



State Officer Candidates Filing and Commitment Form

Serving in office during the 2008-09 4-H Year

The County Extension Educator of the candidate applying for office is expected to read and sign the following commitment form

The Goal of a Delaware 4-H Officer:

“Foster the development of youth and the 4-H program.”

As a role model for youth and a representative and spokesperson for the 4-H program, your job is to uphold the high ideals, values and moral standards of the Delaware 4-H program.

Complete the following information: (Print clearly)

Full Name of Applicant _____

Name to be printed and used on Web site _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Area code and phone number _____ E-mail address _____

Club _____ County _____

Filing for _____ State Office.

An Officer:

- ❖ Makes 4-H a top priority during their year of service.
- ❖ Is self-motivated, organized and responsible for their personal actions and commitments.
- ❖ Willingly accepts challenges with enthusiasm, performs to a degree higher than is expected of you and puts your responsibilities into action without being told. Keeps a positive attitude in all that you do.
- ❖ Accepts all of the responsibilities in being a contributing and participating member of a committee.
- ❖ Officially represent 4-H to legislators, University of Delaware officials and other decision makers.
- ❖ Functions as a team member to plan and carry out leadership and community service projects, which involve 4-H membership at the club and county levels.
- ❖ Initiates *self-determined and self directed* leadership and citizenship experiences at the county and state levels during their term in office.
- ❖ Promotes the value of 4-H through opportunities **you initiate**, as well as upon the request of county and state staff.

IF ELECTED AS A STATE 4-H OFFICER, DURING MY YEAR OF SERVICE I PLEDGE THAT I WILL:

- ❖ At all times, serve as a positive role model and mentor for younger members.
- ❖ Remain enrolled and active at the county level remembering, “I am first and foremost a 4-H member.”
- ❖ Be dedicated and committed to the 4-H Youth Development Program of the Delaware Cooperative Extension Service (DCES).
- ❖ Be willing to commit the entire year to Delaware 4-H program with the knowledge that my time and responsibilities will be divided between 4-H activities at the county and state level.
- ❖ To honor and respect the Delaware 4-H organization and to conduct myself in such a manner as will reflect positively on the program and the office I hold.
- ❖ To serve as an advocate for the 4-H program on the local, county and state level.
- ❖ To represent the concerns, interests, and ideas of 4-H members and make decisions based on the welfare of the 4-H program and the constituents I represent rather than my own personal interests.
- ❖ To show respect and appreciation for 4-H members, volunteers, parents, DCES educators and DCES specialists. Prove myself to be worthy of their support and trust.
- ❖ Treat all 4-H members, volunteers, extension professionals, and others equally without discrimination.
- ❖ Be willing to travel without creating conflict at home, work or school.
- ❖ Commit the time necessary to attend officer meetings, reach planned objective and thoroughly prepare and participate in required activities/events. A minimum of two hours per week must be dedicated to the State 4-H Program outside of scheduled meetings, activities and events.
- ❖ Conduct myself in a manner that inspires respect through service and consideration for others.
- ❖ Use wholesome and appropriate language and behavior in all formal and informal conversations.
- ❖ At all times maintain proper dress and good grooming so as to project a professional and desirable image of 4-H.
- ❖ Become knowledgeable of and be able to share facts about the Delaware 4-H Program and the Delaware Cooperative Extension Service.
- ❖ Further develop skills as an effective public speaker and workshop presenter through continuing education, preparation and practice.
- ❖ In a timely manner, write and respond to all electronic mail, letters, thank-you notes, reports and other correspondence that are necessary and desirable.
- ❖ Strive to improve abilities to carry on meaningful and enjoyable conversations with individuals of all ages and from all walks of life. Maintain dignity while being personable, concerned and interested in others.
- ❖ Have a positive and enthusiastic attitude. Regularly evaluate your attitude and make every effort for improvement. Accept and search out constructive criticism and evaluation of my total performance.
- ❖ Willingly take and follow instructions as directed by those responsible for State 4-H Officers.
- ❖ Maintain and protect my personal health through adequate rest and good nutrition.
- ❖ Work in harmony with fellow 4-H officers and not knowingly engage in conversations detrimental to Delaware 4-H or other 4-H members, officers or adults.
- ❖ Serve as a cooperative member of the officer team.

I agree to accept the responsibilities and live up to the expectations of a State 4-H Officer. I am willing to abide by the points presented in the Commitment Form. I do understand that the listing is not “all inclusive.” I further understand that if I do not fulfill my obligations or conduct myself in a manner inappropriate to the position I have been elected, I will face the consequences of my actions and be removed from office.

Candidate's Signature _____ *Date* _____

I have read the Commitment Form and understand what will be expected of my child if elected. I will support the Delaware 4-H program and my child in fulfilling these duties and responsibilities.

Candidate's Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ *Date* _____

I will continue to support, guide, and provide education to this young person in their personal and professional development as a 4-H member.

County Extension Educator's Signature _____ *Date* _____

Candidate Profile

Attach a photo or send an electronic picture.

Name: _____

Office sought: _____

In no more than 30 words for each item:

a. Some things you want people to know about you.....

b. Your goals for this office.....

In 10 words or less!

The number one reason why you should be selected for this office!

Due Friday, May 16, 2008

Mail to:

Ernie López

Extension Specialist

Sussex County Cooperative Extension

16483 County Seat Highway

Georgetown, DE. 19947

E-Mail: elopez@udel.edu

State 4-H Officer Candidate Application Form

Serving in Office during the 2008-2009 4-H Year

Complete the following information:

Full Name of Applicant _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Area code and phone number _____ E-mail address _____

County _____

For what two offices do you feel qualified?

President	Vice President
Secretary	Song Leader
Treasurer	

I understand that the candidates for State Office will be selected through the process outlined below. There will be no exceptions to the following criteria. If a candidate does not complete each of the following steps by their designated date, the individual will not receive consideration as an officer candidate or be placed on the official ballot.

The following materials are required for State Officer Candidates:

Application Form

Complete this form and return on or before the designated due date to Mr. Ernie López, Extension Specialist. Making application does not automatically qualify someone as a candidate for State Office. To receive further consideration the individual must complete all parts of the process in a timely manner.

Functional Resume

List three to five skills you learned in 4-H in order of preference. Next to each skill, list three to five ways in which you used that skill in 4-H, school, or other project and what you accomplished. Keep your descriptions to one or two sentences. The resume will also include areas or education and employment and/or volunteerism. An example and further instructions are posted at the web address noted above.

Three (3) Letters of Reference-Due with application.

Letters are to be confidential and sealed in an envelope addressed to “Ernie López.”

- Two letters of reference may be from a school representative, youth advisor, or an individual who has observed and experienced your skills as a leader.
- One of the letters must come from your County Agent or Educator.

Each letter should address your effectiveness as it relates to:

Working cooperatively with adults and peers.

Experience in being a functioning committee member.

Skills of: Self-motivation, Responsibility and Time Management.

Interview Session

The purpose of the interview is to make sure the candidate is making an informed decision regarding candidacy and the office sought. The group will be comprised of a member of Collegiate 4-H, an adult 4-H volunteer and an extension professional. This session is mandatory for all candidates.

Selection of Candidate

The candidate will be selected by a committee of 4-H professional staff from the county and state level. Among those on the Committee will be the State 4-H Leader and State Volunteer Extension Specialist. The candidates will be notified of their selection by July 4th and be sworn into office during Fair Week at the 4-H Awards Ceremony at the Delaware State Fair.

Term of Office

The candidates selected for the 2008-2009 executive cycle will serve in office from July, 2008 until July, 2009.

