

4-H members ages 15-18 have the opportunity to attend two great national 4-H programs, National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Conference. Delegates are chosen to attend based on an application packet. Each delegate must contribute \$300 toward the cost of the trip. The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation covers the remainder of the cost.

NEW- Now you can apply for both with just one application packet by indicating which trip(s) you want to be considered for in your cover letter. All efforts will be made to provide youth who qualify with the opportunity to represent Massachusetts at one or both as space allows.

National 4-H Congress (November 24th – November 28th 2017) in Atlanta, Georgia has served as the flagship event of the 4-H program for over 90 years. Congress provides youth ages 15-18 a quality educational and cross-cultural experience that exceeds what any state independently provides. It is designed to address the needs and issues of youth while helping to develop capable, competent and caring citizens. For more information visit www.national4-hcongress.com.

National 4-H Conference (April 7-12th, 2018) is the Secretary of Agriculture's premier youth development opportunity to engage youth ages 15-18 in developing recommendations for the 4-H Youth Development Program. The conference is housed at the National 4-H Youth Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Delegates take part in field trips, recreational opportunities and Congressional visits in Washington D.C. For more information go to <http://www.4-h.org/4-h-conference>.

To apply, you must submit an application packet to: Kim Pond, Massachusetts 4-H Program, 120 Stafford St. Suite 201, Worcester, MA, 01609 **or** submit electronically to mass4hteens@gmail.com. Packet is due (postmarked) May 1, 2017.

The application packet must include (single sided only with a font size of 12 point or larger):

- A cover letter
 - A resume (1 page preferred, 2-page maximum)
 - A 4-H Story (double spaced, 5-page maximum)
 - A completed 4-H Experience Sheet - Answer these 4 questions on a separate sheet of paper:
 1. Briefly describe the leadership experiences that you have had in the 4-H program and through other organizations and school.
 2. Why do you feel it is important to develop communication skills?
 3. How will you apply your leadership experiences/skills to benefit the 4-H program in the next 2 years?
 4. Discuss any Community Service work that you have done and how it has impacted you and/or your community.
 - Two written references (1 from a 4-H affiliated person, 1 from non-4-H: these cannot be relatives.
- ***OPTIONAL: up to 5 pages of supplemental materials presented in a professional manner.

Please avoid duplicating materials: A resume is meant to be a short synopsis of your important activities, accomplishments and skills gained. Your 4-H Story and 4-H Experience Sheet is a way to let the judges know how your 4-H projects and experiences have had an impact on you or to elaborate on your experiences in more detail. For more information on doing a resume and cover letter go to <http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/communications-program/resume-development-guidelines>.



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