

# ARIZONA 4-H STATE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

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*2020 - 2021*



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
**Cooperative Extension**



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*The ambassador program provides 4-H teen leaders with the opportunity to advocate for 4-H youth, represent Arizona 4-H, and develop as generational leaders.*

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The team will consist of seven elected 4-H state ambassadors. Each ambassador has a responsibility to support all team goals and to fulfill their specific position obligations. When selected as a State Ambassador, they become a representative of Arizona 4-H in all that they say and do. This role possesses high visibility and responsibility for the selected ambassadors. Every ambassador, regardless of their specific position, needs to be able to articulate what 4-H is, how it came about, and where it aspires to take the next generation of leaders.

The seven ambassador positions include:

- Arizona 4-H State Ambassador President
- Arizona 4-H State Communications Ambassador
- Arizona 4-H State Foundation Ambassador
- Arizona 4-H State Healthy Living Ambassador
- Arizona 4-H State STEM Ambassador
- Arizona 4-H State Agriculture Ambassador
- Arizona 4-H State Citizenship Ambassador

## **ARIZONA 4-H STATE AMBASSADOR PRESIDENT**

The role of the Ambassador President is to promote team camaraderie, excellent communication, and strong leadership. They serve as a representative and advocate of all 4-H principles through both their actions and words. In addition to being the primary youth representative of the Arizona 4-H Youth Development organization, they are tasked with supporting each of the other state Ambassadors in their various roles. The ideal candidate will have strong public speaking skills and dynamic leadership abilities.

## **ARIZONA 4-H STATE COMMUNICATIONS AMBASSADOR**

The role of the Communications Ambassador is to help reach all 4-H communities by regular written and verbal communication. They will be responsible for producing a multi-annual youth driven newsletter, writing some digital communications (i.e. social media takeovers and blog posts) and supporting 4-H clubs with their communication needs. Additionally, this ambassador will coordinate team communications, including taking notes at meetings. In all that they do, the Communications Ambassador advocates for consistent Arizona 4-H messaging and embraces excellent communication as a guiding principle.

## **ARIZONA 4-H STATE FOUNDATION AMBASSADOR**

The role of the Foundation Ambassador is to advocate for youth initiatives that are produced from the Arizona 4-H Youth Foundation. Whether it be informing 4-H communities about annual scholarships or collaborating with the Foundation Board about youth state funding needs, this role engages with the financial aspects of Arizona 4-H. This person needs to be financially literate and passionate about helping connect 4-H youth with scholarships and funding opportunities.

## **ARIZONA 4-H STATE HEALTHY LIVING AMBASSADOR**

The role of the Healthy Living Ambassador is to support healthy living initiatives around the state of Arizona. As one of the four pillars of 4-H, Healthy Living is a large part of 4-H programming and it has further potential to engage youth across Arizona. The primary narrative of this ambassador is to help provide youth with education related to healthy living-based projects, programs and opportunities. This team member also serves to communicate how local community projects align with the four 4-H pillars.

## **ARIZONA 4-H STATE STEM AMBASSADOR**

The role of the STEM Ambassador is to advocate and support STEM programming around the state of Arizona. Whether it be through engaging campus partners or highlighting local STEM projects, this person serves to highlight the great work being done around the state. Furthermore, this ambassador will advocate and educate about the present state and future goals of the Arizona 4-H STEM program.

## **ARIZONA 4-H STATE AGRICULTURE AMBASSADOR**

The role of the Agricultural Ambassador is to speak on behalf of agricultural projects, programs, and events. 4-H has deep roots with agriculture and this Ambassador serves to advocate for both the history and future of agriculture in Arizona. There are many occasions to further educate youth about opportunities and important issues facing the agricultural industry. As one of the most well-known 4-H programs, this Ambassador serves to advocate for many youths across Arizona.

## **ARIZONA 4-H STATE CITIZENSHIP AMBASSADOR**

The role of the Citizenship Ambassador is to promote civic education, community engagement and global awareness. This Ambassador serves to support current civic programming and to advocate for youth voices across Arizona. Furthermore, this ambassador advocates for the various national and international 4-H opportunities surrounding Citizenship, such as National 4-H Congress, Citizenship Washington Focus, Leadership Washington focus, and 4-H International Exchanges.

