



2023-2024

**Hood County
Ambassador Application**

Application Deadline to the County Extension Office: Wednesday June 14th, 2023 by 5PM

NOTE: All information obtained herein is to be kept strictly confidential.

Purpose:

The Hood County 4-H Ambassador Program aims to project a clear and accurate image of the Texas and Hood County 4-H & Youth Development Program. More specifically, the purpose is to:

- *Help older youths develop leadership and communication skills.*
- *Help the public understand the full scope of the 4-H program.*
- *Recruit new members from diverse backgrounds.*
- *Lead programs as a group to be educational, fun and safe.*
- *To show and inform key audiences what the 4-H and Youth Development Program is and who it impacts, so that these audiences will understand the impact of 4-H on the lives of young people and will see how it addresses key youth issues in the community.*
- *To make families, youths, and communities more aware of 4-H and the benefits it offers.*

Eligibility:

Hood County 4-H Ambassadors must meet the following requirements to be considered for selection as a member:

- Must be 9th- 12th grade for the 2023-2024 school year
- Been enrolled for 4-H for a minimum of a year at the time of submitting an application
- Submit a COMPLETE 4-H record book for the prior year and interview
- Participated in 2 community service activity as an individual, group or 4-H club
- Must be academically eligible and be in good standing with 4-H
- Must agree to the obligation and activity requirement in this contract

Hood County 4-H youths will be selected to serve as 4-H Ambassadors on an annual basis.

Up to 10 youth will be selected to serve as 4-H Ambassadors in any given 4-H year. Less than 10 may be selected. The number of Ambassadors is the decision of the supervising County Extension Agent.

Members must apply, interview and be accepted annually.

Interviews will be held annually by a panel of 2-3 judges. These judges will review applications, essays and interview each candidate. Following these interviews, this panel will recommend participants for Hood County 4-H Ambassador Program.

2023 Interview Date: Wednesday, June 28th, 2023, 1-5pm

ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS:

Each Ambassador must participate in a minimum of 80% of Ambassador sanctioned activities and County 4-H Competitions to be eligible to re-apply for Ambassador next year. Attendance will be documented for all activities.

If an appropriate number of requirements are not met, the Ambassador may lose the privilege of serving as a 4-H Ambassador. However, the Ambassador may attempt to seek membership renewal by meeting face-to-face with an advisory board. The advisory board members will be selected by County Extension Agents.

Ambassador Dates:

- District 8 4-H Leadership Surge- Burnet Texas, June 21-23, 2023
- Awards Night- August 1, 2023
- Ambassador Training- August 4, 2023
- Kickoff Night- September 7, 2023
- Ambassador Meetings- September 14 & November 9, 2023, February 1 & April 18, 2024
- Interpretation- December 12, 2023
- Hood County Stock Show- January 9-12, 2023

These dates are the minimum requirements for Ambassadors. More dates will be added as they are scheduled throughout the 2023-24 year.

ATTENDANCE & OBJECTIVES:

4-H Ambassadors must make every effort possible to attend 80% of Ambassador events and meetings. If attendance is not possible, notice must be given to the County Extension Agent 24 hours in advance at which time agent will determine if it is an excused absence.

CODE OF CONDUCT:

All Hood County 4-H Ambassadors are required to comply with the Texas 4-H Program’s Code of Conduct **AT ALL TIMES**, when participating in ANY 4-H event. The Code of Conduct is printed on the membership enrollment form. If a 4-H Ambassador violates any provision of the Code of Conduct, whether it is minor, intermediate, or major, the situation and documentation must be presented before a board, consisting of a minimum of one County Extension Agent, two adult volunteer leaders. This board will meet with the 4-H Ambassador and make a decision whether or not the 4-H youth will be able to continue serving as a 4-H Ambassador.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS:

Ambassadors are highly motivated, interested, mature & dependable individuals. Problems requiring disciplinary actions rarely occur.

If any Ambassador fails to comply with the Obligations and Activity Requirements section of the application, disregards the uniform requirements, fails to fulfill responsibilities, or represents the Ambassador Program in an unacceptable manner, then the Ambassador will have an opportunity to explain their actions to the County Extension Agent who supervises the Ambassador Program. A written summary of the problem will be made by the Extension Agent and kept on file. Immediate termination from the Hood County Ambassador Program could result, depending on the nature of the violation.

All Ambassadors will receive 1 warning when they do not fulfill an obligation, or they miss an event for which they volunteer. If this occurs a second time, the Ambassador will meet with the County Extension Agent to review the situation and their service as an Ambassador. The result may be probation or termination. If an Ambassador is dismissed, he/she will not be able to re-apply for the Ambassador Program for a period of one year.

CHANGES TO 4-H AMBASSADOR PROGRAM:

Changes may be made at any time to guidelines, requirements or any other item related to Hood County 4-H Ambassador Program by County Extension Agents if necessary.

Ambassador Application Form

1. Full Name

2. Hood County 4-H Club

2. Current Mailing Address

3. Telephone Number: _____

4. Birth Date: ____/____/____

5. Age as of August 31st: _____

6. Grade in School (Fall of 2023): _____

7. Number of Years in 4-H: _____

8. Record Book Category for 2022-23:

A. EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

List any Leadership roles that you have held in your 4-H club, and any 4-H projects that you have participated in:

Leadership Roles

Name of projects

List extracurricular school activities and/or 4-H activities in which you have been most significantly involved as a student and/or 4-H member.

Name of Activity

Year / Years

List community and/or church activities in which you have been most significantly involved in as a student this past year.

Name of Activity	Year / Years
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

B. HONORS/AWARDS PROFILE

List your most significant honors and/or awards extended to you as a student in 4-H.

<u>Honors / Awards</u>	<u>Year / Years</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

C. ESSAY

Please attach a 500-word essay (typed or written) on why you would like to represent Hood County 4-H, what you would like to promote to new or existing 4-Her's.

If elected, I agree to fulfill my responsibilities to the best of my ability. I agree to the above listed responsibilities for each position I have applied for and to following the Hood County Ambassador rules and policies in place.

Applicant Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

If my child is elected, I agree to assist them in fulfilling their Ambassador responsibilities to the best of my ability. I agree to the above listed responsibilities for each position my child had applied for and to following the Hood County Ambassador rules and policies in place.

Parent Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date