

**78th Annual
State 4-H Congress
May 29th-31st, 2024
University of Missouri – Columbia**



2024 MISSOURI STATE CONGRESS



Missouri 4-H,

Welcome everyone to the 78th Annual Missouri State 4-H Congress! We are so excited to see everyone movin' and groovin' with 4-H! This year's State 4-H Council has spent countless hours of dedication to make this event a success for everyone. I hope whether this is your first Congress or your very last, you grow in your leadership skills and more importantly, have a groovy time!

4-H has taught me so many things about myself, like my interests and qualities. I have met so many incredible people from across the state, and even the country with my journey in 4-H. I have learned how to speak confidently in front of people and even learn about project areas that average teenagers wouldn't want to learn about like entomology and quilting! 4-H has pushed me out of my comfort zone to try new things and to help me reach for my goals. I have met some of my best friends through 4-H and set a foundation of support for myself. For many individuals, Congress is the first trip you take in 4-H, so make new friends, find your passion in 4-H, and work together to "Make the Best Better."

Working together with this year's State 4-H Council has cultivated more passion and excitement in my involvement than ever before. As the final moments of Congress wrap up, I will be wrapping up my time as the State 4-H Council President. It has been an honor and dream to serve this incredible organization that is filled with so many great people and memories. Serving this year has impacted me in so many ways, more than I can ever imagine, and for that, I am so grateful. On behalf of the State 4-H Council, we look forward to meeting every single one of you and hope you will be Movin' and Groovin' with 4-H at the 78th Annual Missouri State 4-H Congress!

Sincerely,
Zoe Engelbrecht
2023-2024 Missouri State 4-H Council President

2024 STATE 4-H CONGRESS OBJECTIVES

The purpose of Missouri 4-H State Congress is to serve as the annual state gathering for Missouri 4-H'ers ages 14-18 so that they may engage in educational programming related to leadership, communication, college and career pathways, and agriculture and natural resources; network with 4-H youth, extensionists, and volunteers from across the state; participate service-learning activities grounded in experiential learning and positive youth development principles; and democratically elect the members of the Missouri 4-H State Council.

The learning domains for Missouri 4-H State Congress are

1. Leadership,
2. Agriculture and Natural Resources,
3. College and Career Preparation.

After participating in Missouri State 4-H Congress leadership programming, in one or more of the following, 4-H'ers will be able to

- a) Articulate the Five Stages of Group Development,
- b) Outline their key personality characteristics and behaviors in the context of the self and teams,
- c) Characterize the seven behaviors of servant leaders,
- d) Ascertain the process for systems-based thinking as change agents.

After participating in Missouri State 4-H Congress agriculture and natural resource programming, in one or more of the following, 4-H'ers will be able to

- a) Explain the major commodities groups vital to Missouri agricultural production,
- b) Outline the student-run retail experiences offered by CAFNR including the Tiger Gardens Floral Shop, Mizzou Meat Market, and Bucks Ice Cream Shop.
- c) Identify the most immediate challenges facing the agricultural and natural resource sector of Missouri.

After participating in Missouri State 4-H Congress college and career programming, in one or more of the following, 4-H'ers will be able to

- a) Distinguish the difference between intrinsic and extrinsic factors for career motivation,
- b) Articulate possible career paths for their skillsets or prospective areas of study,
- c) Identify the programmatic offerings at the University of Missouri that interest them,
- d) Generalize elements of the college experience common to students at four-year institutions of higher learning.

“Equal opportunity is and shall be provided to all participants in Extension programs and activities, and for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, genetic information, disability, or protected veteran status. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or military organizations associated with the armed forces of the United States of America.

Event Highlights

As we're movin' and groovin' at this year's State 4-H Congress, here is what to expect:

- Fun filled sessions on a variety of topics
- Connecting with 4-H'ers from across the state
- Groovin' at the disco themed dance
- An amazing Keynote speaker
- Checking out some of what college has to offer with department tours
- Election of the 2024-2025 State 4-H Council

Dress Code

The dress code for State 4-H Congress is casual.

- Shorts, skirts, jeans, or dress pants; t-shirts, blouses, polo, or dress shirts. Athletic shoes, flip-flops, croc-type footwear are allowed.
- Nametags are to be worn at all times around the neck.

