Prairie County 4-H Council
Trip Sponsorship Policy

One of the great learning opportunities that 4-H offers is the chance to travel to 4-H events and interact with other 4-H members and leaders from around the state and nation. The Prairie County 4-H Council financially supports several 4-H trips for members and leaders. These events include, but are not limited to, 4-H Camp, Junior High Trip, 4-H Congress, NILE, CWF, Citizenship Seminar, Montana Leadership Forum, and Western Regional Leadership Forum, and Ambassador Fall Training. The amount of financial support is budgeted for annually by the Prairie County 4-H Council and is subject to availability of funds. Currently, the 4-H Council budgets for the following 4-H trips:

**Trips for Members:**

- **4-H Camp**
  - Full registration fee (approximately $65)

- **Oreo Junior High Trip**
  - Full registration fee (approximately $75)

- **4-H Congress**
  - Pay full Congress registration (about $225) for Grand and Reserve Champions at All Events (stir-ups, speeches, demonstrations/illustrated talks, fashion revue, and quilt revue) and 75% of registration for other blue ribbons at All Events Day. Also pay full registration for other Congress contests that have a county qualifying contest (livestock judging team, etc.) and ambassadors. Pay ½ registration for other contests/events where there is no qualifying contest (horse judging, gavel games, contest helpers).

- **NILE**
  - Full registration and lodging for teams that qualify at the county designated qualifying contest

- **Ag Days/Livestock Jdg**
  - Full registration and lodging if funds are available

- **CWF**
  - $100 per member attending

- **Citizenship Seminar**
  - Full registration for members attending (about $75)

- **MT Leadership Forum**
  - Full registration per member attending (about $100)

- **Rec Lab**
  - Full registration per member attending (about $100)

- **Shooting Sports Contests**
  - Full registration per member attending

- **WRLF**
  - $100 per member attending

- **Fall Training**
  - Full registration for Junior and Senior Ambassadors

**Trips for Leaders:**

- **Chaperones**
  - Full registration costs will be paid for chaperones of 4-H Camp, Junior High Trip, 4-H Congress, NILE, Citizenship Seminar, MT Leadership Forum, and Fall Training

- **MT Leadership Forum**
  - Full registration per member attending (about $100)

- **Shooting Sports Training**
  - Full registration per member attending

- **WRLF**
  - $100 per leader attending
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Sponsorship Eligibility:
In order for any member or leader to receive trip sponsorship, they must be a member or leader in good standing.

- For 4-H members, this means that they must have completed their record book by the due date in the previous 4-H year, have the current 4-H year records up-to-date, and must have sold at least 3 boxes of fruit and worked at least one assigned shift at the 4-H fair concession booth in the previous 4-H year.
- For 4-H leaders, this means that they must have been enrolled as a leader for at least 2 consecutive years, have assisted with the 4-H fruit sale, and worked at least one assigned shift at the 4-H fair concession booth in the previous 4-H year. There is no minimum requirement for chaperones.

4-H members and leaders who are not able to meet these requirements are still welcome to participate in 4-H trips, but are responsible for the costs associated.

Other Trips and Events:
There are a number of other events that 4-H members and leaders have the opportunity to attend, but are not annually budgeted for by the Prairie County 4-H Council. The Council is happy to consider requests for full or partial sponsorship of these other opportunities as they arise. To request sponsorship, members or leaders may make a request of the Council in writing or in person at a regularly scheduled 4-H Council meeting. The 4-H Council will consider these requests and make a decision based on availability of funds and benefit to the Prairie County 4-H program.

Administering Funds:
Sponsorship funds will be reimbursed to program participants upon completion of the event. Exceptions are statewide events that require county-wide registration from the Extension Office such as 4-H Congress, NILE, and Fall Training.

Travel Reimbursement Policy
Chaperones/Drivers for youth trips:

- $0.25/mile reimbursement to transport 4-H members from one family and $0.50/mile to transport 4-H members from more than one family.

- Events eligible for travel reimbursement:
  - 4-H Camp
  - Oreo Junior High Trip
  - 4-H Congress
  - NILE
  - Ag Days
  - CWF
  - Citizenship Seminar
  - MT Leadership Forum
  - Rec Lab
  - Ambassador Fall Training

- Shooting Sports contest travel reimbursement to come from Shooting Sports Funds as available following the same reimbursement rates

4-H Leader Events:

- $0.25/mile reimbursement up to $100

- Events eligible for travel reimbursement:
  - Montana Leadership Forum
  - Shooting Sports Leader Training
  - WRLF