



## Youth in Governance February 11-16, 2024



Alaska 4-H Youth in Governance Program for 2024 will be February 11-16. This experience offers a select few 4-H teens from around the state opportunity to gain a better understanding of the legislative process. The Alaska 4-H program has received funding to assist in covering most of the cost of the trip for up to three adults and ten youth to participate in Juneau at the Youth in Governance program.

The selection process will begin with nominations from each district listed in ranking order, to be submitted to the program coordinator by January 8, 2024. Ranking of nominations will be determined by district agent and its selection committee. Each district will be allotted one participant slot. If a district does not use its slot, the slot will become available to a second person from another district. This will be determined by putting names of persons ranking in 2<sup>nd</sup> from each district into a drawing, and so forth until all slots are filled.

Each participant will be responsible for paying a registration fee of \$350. The registration fee will cover all costs during the program. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation to and from Juneau, meals before and after the program and spending money. Alaska 4-H will provide ground transportation during the conference, lodging, meals and other programming expenses.

The Youth in Governance program will also need three chaperons, preferably from districts that are sending teens. Interested chaperons will need to apply to the program coordinator, Marla Lowder. Chaperons will be responsible for airfare and \$350 registration fee.

Before the Youth in Governance program in Juneau begins, there will be two conference zoom calls for all teens and chaperons attending. These conference calls will cover what 4-H is, the expectations and pre-conference prep work before arriving in Juneau. The conference zoom calls will be January 24 and 31 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m..

Participants will be expected to arrive in Juneau the afternoon of Sunday, February 11. To kick off the Youth in Governance program, ice breakers and a run-down of the week will be offered Sunday evening. Conference programming begins Monday morning. Attached is a schedule of conference activities. Participants will depart on Friday, February 16, in the morning/early afternoon.

Each district will decide how nominees and participants will be chosen to attend the Youth in Governance conference. It is suggested that an application process occur if more than one youth expresses interest in participating. Please forward a ranking in order of nominees. If your district has more than one teen who wishes to attend and he/she is not chosen as a participant, the cost for the week is \$1500 plus airfare.

Requirements for participant selection:

#### Youth

1. Must be at least 14 by the conference and not older than 18.
2. Have an interest in government
3. Be able to participate in conference calls.

Please consider giving youth who have not had an opportunity to go first priority, especially for the scholarship.

#### Chaperons:

1. Must be an individual who is willing to guide teens through the program and be available to chaperon in Juneau for the duration of the program.
2. Be interested in helping the teens learn the legislative process; they can also learn along with the teens.
3. Attend conference calls.
4. Be a registered 4-H Leader.
5. Be willing to actively participate with the teens at the conference
6. Other duties include but are not limited to: making sure teens are safely in their rooms at night; that boys and girls are not in each other's rooms; escort teens to and from the capital; ensure that everyone is respectful of self and others.
7. Once groups are assigned, there will be no changes.

#### Chaperon Applications

Adults are asked to submit in writing (email is fine) your name, how many years you have been a leader, how you will help with the duties listed above, and why you want to attend the program. This is due to Marla Lowder, [mklowder@alaska.edu](mailto:mklowder@alaska.edu), by January 8, 2024.

If you have questions, contact Marla Lowder at 907-474-2427 or [mklowder@alaska.edu](mailto:mklowder@alaska.edu).

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