



Alaska 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador Program Guidelines

The **Alaska 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador Program** is designed to promote 4-H and 4-H Shooting Sports. Youth selected to serve as Ambassadors will receive training which will allow them to advocate for the Alaska 4-H Shooting Sports program at the district and state level. Some Ambassadors may be asked to support state events as well. Ambassadors provide public relations support at special events such as donor/sponsor functions and serve as spokespersons for the 4-H Shooting Sports Program, helping to make 4-H and the 4-H Shooting Sports Programs more visible. The Ambassador's further develop their skills in leadership, public presentation, citizenship, community service, public relations, and team building.

PURPOSE, GOALS, OBJECTIVES

The 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador program will provide a venue for 4-H Teens to:

1. Represent 4-H and specifically 4-H Shooting Sports for public relations purposes at special events; at donor/sponsor functions and with the public, 4-H groups, community service organizations, schools, and media contacts.
2. Serve as spokespersons for the 4-H Shooting Sports program at their respective levels of participation state, district - helping to make 4-H Shooting Sports programs more visible.
3. Further develop their skills in leadership, public presentation, citizenship, community service, public relations, and team building. Trainings will be held quarterly via video conferencing.
4. Assist in maintaining relations with 4-H Faculty and Extension Administrators as well as past, present and future program donors, and supporters.
5. Continue and expand their involvement in 4-H Shooting Sports beyond the shooting skills and competitive events.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

By being selected as a State or District 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador, you will be representing all 4-H youth. What you say and do is especially important. Remember, you never get a second chance to make a good first impression. As an Ambassador you may meet with donors who are CEOs of companies or organizations and you always need to put your best foot forward. The way you dress, the way you speak, and act are especially important when you are serving as an Ambassador.

- You are expected to be on time, so plan to be early to any event.
- You need to respond promptly to any emails or phone calls from the Program Coordinator and your chaperon for the event.
- It is especially important that you send thank you notes immediately following the event. You will be given names and addresses so that you can fulfill this obligation.
- You may get tired at events, but you always need to be cheerful and ready to respond positively to everyone.
- A mature attitude and outlook is required.
- Ambassadors may be asked by your State Shooting Sports Coordinator to serve as a representative at a local, regional, state, or national event.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

A goal of the 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassadors program is to provide opportunities for youth to build character and develop their leadership skills. Ambassadors are always expected to uphold the 4-H Code of Conduct.

DRESS CODE

Ambassadors are expected to dress in a manner befitting young men and women. Modesty, neatness, well-groomed and practicality will be the guiding principles. Attention to details is important, so here are some tips for both men and women. Make sure you have:

- clean/serviceable shoes
- clean hair, with long hair pulled back
- cleaned and trimmed fingernails
- minimal cologne or perfume
- well-brushed teeth and fresh breath
- no gum, candy, or other objects in your mouth
- no body odor

Ambassadors are not to wear torn (intentional or otherwise) or sloppy clothing. Tank tops, muscle shirts, bare midriffs, low necklines, sundresses, and tight or otherwise revealing clothing will not be allowed. This applies to all spandex fashions. T-shirts with negative, outlandish, disrespectful messages or pictures will not be allowed. Also, you are representing 4-H, therefore shirts with the logos of other youth organizations should not be worn.

Ambassadors may wear shorts and skirts of modest style and length. Shorts, skorts and skirts may be no shorter than 3" above the knee.

Females - Blouses/shirts must be tucked in when low-rise slacks/jeans/skirts/ are worn.

Males – Casual or dress slacks should be worn with shirt tails tucked in.

All footwear should be clean, neat, shined and no flip flops.

Remember: When serving as a State or District 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador, you are representing the 4-H Shooting Sports youth to the public and you need to make the best impression possible.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Alaska 4-H Youth Development Program is committed to ensuring the State Ambassador Program is representative of the diversity of Alaska, is represented by youth who demonstrate strong leadership and service in 4-H and their communities, and can professionally represent the entire Alaska 4-H Shooting Sports Program. Approximately 20 youth will be chosen to serve as State and District Ambassadors. Selection will be based on the qualifications outlined below as demonstrated through a written application, an oral interview, a presentation, and references.

Positions:

District Ambassadors: Up to 4 per district, prefer 2 new and 2 outgoing each year
Term: 1-2year term (one-year term no more than two years in a row)

State Ambassadors: Up to 2 per year, prefer 1 new and 1 outgoing each year
Term: 1-2year term (one-year term no more than two years in a row)

Note: State Ambassador eligibility requires serving as District Ambassador for at least one year and commitment to participate in the National Ambassador Training.

Eligibility requirements:

Be currently enrolled in 4-H and in a shooting sports project.

Be age 14 to 18 at the beginning of the 4-H year (October 1).

Maintain eligibility as a Alaska 4-H member in good standing throughout their term (January - December 30)

Time available to participate in all required activities

Demonstrated ability to positively represent Alaska 4-H

Interest in developing and/or enhancing skills related to leadership, such as conflict resolution, facilitation, teamwork, decision-making, respect, and communication

Able to accept and incorporate constructive criticism to enhance skills

Willing to explore and apply diverse concepts of citizenship

Preferred qualifications:

Experience teaching youth and/or facilitating group discussions

Experience and ability to work collaboratively with others to achieve a common goal

Participation and leadership in a variety of activities, at the local, district, state, and/or national levels, in and/or outside of 4-H

Steps to Apply:

Complete the [Alaska 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassador Application](#) (found on the Alaska 4-H Shooting Sports [webpage](#)).

Important Dates:

Application opens October 1

Application due November 30

Selection will occur in December by the AK 4-H Shooting Sports Committee

Other important dates:

State postal match January -February

State trainings: dates will vary on a quarterly basis varies

Youth day at Birchwood Shooting Park, June 2021

District fair dates (general): Southeast Alaska (Haines)- late July. All other Districts, late August.

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