APPLICATION FOR OREGON DELEGATION
4-H NATIONAL CONFERENCE
CHEVY CHASE, MD
MARCH 28-APRIL 2, 2009

This year National 4-H Conference is the week after Oregon’s Spring Break therefore delegates should ensure that they are able to miss 4-5 days of school before they apply.

Members of the Oregon delegation should be in the 10th or 11th grade and at least fifteen years old by January 1, 2009. Applications for National 4-H Conference should be submitted through the county 4-H office. Applications must be in the state 4-H office no later than October 31, 2008. Finalists will compete in a polycom interview in early November.

Answer the following question on a separate sheet of paper. Limit answers to no more than three pages (all questions put together). Any format (i.e. narrative, list, combination) can be used. Failure to complete this requirement will result in immediate disqualification.

1. Briefly describe your 4-H career. Describe your involvement in your own words focusing on how you have grown as a result of it. Emphasis should be placed on the most recent activity.

2. What do you feel is the value of youth civic engagement?

3. How do you feel this trip would help you, your county, and the state 4-H program?

No letter of reference is required however the county agent or others familiar with your 4-H career will be contacted as part of the selection process.
About National 4-H Conference
The National 4-H Conference is an annual event headquartered at the 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Events at the conference take place in the greater Washington D.C. area however the bulk of our time is spent at the 4-H Center or the Capital Mall.

National Conference is an opportunity for 4-H members to network and gain ideas from 4-H’ers around the country. Although a wide range of programming may be presented the primary idea behind National 4-H Conference is promoting civic engagement. At the National 4-H Conference delegates discuss a variety of topics and ideas while visiting sites vital to our country’s history and development. Delegates also meet with Oregon’s representatives, senators, and their aides to ask questions and talk to them about the 4-H program.

Part of the goal of the National 4-H conference is to expose delegates to a variety of ideas and experiences that may not be available in Oregon. Delegates should have open minds and be ready for learning experiences.

To see a slide show of the 2008 Oregon Delegation check out this link. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C47G9hopKtM

What to Expect
Oregon will send 2-3 delegates to the National 4-H Conference depending on funds. It is important to note that this is not an “honorary trip” like National Congress. Delegates should be sincere about sharing what they learn with others in their region and the state of Oregon.

Because we cannot send a large delegation and we want the information gained at National Conference to reach all parts of Oregon, geographic region may be a factor in selection.

Most of the costs associated with this trip are covered; however, delegates are expected to contribute $300 to their registration fee. Check with your county’s leaders’ association to find out if they assist in covering this expense, most do.

Addition costs include:
- Food on travel days
- Metro/Bus Fair (under $20)
- Lunch on Capital Hill Day
- Spending Money

Delegates must also arrange their own transportation to and from the Portland airport. Typically we fly out early Saturday morning and fly in Thursday night.

If you have more questions about National 4-H Conference or the application process please contact Sara Miller at sara.miller@oregonstate.edu or 541-737-6113.