

To: 4-H Youth Interested in CWF



From: Sherrie Peterson
4-H Program Assistant

Subject: Citizenship Washington Focus 2019

Date: January 23, 2019



Plans for Citizenship Washington Focus 2019 are underway. The conference is scheduled for July 7-13 at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. There will hopefully be 20 youth and 2 chaperones attending the 2019 conference. This letter contains all the information specific requirements needed when applying.

Program Overview:

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is held each summer at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase Maryland. It is a week-long event (Sunday - Saturday) for 4-H members in grades 9-12 (14-19 years old). The program is based on the principle that democracy requires skills and strategies that must be learned and practiced and it teaches participants to be active, responsible citizens and leaders. The program utilizes Washington, D.C. as a working classroom to learn about the government, citizenship and civic education and provides hands-on opportunities for our teens to promote "Better Citizens Today, Better Leaders Tomorrow."

The group will travel by coach bus for the week and will experience all that Washington, D.C. has to offer. There are approximately 250 4-H members representing 6-10 states at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center during each week of CWF.

Activities During the Week Include:

- * Participatory workshops to build lifetime skills for success.
- * Dynamic speakers to inspire youth to reaffirm their commitment to citizen involvement.
- * Committees to give everyone a chance to practice leadership skills.
- * Field Trips to provide hands-on opportunities to study characteristics of successful leaders, gain political awareness, and learn about legislation and each citizen's role in it.
- * Social events and recreational events to encourage new friendships, fitness, individual growth and fun.

APPLICATIONS PROCESS AND DUE DATE

In order to be eligible to apply, you must meet the following

- Applicants must be in Grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 to apply
- Applicants must be active with county and state programs

- Applicants must have presented a state presentation
- Applicants must submit 3 years summary sheets
- Applications must be submitted on or before the due date/time
- A recommendation form must be submitted by club leader. Contact your leader and ask them if they will give you a recommendation. Contact Sherrie at the 4-H Office and let her know who will be filling out your recommendation by Monday, February 18th, and she will send them the recommendation form.

Applications are due to the 4-H office no later than 4:00 PM on Monday, February 25th. The application can be found at <http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/citizenship/washingtonfocus/default.asp>

FUNDING/PAYMENT

The total cost of the CWF is \$1,100 per delegate. Funding of the trip is the responsibility of the participant, however participants can request help from their clubs and the 4-H Association. Payment due date is due by May 6, 2019.

DELEGATE SELECTION

Each county may send two delegates. Since some counties do not send two delegates and others have more than two, we ask that you rank the order of your delegates. Additional delegates will be selected based on the applications and county reservation forms. In past years, most delegates have been selected to attend.

After all the registration forms are received by March 9, you will be notified of the delegates selected and the additional delegates that can attend no later than **March 22** so you can collect their payment for the May 6th deadline.

DELEGATE ELIGIBILITY/REQUIREMENTS

On time and complete applications will be reviewed by the Hunterdon County 4-H Awards committee. Applications will be ranked and one delegate will be chosen to attend. The remainder of the applicants will be sent to the State 4-H Office and they will select additional applicants to be a part of the NJ Delegation. All applicants will be notified by March 22nd.

Mandatory Orientation: All selected delegates must attend an orientation meeting. There will be two different ones offered – see below for information. Please be sure your selected delegates are aware of these dates and locations.

North – Rutgers University – Thursday, June 6, 5:30-7:00 pm

South – Burlington County 4-H Office – Tuesday, June 11, 5:00-6:30 pm

Please feel free to contact me at speterson@co.hunterdon.nj.us or (908) 788-1346 with questions and concerns with the application process.