

Apply for the National 4-H Trips to Nat'l 4-H Congress and Nat'l 4-H Conference

Nat'l 4-H Congress and Nat'l 4-H Conference are excellent opportunities to meet 4-H members from across the nation. Participants learn about many career options, and learn through educational workshops at Congress or become a part of a team making recommendations to National 4-H Council at Conference.

***“National 4-H Congress was the best educational conference I have ever attended.”
Daniel, 4-H Teen***

Who can apply: All Maine 4-H Youth ages 14 to 18

When to apply: Applications postmarked by March 13, 2009

When are the trips: National 4-H Congress is November 27 to December 1, 2009 in Atlanta, GA
National 4-H Conference is March 20 to 25, 2010 in Washington DC

How to apply: Prepare your [4-H Story](#)
Prepare your [4-H Resume](#)
Submit the [application page](#)
Participate in an interview in mid-April.

To apply

Step 1 – **Submit your 4-H Story and Resume** along with the application page

Step 2 – Mail your application to:

Michaele Bailey, State 4-H Office, 5741 Libby Hall, University of Maine Orono, ME 04469

Step 3 – Our screening committee will review your application and invite 4-H members to an interview

Deadline postmarked by March 13, 2009 Submit Early!

Decisions Announced – Mid-May 2009

Decisions will be announced by the following methods:

- By e-mail to all Extension Offices
- By mail to all applicants
- By newsletter in the following month

Cost of the Trip

In the past, funding for these trips has been generously supplied by the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation and delegates have been responsible for \$200. However, given our uncertain economic times, it is unsure how much the Foundation will contribute this year. We will post the most current financial information we have after the next Foundation Board of Directors meeting.

What will the judges be looking for?

1. **4-H Story** – Is the story well written, does it clearly demonstrate a commitment made to 4-H? To find out how to write your 4-H Story go to www.umext.maine.edu/4h and click on Youth and Forms and scroll down to Conference and Congress forms. If you cannot get this information on-line, it is available at your County Extension Office.
2. **Resume** – Is the resume complete, thorough, and carefully created to demonstrate all aspects of the member's life?
There are sample resumes in the same place as the 4-H Story.
Look for Resume #1 and #2.
3. **Interview Judging**
Judges will look for the following characteristics:
 1. Mature and articulate applicant, good manners
 2. Ability to speak clearly and shows the ability to listen
 3. Can describe the value of community service
 4. Demonstrates leadership in 4-H
 5. Understanding of the value of the 4-H experience

Sample Interview Questions

- Tell us how 4-H has helped you to develop leadership skills.
- What do you think you will learn from the experience of National 4-H Congress or Conference?
- What are the key life skills you have mastered as a result of your 4-H work?
- How has 4-H helped you to participate in service to your club, school and or community?
- Identify a problem or an issue where you wanted to see something changed. What strategies did you come up with to address the issue? How satisfied were you with the outcome?
- How have the experiences and learning you've had in 4-H helped you in other areas, perhaps academically, in career plans, or in other organizations?

For more information about these trips, check out these websites

- National 4-H Congress www.national4-hcongress.com
- National 4-H Conference <http://4hconf.4-h.org>