

Montana 4-H Citizenship Opportunities

Citizenship Seminar

When: Every other year (during Legislative years)

Where: Helena, MT

Eligibility: 13-19 year old 4-H members

Approximate: \$80pp

Highlights: Hands-on, interactive, mock legislative experience plus meetings with state legislators and tours. Participants must submit a bill with their registration.

Note: Counties pay their own hotel bill and organize chaperones to attend the event.

Chaperones may act as “lobbyists” during the mock legislature

Citizenship Washington Focus

When: every June (dates vary, but usually the second week in June)

Where: Washington, D.C.

Eligibility: 15-19 year old 4-H members

Approximate cost: \$1700pp

Highlights: a week-long citizenship event at the National 4-H Conference Center. One person 17+ will receive the Susan K. Dufner award and scholarship (amount changes every year depending on endowment, but approximately \$450-\$500)

Note: 1-2 chaperones needed (25+); selected chaperones do not pay

Citizenship Washington Focus – Presidential Inauguration

When: every four years (January)

Where: Washington, D.C.

Eligibility: 15-19 year old 4-H members

Approximate cost: \$1700pp

This is the first year for this event. I’m not sure if they will run it again in four years, but I assume that if it goes well, they will

Note: 1-2 chaperones needed (25+); selected chaperones do not pay

Leadership Washington Focus

When: July of every year

Where: Washington, D.C.

Eligibility: 4-H youth entering 7-9th grades

Approximate cost: \$1500-\$1600

Highlights: a week-long leadership event at the National 4-H Conference Center

Note: 1-2 chaperones needed (25+); selected chaperones do not pay

National 4-H Conference

When: March of every year

Where: Washington, D.C.

Eligibility: 15-19 year old 4-H members

Approximate cost: \$1000pp

Highlights: a week-long event at the National 4-H Conference Center where youth participate in round-table discussions on national issues affecting youth. Youth also meet with national leaders to discuss their findings.

Note: This is for four people only, so three youth and one adult chaperone. 4-H Foundation has contributed up to \$3000

International Travel to Japan, South Korea, Finland, Norway, Costa Rica, and Argentina

When: Every year or every other year for some countries, summer

Length: one month

Eligibility: 14-19 year old 4-H members (not in college)

Approximate cost: \$2,200-\$5,500

Highlights: stay with a family for about three weeks. Participate in cultural events like 4-H camps, language classes, sightseeing, learn the ins-and-outs of typical family life

Note: chaperones (25+) needed for each country. States' 4-H International makes the final chaperone selection. Japan needs several chaperones, all other countries 1-2. Knowledge of Spanish required to chaperone groups going to Spanish-speaking countries. There is a small fee for chaperones that varies by country.

International Hosting

When: every summer for about 3 ½ weeks or for the entire school year

Eligibility: any family (4-H families preferred) with youth within two years of age as the person they host and the same gender.

Approximate cost: this is a volunteer opportunity so costs associated with having an extra person in your home

Highlights: Expose your children to someone from another culture, study a different language, have fun!

Note: Adult chaperones and year-long students may be hosted by any family (no children required)

Interstate Exchange: this is country-driven and organized