks offered	10 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> grade at time of selection. Min. age 15	About \$1750	About \$1170
	<p><b>State Art Camps – Upham Woods, WI Dells</b> Art Beat – explore the arts for youth, parents and leaders. Tentative dates: TBD</p> <p>Art Camp - experience with six different art tracks including: music, photography, communication, theatre, culinary arts and arts in nature. Tentative Dates: TBD</p>	<p>Grades 3-5</p> <p>Grades 6-8</p>	<p>TBD</p> <p>\$110</p>	<p></p> <p>\$75</p>
	<b>National 4-H Congress, Atlanta GA</b> November 24-28, 2023 Travel by plane to Georgia where you will spend Thanksgiving weekend celebrating accomplishments you and others have made in 4-H. Expect a lot of motivation and inspiration at this one.	Grades 10-12 at time of selection. Max. age 18	About \$1400	About \$940
	<b>4-H Key Award:</b> This is the highest recognition you can receive in 4-H. You receive a certificate and a key pendant at Awards Day and have opportunity to address the Iowa County Board of Supervisors	10 <sup>th</sup> grade or older at time of selection	None	
	<b>American Spirit East:</b> Youth will learn about America's heritage and build awareness of the many steps taken to gain US Independence and freedom by visiting historical sites in Philadelphia, New York, Boston and more. June/July dates	Grades 8 – 10 at the time of registration	About \$1900	About \$1275
	<b>Educational Scholarship:</b> Member in last year of Iowa County 4-H. Amounts vary depending on number of applicants.	Grades 12 or 13	Varies	Varies

For more information and more scholarship opportunities about each of these great experiences visit the following website: [Statewide Events and Opportunities – Wisconsin 4-H](#)

# TIPS FOR COMPLETING YOUR COVER LETTER AND RESUME

**DETERMINE THE AWARD YOU ARE APPLYING FOR.** Review the overview of 4-H trips and opportunities. Consider when the trips take place, the cost, the ages that are eligible, and how many times a youth can participate in each opportunity. Discuss this with your parents and/or a trusted adult. Indicate in the first column your preferences in rank order.

**USE A COMPUTER.** You can save your work and make revisions as necessary. If you do not have a computer at home, work with your school, a friend, or the library. The cover letter and resume cannot be handwritten.

**PLAN AHEAD.** Read all the instructions before you start. Put your thoughts together and translate your skills into action-oriented, concise descriptions. Think of your 4-H experience as a job. What do you do in 4-H? What skills have you developed because of participation in 4-H? How have you personally changed as a result of your 4-H experience?

**LAYOUT, DESIGN, AND ABBREVIATIONS.** Your cover letter and resume should be easy to read and understand. Arrange your resume as illustrated in the outline and sample. Choose a common, easy-to-read font that is no smaller than 11 point and no larger than 14 point. Use the same font throughout the application. Use 1" margins at the top, bottom, and on both sides of the page. You may have a two-page resume. If you use abbreviations, include what it means in parentheses the first time you use it.

**LETTER OF INTRODUCTION.** The letter of introduction tells about yourself and your 4-H work. Explain why you feel you should be selected to represent Iowa County on a trip or receive an award. Give individual examples to explain your statements. This is YOUR cover letter...add your own personality to it. (See outline and sample included in this packet.)

**RESUME.** The resume includes current facts about you and your 4-H experiences. Organize them to best present your accomplishments as a 4-H member as well as achievements in school and your community. Include your objective (the trip or award you are applying for), accomplishments, education, 4-H and school experiences, and volunteer experiences. Pick out and combine things from throughout your experience and from projects that best communicate what you have done. Include examples that illustrate problem-solving, communication skills, decision-making, and other skills you will use in your adult life. What you write should be clear to someone who does not know you and about your involvement in 4-H. (See outline and sample included in this packet.)

**PROOF IT.** Your documents should be free of spelling errors. Use spell-check and follow up by having **at least two other people** proofread your cover letter and resume. Don't lose points in the review process by forgetting to proofread your documents!

**ASK FOR HELP IF YOU NEED IT.** If you have never completed an application, you will probably have questions. **Don't hesitate to ask for help.** Contact Dan Brandt at 930-9850 or e-mail [dan.brandt@wisc.edu](mailto:dan.brandt@wisc.edu) to set up a time to meet or to discuss your application.

## COVER LETTER OUTLINE

**DATE** (that you are mailing it)

Iowa County 4-H Leaders  
ATTN: Educational Experience and Award Application  
303 W. Chapel, Suite 1200  
Dodgeville, WI 53533

**Dear Selection Committee:**

**PARAGRAPH 1:**

What are you sending and why are you sending it?

**PARAGRAPHS 2-4:**

This is the “why me?” section. Explain in no more than 3 paragraphs why you are qualified to represent Iowa County 4-H. Ask yourself what distinguishes you from other applicants. Share why you are interested in attending/receiving the trip or award. If you want to go on a trip, you might also share what you will bring back to Iowa County and your club. **Give examples to help explain your statements.**

**FINAL PARAGRAPH:**

Close the letter. Thank the committee for considering your resume and portfolio.

Sincerely,

**Type your name here as you will SIGN it above.** (Don't forget to sign the letter!)

## SAMPLE COVER LETTER

**September 25, 2022**

Iowa County 4-H Leaders  
ATTN: Educational Experience and Award Application  
303 W. Chapel, Suite 1200  
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Dear Selection Committee:

It is my pleasure to submit my resume and discussion questions to be considered as a delegate for **Citizenship Washington Focus**.

