

TEXAS 4-H VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION

OVERNIGHT CHAPERONES OF YOUTH



Title: 4-H Volunteer Overnight Chaperone

Advisor: County Extension Agent, 4-H Specialist or any AgriLife Extension employee serving as coordinator of event.

Purpose of the 4-H Overnight Chaperone:

Serve in a supervisory role for youth at a 4-H event that involves an overnight stay and in which County Extension Agents and/or 4-H volunteers assume full supervisory duties of the minor(s).

Benefits of serving:

- Be a significant part of the educational and developmental process for youth.
- Foster the development and growth of successful youth-adult partnerships.
- See the impact the 4-H and Youth Development Program has in the county.
- Experience personal growth from serving as a leader.

Responsibilities:

- Carry out responsibilities as outlined in the volunteer orientation conducted prior to the start of the event for which one is serving as a chaperone.
- Adhere to the volunteer code of conduct, as outlined in the Texas 4-H Rules and Guidelines, at all times.
- Ensure a safe and positive environment for youth by following the rules established for the event, as well as the 4-H rules and guidelines.
- Serve as a positive role model for youth including, but not limited to, appropriate dress, language and moral conduct, as well as timeliness and participation in all activities.
- Maintain direct supervision of 4-H members, as assigned, and not leave the delegation unsupervised unless approval was received from the event coordinator.
- Recognize Texas law requiring all adults to report suspected child abuse to proper law enforcement or county child protective services.
- Safeguard and hold confidential any information gained through volunteer duties involving information identified by the program as being confidential.

Qualifications and Special Skills:

- Be at least 21 years of age at the time of the 4-H event for which he/she will serve as a chaperone.
- Registered as a direct volunteer for the county 4-H program, by completing a Texas 4-H Volunteer Application for the current 4-H year.
- Passed a criminal background check through the Youth Protection Standards Program within the past three years.
- Complete the Child Protection Training within the past two years. This training is required of any volunteer responsible for the supervision of the participants of a camp/program held for more than one consecutive day without an overnight stay or that involves overnight stays where supervisory duties of the minor(s) are the member or third party's responsibility.
- Participate in a volunteer orientation prior to, or at the start of, the event.
- Value the development of positive life skills in youth.
- Value diversity among youth and other adults involved in the 4-H program, creating and maintaining a 4-H project experience where all children feel welcome and opportunities are made available.



For more information about this project, or about 4-H in general, contact your local County Extension Office or visit the Texas 4-H and Youth Development website at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu>

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

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Time Required:

Volunteers must enroll on an annual basis. The 4-H year is from September 1 thru August 31. The specific time required to serve as an overnight chaperone is based upon the duration of the event.

Resources and Support Available:

- Volunteer Resources: texas4-h.tamu.edu/volunteerres
- Youth Protection Standards: texas4-h.tamu.edu/agent_resources
- 4-H CONNECT: texas.4honline.com
- Child Protection Training (available in 4-H CONNECT by logging into profile and going to "training" tab)
- Texas 4-H Rules and Guidelines: texas4-h.tamu.edu/publications



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