

## The Older Youth Trip/Award Selection

consists of two parts, the written form and the oral interview. This allows for more equality between candidates, as well as provides members with another learning opportunity.

By providing 4-H members with an interview process, members become exposed to the environment in which interviews happen and are more prepared to complete an interview for future endeavors, such as academic, awards, or employment.



The following are some little things that you can do to help you prepare for your interview:

- Dress appropriately. Your best “school picture” clothes will do. Nothing tells a judge “I don’t care” like jeans and a t-shirt. Gentlemen, if you really want to go all out, impress the judges with a suit and/or tie. However, please dress in something that you are comfortable wearing. If you wear a dress (ladies) and generally don’t like wearing dresses, you will not be comfortable in your interview and will show it. If it is cold, don’t wear short sleeves or skirt and freeze through your interview, because you shouldn’t wear your coat in the interview either!
- Arrive in plenty of time to relax before the interview. You will receive a schedule that will give you the time of your interview. Rushing into the interview will be very nerve-wracking for you.
- To impress judges, shake their hands before and after the interview. The handshake was established many, many years ago by extending your hand to show others that you were unarmed (were not carrying any weapons). Today, the handshake can mean that your personality is unarmed, that you are open and willing to share. Be careful not to crush the hand of an interviewer, but also not to give a “wet noodle” handshake.
- Know what you wrote in your application form. Review it before you go into the interview. Be able to explain some background on what you wrote. Also, review the Evaluation form that the judges will be using as a guideline. It will help you know what the interviewers are looking for.
- Smile, use good eye contact, and sit straight.
- Thank the interviewers for their time.

The interviewers are generally very nice. They will not grill you on specific questions, but are looking for more information from you. They may have suggestions on what they would like to see next time. They are trying to help you learn more from the process. Remember, judging is only one person’s opinion on one given day.



Good Luck completing your Older Youth Trip/Award interview!  
Thank you for your time and effort in helping us evaluate your 4-H experiences.

## Possible Interview Questions

- Please tell us about yourself?
- Why do you think you are a good candidate for \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- From your application, I see that you have been involved in \_\_\_\_\_. What did you gain from the experience?
- What is the most important way you have changed since joining 4-H?
- What qualities do you like about yourself?
- What emotion is difficult for you to control?
- What are some problems you see youth facing today?
- What would you learn from being a representative on the \_\_\_\_\_ trip?
- How would you handle a 4-H member you didn't get along with?
- How can your experiences on \_\_\_\_\_ trip help you, your club, project or county 4-H program?
- How willing are you to share your experiences with other? How would you do it?
- What do you think will be the best part of your \_\_\_\_\_ experience?
- If someone that had never been to Lincoln County asked you to describe Lincoln County 4-H, what are three things you would let them know?
- If you were asked to serve on a committee to set up the behavior guidelines for a group of young people (example: State 4-H & Youth Conference, CWF, American Spirit Leadership Experience, National Congress or Space Camp) how would you determine them?
- Think of people in your life whom you hold in high respect, what is there about them that makes you feel the way you do?
- If you were asked to serve on a committee to revise the County 4-H program, how would you proceed in determining what should be changed?

What are the major concerns of young people as they finish high school today? How can the 4-H program fit into these concerns?