This is my seventh year as an Iowa County 4-H member. I have been active with my projects and as a member of my club, the Cobb Busy Badgers. My enclosed resume and discussion questions highlight my 4-H involvement. Participation in these 4-H activities and events made me interested in representing Iowa County on this trip.

4-H has provided me with some great experiences. I have increased my communication skills by participating in Day in the Arts speaking contests and by serving as president and secretary of my 4-H club. I have learned to give back to my community by helping with our 4-H club highway clean up, helping at the June Dairy Month Breakfast, and assisting at Cloverbud events.

For the past two years, I have been a 4-H Ambassador and served as a camp counselor this past summer. I enjoyed getting to know other 4-H members in Iowa County as well as Green County and Lafayette County. My involvement made me want to experience more in 4-H, especially beyond Iowa County. Other 4-H members who attended Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) told me about the great leadership and learning opportunities that are part of this trip to Washington, D. C. If I am chosen for CWF, I would proudly represent Iowa County. I would also tell other 4-H members in my club and in the county about my experiences and encourage them to attend.

I hope to attend Citizenship Washington Focus to learn more about 4-H, to meet other people, and to increase my leadership skills. My past experiences representing Iowa County, enthusiasm to be involved, and my willingness to share what I learn with others makes me a great candidate.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

**Type your name here as you will SIGN it above.** (Don't forget to sign the letter!)

# RESUME OUTLINE

On a separate page, create your 4-H resume using the following format (a sample is on the next page.) The resume can be more than one page.

## NAME

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Phone Number

## OBJECTIVE

What trip or award are you applying for?

## EDUCATION

School or college name, then Freshman, Sophomore, etc.

## 4-H EXPERIENCES

4-H club name, years in 4-H

List all projects in which you are or have been enrolled. Include the number of years you have been or were a member of that project

## 4-H ACTIVITY INVOLVEMENT

Summarize all 4-H activities in which you have participated and the number of years you participated

## SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Explain what you have learned as a result of participation in 4-H projects and activities and the skills you have developed

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Explain what you have personally gained as a result of participation in 4-H projects and activities in terms of your personal attributes

## VOLUNTEER, WORK, AND OTHER EXPERIENCES

List school, work experiences, and volunteer experiences and the number of years of participation

# **SAMPLE RESUME**

## **Iowa County 4-H'er**

303 W Chapel St  
Dodgeville, WI 53533  
(608) 930-9850

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	Represent Iowa County at Citizenship Washington Focus	
<b>EDUCATION</b>	Dodgeville High School, Junior	
<b>4-H EXPERIENCES</b>	Rockwell Mills 4-H Club, 9 years  Projects: Clothing, Crafts, Beef, Swine, Foods and Nutrition, 7 years Photography, 6 years Insects, 1 year	
<b>4-H ACTIVITY INVOLVEMENT</b>	4-H Club Officer, 3 years Delegate to 4-H Youth Conference, 2010 Cloverbud Day Helper, 2 years 4-H Ambassador, 3 years	Livestock Judging, 5 years County Fair Exhibitor, 9 years Day in the Arts, 5 years 4-H Leaders Council, 1 year
<b>SKILL DEVELOPMENT</b>	Proficient knowledge of beef and swine nutrition, fitting, showing, and training Experienced show person, taking top awards in animal projects the past 5 years Able to document projects in record book Developed optimum feeding rations for market animals staying within family budget and utilizing crops produced Cultural arts skills: crocheting, framing, quilting, flower arranging, stenciling, painting, layout and design	
<b>PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	Excellent role model, mentor, and team player. Effectively work with younger members, peers, and adults in varied situations Organize special events and meetings while paying close attention to detail Delegate tasks effectively and appropriately as part of leadership role in club Sportsmanship exhibited in and out of competitive situations Understand and use parliamentary procedure Teach younger members and peers effectively Well-developed interpersonal and public speaking skills	
<b>VOLUNTEER, WORK AND OTHER EXPERIENCES</b>	Honor Roll, 4 years Volleyball, 4 years Highway Clean-up, 2006-2012 Herdsman, Hi-Point Beef June Dairy Month Activities, 8 years Wisconsin Junior Angus Association Member, 6 years	

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Think about your 4-H experiences and prepare answers to the following questions. Answer these questions on no more than one sheet of paper. These responses are designed to illustrate and support what you have written in your resume and cover letter.

1. In your own words, tell about changes in yourself that have happened during your 4-H career: skills, abilities, self-confidence, or any other 4-H experiences you learned from or enjoyed.
2. If you knew a family that was wondering whether their children should join 4-H, what would you tell them?
3. What is one thing you hope to gain from this trip or award?
4. Add anything else that would give the selection committee insight into who you are, what your 4-H experience has been, and why you should be considered for 4-H trips and awards.
5. Did you participate in 4 (four) 4-H Club activities (meetings, fund raisers, Community Service) in the past year?





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Iowa County 4-H Leaders Association  
303 W. Chapel St, Suite 1200  
Dodgeville, WI 53533  
608-930-9850

**RECOMMENDATION FROM AN ADULT**  
(NOT A PARENT OR RELATIVE)

Name of 4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_

As part of the selection process for Iowa County 4-H Trips and Awards, the selection committee is seeking recommendation and information for candidates. Please provide us your input regarding the following areas:

	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Excellent</u>
Leadership Qualities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participation in 4-H Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Positive Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide additional comments in the space below:

Print Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations should be mailed to Dan Brandt, UW-Extension Iowa County, 303 W Chapel St., Suite 1200, Dodgeville, WI 53533 by November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. **Please use this side of the page only.**



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## RECOMMENDATION FROM AN ADULT

(NOT A PARENT OR RELATIVE)

Name of 4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_

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Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participation in 4-H Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Positive Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide additional comments in the space below:

Print Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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