2027 Yellowstone County Ambassador Guidelines

A 4-H Ambassador is an official envoy, an authorized representative of the Montana State 4-H Program. Ambassadors are self-motivated, enthusiastic youth leaders who promote 4-H using skills, knowledge, and leadership abilities acquired in 4-H while working with other 4-H members, area residents, community leaders, elected officials, and non-4-H youth. A 4-H Ambassador serves to strengthen the 4-H program through public relations.

To be chosen as an ambassador is an honor and a privilege that entails the acceptance of "great" responsibility and a total commitment to the Montana State 4-H Ambassador program.

Application deadline is *5pm, Friday, December 11, 2026*
Applicants must attend an interview scheduled for the evening of *Thursday, December 18, 2026.* *(Plan to be available when applying.)*

Ambassador Qualifications

1) Must be 14 years of age by October 1 of the current year.
2) Must be enrolled in 4-H for at least 2 years and must be enrolled in 4-H for the current year.
3) Must be or have been a Junior Leader or Club Officer.
4) Must apply, interview, and have a completed record book.
5) Must be enthusiastic about 4-H as demonstrated by participation, leadership, examples, and other similar experiences.
6) Must have the time available to fulfill the role of an ambassador. Ambassadors must be willing to make the Ambassador program a top priority.
7) Must be responsible. Uphold your role as an ambassador, school, etc.
8) Must be willing to attend Ambassador Meetings and training sessions offered by the state and county. These include Fall Training and Congress and a minimum of monthly meetings.
9) Must be willing to serve in Ambassador Roles when asked.
10) Must have a minimum overall high school GPA of 2.5. This GPA or equivalent must be maintained during their term as an ambassador. GPA needs to be reported to the advisor(s) throughout the year and when interview for selection is held. Home school students must provide a GPA along with a list of current classes.
11) Must have parent and/or guardian support.
12) Must have County Agent staff support.
13) Must be capable and willing to get out of school on a limited basis for special programs. Some school rules are binding; this will be considered for events/activities the Ambassador cannot attend.
14) Must be willing to participate in the application process. Apply and then interview.
15) Must be willing to serve out the Ambassador term that is from January to December 2027.
16) Always uphold the 4-H Ambassador image, this includes all activities outside of 4-H also.

Ambassadors:

- Selected each year by a committee made up of three or more of the following - Ambassador Leader(s), 4-H Extension Agent, 4-H Council Executive Committee Member or Yellowstone County Community Member. Ambassadors must apply each year by application and an interview. The committee will complete a selection form.
- Must reapply and go through the application process to be selected as Ambassador for the next year.
- Are expected to be part of the Ambassador team and work together to fulfill the responsibilities in the county plan of action.
- May be discharged at any time if their behavior is not becoming of Ambassador ideals.
  Please note:
  - It is not possible to anticipate every situation. In the absence of a rule regarding a specific activity or situation, the leader/ chaperone in charge has the authority to interpret the rules and resolve problems not

addressed in the above-mentioned guidelines.
- As a 4-H member you signed the Code of Conduct on your enrollment form, which you should refer to for further guidelines. These rules are intended to assist in providing for the health, safety, and social well-being of everyone.
- Any dismissal can be appealed through the 4-H Grievance Committee.

