YOUNG ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE
INFORMATION PACKET

About National 4-H Council’s Youth Advisory Committee

National 4-H Council’s Mission: To increase investment and participation in high quality 4-H positive youth development programs.

National 4-H Council is the private sector, non-profit partner of our nation’s Cooperative Extension System and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). National 4-H Council supports state and local 4-H programs with a focus on fundraising, brand management, communications, and legal and fiduciary services.

National 4-H Council’s work is driven by a core belief in the power of young people. We see young people as individuals who have unique strengths and real influence to improve the world around us. In keeping with that belief, National 4-H Council established a Young Alumni Advisory Committee to serve as a bridge to the alumni community – helping to strengthen the relationship between the 4-H system and its former participants and ensuring youth voice is incorporated in the planning and decisions of National 4-H Council and its Board of Trustees.

The Young Alumni Advisory Committee (YAAC) is comprised of eleven young 4-H alumni, between the ages of 18-22 at the time of election, who work to support National 4-H Council and advise the Board of Trustees. The role of the YAAC member includes the following:

1. **Youth Voice**: Members will offer their perspective and insight as young 4-H alumni to National 4-H Council, the Board of Trustees, ECOP and other friends of 4-H through regular and ad hoc meetings and conference calls.
2. **Ambassadorship**: Members will act as spokespeople for the 4-H brand through public appearances, including but not limited to Board of Trustees recruitment & engagement, meetings with current & potential partners, and speaking engagements at a variety of events, meetings and conferences. Additionally, members will serve as brand ambassadors through digital/social media and potential media interviews.

**Professional Development** is a significant benefit for members of the Young Alumni Advisory Committee. Members will be equipped for their service through training and hands-on development opportunities throughout their term of service for both their role as Committee members and for future professional endeavors. Training opportunities may include: networking, storytelling, personal branding, serving as a spokesperson, and more.

**Young Alumni Advisory Committee Expectations**

YAAC members will be elected by National 4-H Council’s Board of Trustees and will be expected to meet the following **requirements for service**:

- Be between the ages of 18-22 as of July 1, 2020
• Have a minimum of 3 years of past involvement in 4-H
• Have demonstrated 4-H leadership at the county and/or state level
• Be able to commit to a two- or three-year term as a committee member
• Be willing to represent 4-H as a spokesperson through their owned digital/social channels, through Council-owned channels or through external media or speaking opportunities
• Be willing to abide by Council’s Code of Conduct

During their tenure, YAAC members should expect the following **time commitment** each year:

• **Official YAAC Meeting Participation:** Members should participate in a minimum of four out of six scheduled Committee meetings during the YAAC year. Two in-person meetings (in March and September) are required except in extenuating circumstances (ex: study abroad). Four of the scheduled meetings will be via teleconference. Meetings are expected to take place during: September, November, January, March, May, July.

• **Ad-Hoc Meeting Participation:** As advisors to National 4-H Council and its Board of Trustees, additional meetings may be scheduled. These additional meetings are encouraged but are not required.

• **Ambassadorship:** Throughout the year, opportunities may arise to serve as a 4-H ambassador in various capacities around the country. Though there is not a set number of ambassadorship opportunities each member is expected to meet, we do request that, as possible, members make a concerted effort to be available to travel for ambassador roles. On average, members can expect to receive 1-2 offers to serve as an ambassador outside of regularly scheduled meetings. Typically, this will include an overnight stay. National 4-H Council can provide an excuse note to your university or employer.

All travel costs for in-person meetings and ambassadorship opportunities will be paid by National 4-H Council.

**Young Alumni Advisory Committee Selection Process**

National 4-H Council will collaborate with Cooperative Extension and the National Institute of Food & Agriculture to promote the YAAC opportunity to 4-H professionals and young alumni nationwide. After a thorough, Council-led application and review process, YAAC members will be nominated for election by the Board of Trustees’ Governance Committee. After election by the full Board of Trustees, members will serve a two- or three-year term as appointed.

The YAAC member selection process is as follows:

1. **Invitation to Apply:** 4-H young alumni who would like to be considered for election must be nominated by a 4-H professional or volunteer in order to receive an invitation to apply online. To nominate a 4-H alumnus for the Young Alumni Advisory Committee, please complete the online form at 4-H.org/YAAC by 11:59 a.m. PST on Thursday, February 27, 2020.

2. **Online Application:** Upon receiving the invitation to apply, candidates must complete and submit an online application. Nominees will be sent a private link with the application. All applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm PST on Friday, March 27, 2020. All materials must be submitted by the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. The application process includes:
• **Online application**, including short answer questions and contact information for at least two references. Applicants will also note whether they prefer to be considered for a two- or three-year term. Preference is not guaranteed.
• **A one-page resume** showcasing the applicant’s most relevant leadership positions, volunteer activities and/or employment history
• **A 2-minute video** responding to the question: As you think about the future of 4-H, what do you see as most important for its growth and its capacity to meet the needs of today’s – and tomorrow’s – youth? How could you use your personal skills and experiences to address the issue and influence others to support the change?
• **A headshot**

3. **1:1 Interviews**: After reviewing the applications, National 4-H Council will select finalists. These finalists will be required to participate in a 15-minute, 1:1 virtual interview with an official Council representative during the week of **May 4-8, 2020**.

Candidates will be assessed based on the following **evaluation criteria:**

- Personal 4-H Impact Story
- Public Speaking Ability & Experience
- Peer Influence Ability & Experience
- Leadership Qualities & Experience
- Critical Thinking & Vision

The YAAC selection committee will review all finalists and will submit a slate of 11 recommended members to Council’s Board of Trustees’ Board Governance Committee for election by the full Board of Trustees. This cohort of the Young Alumni Advisory Committee will be considered for election on June 10, 2020.

**2020 Young Alumni Advisory Committee Selection Timeline**

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>February 27, 2020</td>
<td>Nomination Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27, 2020</td>
<td>Application Closes</td>
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<td>March 27, 2020 11:59 PM PST</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27, 2020</td>
<td>Finalists Chosen; All Applicants Notified</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4-8, 2020</td>
<td>Finalist Interviews</td>
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<td>Week of May 25, 2020</td>
<td>Recommended Members Chosen and Submitted to the Board of Trustees’ Board Governance Committee</td>
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<td>June 2020</td>
<td>Board of Trustees to Review &amp; Elect YAAC Members</td>
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<td>July 2020</td>
<td>YAAC Member Terms Begin</td>
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<td>September 2020</td>
<td>First In-Person Meeting</td>
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