The following items are not appropriate at Missouri State 4-H Congress:

- *Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be appropriate length*
- *Tube tops; clothing that exposes the midriff, navel, back or cleavage; halter tops; see-through clothing; cut-offs, ripped jeans or other clothing with holes; one-shoulder or strapless tops; muscle shirts; bare feet are not appropriate at any activity;*
- *Clothing that advertises alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or drugs; dress and appearance should not present health or safety hazards or cause disruption;*
- *Casual tops with spaghetti straps or Shirts with straps less than 1" wide;*
- *Clothing that has vulgar, obscene or offensive messages or images;*
- *Camisoles, Pajamas/sleepwear or outfits with visible undergarments are not to be worn outside your room.*

Fragrance-free Environment:

It is our goal to ensure that we have an environment that is conducive to learning and working. Individuals are often times sensitive to products that we wear every day and may cause severe medical difficulties to those who are sensitive to them. Products that may cause symptoms include: perfumes, after shave lotions, hair spray, colognes and body sprays. *We thank you for your flexibility and your good faith efforts to meet this accommodation.*

Enforcement:

Missouri State 4-H staff, Extension personnel, adult volunteer leaders, and members of the Missouri State 4-H Council may ask any individual to modify their clothing selection if the Missouri State 4-H Congress dress code is not met. If a delegate is asked to modify clothing and feels their clothing does not violate the dress code, they may request to speak with the State 4-H Congress Coordinator, who will make a final decision.

REGISTRATION:

State 4-H Congress welcomes rising high school freshman to outgoing high school seniors or youth 4-H ages 14-18. The cost of this year's conference is \$150.00 includes housing, meals, Congress activities, and t-shirt.

Registration through 4HOnline* (<https://mo.4honline.com>) will open on **March 1, 2024** and extend through **April 15, 2024**.
We cannot accept registrations after April 15.

*Please do not put any information in the comments section of your registration. Any information in the comments will not be seen by State 4-H Staff.

Please email Megan Kershner at mkershner@missouri.edu with any questions. There will be no key deposit on residence hall keys; however, **those not turning in their keys upon checkout will be charged \$15.00** for the replacement key. Also, any damage to the room will be billed to the individuals concerned. There will be a **\$5.00 charge to replace any lost meal cards.**

REFUNDS AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions will not be accepted. Due to residence hall and meal guarantees, refunds cannot be granted after April 15, 2024.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the complexities of scheduling, it is NOT possible to change workshops after arriving at Congress.

PARKING PERMITS - \$10.00 PER DAY

Any vehicle parked on university property will need a parking permit. These permits cost \$10.00 per day. A total cost of \$30.00. Enforcement Period: Wednesday 12:00 pm- Friday 12:00 pm. **Parking permit process will be shared in the confirmation letter in May, 2024.**

ROOMING

Roommates are randomly assigned. Youth are not allowed to request roommates, or switch rooms.

COMMUNICATIONS

All confirmation letters and other event communication will be sent via email. Emails will be pulled from the family's 4-H Online profile.

SESSION SELECTION

A Qualtrics form will be sent out with confirmation letters for youth to submit session preferences. Please note that this will be preferences, and sessions may fill up quickly.

CONGRESS CHECKLIST

- Sheets, blanket, pillow, pillowcase
- Towels and washcloths
- Personal Grooming Items
- Clothes (Refer to Dress Code)
- Money to purchase refreshments or snacks from residence hall vending machine

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Drop off and pickup will take place at Wolpers Hall. Onsite registration will be from 1:00pm-2:00pm on Wednesday, May 29th. State 4-H Congress will conclude at 11:30am on Friday, May 31st. Further instructions for drop off and pick up will be included in the confirmation emails.

Wolpers Hall
800 Hitt Street
Columbia, MO 65211

ACCOMODATIONS

For any accommodation requests, please contact Megan Kershner at mkershner@missouri.edu

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Wolpers Hall (573) 882-9393

*If no one answers at the Hall and in case of an emergency call the MU Police Department at (573)-882-7201

STATE 4-H CONGRESS IS SPONSORED BY:

Support for Missouri State 4-H Congress is provided by the
Missouri 4-H Foundation in partnership with:

The Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives

Mary Davis

Dr. Robert E. “Bud” Hertzog

The Martz Family

Miller Family Foundation

Missouri Pork Association

Dr. Marla J. Tobin

The Turner Family

Missouri Corn Growers Association

Soybean Merchandising Council

Invenergy