



## 2026 Citizenship Washington Focus Application information

Rooted in legacy but reimagined for today, CWF is THE event for teens to learn leadership and communication skills through history, democracy, and our amendments. Participants will visit various monuments and memorials, tour famous landmarks, and participate in hands-on opportunities. Missouri 4-H will be traveling alongside Oklahoma and Kansas 4-H'ers for this experience.

The 2026 Citizenship Washington Focus trip will be held June 13<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. Up to 10 youth delegates will be selected for this experience.

Applicants must be currently enrolled in 4-H Online.

### Eligibility

- Currently enrolled as a 4-H'er
- Recommendation from their local 4-H staff

### Application Checklist

- Applicant Information
- Short Essay Answers
- Scholarship questions (optional)
- Reference form
  - Reference should be submitted directly to Megan Kershner at [mkershner@missouri.edu](mailto:mkershner@missouri.edu), not attached in Qualtrics

Applications will open on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and close on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Application link: [https://missouri.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8c6whciphVUlaB0](https://missouri.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8c6whciphVUlaB0)

Please contact Megan Kershner at [mkershner@missouri.edu](mailto:mkershner@missouri.edu) with any questions.

**FOR REFERENCE ONLY: ALL INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH QUALTRICS**

**Applicant Information**

Name:

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Preferred Name or Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Enrollment County: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club/Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Information:

Name:

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Relationship to Applicant:

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Parent/Guardian Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that my youth has completed the 2026 Legislative Academy application.

Parent Signature

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(Parent/Guardian Information Section will appear after short essay and scholarship questions)

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**Short Essay Questions**

Applicants will submit answers for three short essay questions. Answers for each question should be 100-200 words.

1. Please share your 4-H experience, emphasizing your how 4-H has impacted your personal growth and development.
2. Why do you want to attend Citizenship Washington Focus? Please describe what you hope to gain from the experience and how you will share this information when you return home.
3. Citizenship Washington Focus visits a variety of monuments while in Washington, D.C. Which of these would you be most interested in seeing and why?

Answers to the essay questions will be judged on the following criteria:

- 4-H Experience (30 points)
  - Personally reflected on their educational/learning experiences in 4-H
  - Described the benefit of 4-H in their life and the ways they have grown and developed in the 4-H program
- Interest in Citizenship Washington Focus (30 points)
  - Clearly explains interest in Citizenship Washington Focus program
  - Demonstrates understanding of how they will share program information
- Most interesting monument (30 points)
  - Connects selected monument to personal interest
- Organization (10 points)
  - Conveys a clear message
  - Thoughts are concise and well organized

**Scholarship Questions**

Two scholarships of \$1,250 will be available to applicants. Applicants interested in state level scholarships will be asked the following questions in addition to the short essay questions.

1. Please explain any special circumstances that warrant consideration to provide financial assistance for Citizenship Washington Focus?
2. Have you researched other funding sources? If yes, what other funding sources are you pursuing in addition to this scholarship?

**Reference Form**

Applicants are required to have one reference from a 4-H Faculty or Staff member. All references must be submitted directly to Megan Kershner at [mkershner@missouri.edu](mailto:mkershner@missouri.edu) from the reference. Reference forms are available on the website. References may not be completed by a family member of the applicant.