Ambassadors' Expectations and Duties

- Represent 4-H in public relations role.
- Promote 4-H with potential members, parents, and the public.
- Help conduct 4-H events.
- Meet as needed face to face and virtually.
- Organize 4-H promotional activities.
- Develop personal leadership skills and self-confidence.
    - Serve as the 4-H representative to other organizations.
    - Recruit new members.
    - Encourage financial support for 4-H.
    - Help organize new clubs.
    - Work directly with county, district, and state 4-H leaders.
    - Able and willing to attend area Ambassador meetings and training.
    - Work as a team to complete the duties and expectations of Ambassadors.
    - Enroll in the leadership project.
    - Be aware of your family schedule and be prepared to communicate your availability with the group.
    - Be prepared to attend meetings without parental supervision and make decisions.
    - Follow through with your commitments. If you are unable to attend an event, be sure and communicate with your fellow teen ambassadors and ambassador leaders to contribute through the planning and the development process.
    - Ambassadors will be expected to communicate electronically; you will need to discuss with your parents how you will access platforms and relevant texts. You will need to make alternative arrangements with your parents if your technology privileges are suspended.
    - Parents are expected to allow their teens to develop their leadership skills independently. Parents are encouraged to drop off their ambassadors at the start of meetings and pick them up after meetings.
    - An alternating ambassador team member is expected to attend monthly 4-H council meetings throughout the year.
    - The Ambassador team will work together to form their Annual Plan of Action. It will be presented to the 4-H Council for funding and approval at the 4-H Council meeting.
        - Applications for State Officer are due at the State 4-H Office on June 15.

Ambassador – Chair and Vice Chair

Each year the Ambassador team will determine if they want to select a chair and vice chair for the group.

Estimated Schedule of Required Events

- Service-learning project (i.e. – Metra Clean up, officer training)
- State Rec Lab (March) and/or Fall Ambassador Training (Oct.)
- State 4-H Congress (July)
- MontanaFair (August) *including but not limited to:*
    - Judging Day – Dept. N
    - Awards for Dept. N and Dept. A
    - Evening recreational activities (dance, etc.)
    - Facebook Live shows when not showing.
    - Social Media presence and promotion throughout the week

    - In person interviews with Tv and radio as requested by Roni
    - Senior Boards
    - Positive attitude and to volunteer as needed throughout the week
    - Gratitude Wall
    - Sale Lunch
- National 4-H Week Promotion (first week of Oct.)
- Family Fun Night – Hand out awards, volunteer project
- Family Orientation – help coordinate and lead groups (December)

Other Leadership Opportunities Ambassadors may participate during the year.

- 4-H Camp Counselor in Training and Counselor
- Leadership Academy
- Record Book Clinics
- Make It and Take It
- Event Day
- Cloverbud Camp
- Newsletter Articles
- Help at other fairs – invite other Ambassadors to our fair
- Events with area Ambassadors
- Workshops

Yellowstone County 4-H Ambassador Application

Answer the questions below on a separate paper. Send your application, two letters of recommendation (one from a 4-H adult that is NOT your Organizational Leader and one from someone outside of 4-H), and the signed Participant Requirements list to Yellowstone County Extension, 2320 3rd Ave N, Billings, MT 59101

Application deadline is 5:00 pm Friday, December 11, 2026 (not postmarked by)

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip Code_____

Phone_____ Active Personal E-mail_____

Age_____ Year in School_____

Club_____ Years in 4-H_____

1.) What are your strengths?

2.) What are your weaknesses?

3.) What do you think you can offer the Ambassador program?

4.) What do you see in our county 4-H program?

5.) There will be a scholarship offered by 4-H council for post high- school education offered to ambassadors for each year they are an ambassador. What should the expectations be to be awarded this scholarship as an ambassador?

Yellowstone County Ambassador Participant Requirements

You must have completed 7 of the 14 requirements listed below.
This form must be signed by your club Organizational Leader and returned with your application.

1. Attended 75% of club meetings_____
2. Completed record books from previous year (mandatory)_____
3. Helped with club social activity (date & name)
   _____
4. Worked on a club committee_____
5. Held an office in the club (office held)_____
6. Did a demonstration in the club (date & title)
   _____
7. Attended a County Committee/Council meeting(date and committee)
   _____
8. Helped with a community service project(Date and name of project)
   _____
9. Is a Jr. Leader/Helper in a project area_____

List of other County 4-H Activities/ Events involved in:

10._____

11._____

12._____

13._____

14._____

Organizational Leader or Project Leader Signature_____

Date_____

Member Signature_____

Date_____