## **TIMELINE FOR APPLICANTS**

April 2, 2020

Applications are released and are open for submissions.

May 1, 2020

Applications are due to the State 4-H Office via the online link.

May 6, 2020

Applicants will receive notification if they will have the opportunity to do a virtual interview.

May 13th – May 14th, 2020

Virtual interviews take place with the selection committee.

May 15th, 2020

The selected Arizona 4-H Ambassador Team for 2020 – 2021 is announced.

## **SELECTION COMMITTEE**

*The selection committee will be comprised of a diverse team of individuals. There will be approximately eight people on the selection committee.*

*The committee will include:*

- two current 4-H members;
- one 4-H state office representative;
- one AZ 4-H Youth Foundation representative;
- one Arizona Cooperative Extension representative;
- one county 4-H agent;
- one 4-H volunteer;
- one community partner.

## **APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY**

Minimum Qualifications:

- applicants must be rising Juniors or Seniors in high school;
  - or, 16 – 18 (years as of 4-H age);
- member in Good Standing with County 4-H Program;
- willing to commit to attending the *required* events (please see the schedule for a complete list);
- exhibit a high level of responsiveness and communication skills.

Preferred Qualifications:

- willing to work well with team members;
- have experience working with youth and/or serving as a mentor for other people;
- interest in developing skills as a leader.

## APPLICATION COMPONENTS

### General information

(Name, county, preferred Ambassador position, etc.)

### Short-answer questions

1. Please share some of the ways that you have exhibited leadership skills.
2. Why are you interested in being a statewide representative of Arizona 4-H?
3. When working with a team, what do you feel are your strengths? What do you believe are your greatest areas for improvement?

### Essay Question

As a State 4-H Ambassador in many cases, you are the voice of the program. Whether you have the opportunity to speak at a state-level recognition event or at a neighboring county's award night, in that moment you are Arizona 4-H. In some cases, you may be asked to share your "4-H story."

We are interested in hearing more about how 4-H has shaped your life experience so far and where you hope for it to lead you in the future. Please describe an experience in 4-H that has significantly impacted your life.

For these questions, you can either write an essay (500 words or less) or answer the same questions in a video (2 - 3 minutes).

### Letters of Recommendation

One of the letters of recommendation needs to be from a 4-H related person, including a leader, county agent, or county staff member. The second can be from any person who you feel knows you well and can speak to your leadership capabilities. (Neither of the references can be completed by a family member).

## GENERAL RULES

- State Ambassadors may only be elected once; however, they may apply up to twice if not selected during the first year's selection process.
- Furthermore, teens may only serve as a State Ambassador for a one-year term.
  - (i.e. Teens may not be a State Ambassador both their Junior and Senior year of high school.)
- All State Ambassadors must very closely abide by the 4-H Code of Conduct.
- All State Ambassadors are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and mature manner while representing Arizona 4-H.
- All State Ambassadors need to be willing to commit the necessary time and energy to be a statewide representative of Arizona 4-H.

## OFFICIAL DRESS

Provided by Arizona 4-H:

- white button-down long sleeve shirt with Arizona 4-H branding;
- ambassador nametag;

- black show tie.

Not provided\* by Arizona 4-H:

- closed toed professional black shoes;
- black slacks or skirt;
- black belt if pants have beltloops.

## **NON-OFFICIAL DRESS**

Provided by Arizona 4-H:

- polo shirt with Arizona 4-H branding;
- ambassador nametag.

Not provided\* by Arizona 4-H:

- khaki pants;
- belt if pants have beltloops;
- closed-toed professional shoes.

*\* Financial need should in no way inhibit a candidate from applying. If any of the 'not provided' items on the list above are inaccessible to you, please do not hesitate to reach out to the State 4-H Office.*

## **RESOURCES**

*Each of the following resources will be provided by Arizona 4-H in partnership with the Arizona 4-H Youth Foundation.*

Provided:

- housing, meals, and gas reimbursement to and from all required State 4-H functions;
- teaching supplies for workshops throughout the year;
- registration fees for all state level events (including Summit and JOLT);
- extensive leadership training, public speaking practice and many other diverse opportunities.



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