Freestone County 4-H
Ambassador Program

Freestone County 4-H Ambassadors will serve as junior leaders within Freestone County. It is the purpose of this program to instill agricultural education, 4-H advocacy, leadership, and service education to each ambassador. These principles will be taught through a series of tours, dine & learn sessions, service projects, and presentations throughout the year, as detailed below.

Each year, Freestone County 4-H youth will have the opportunity to apply to be a 4-H Ambassador. A maximum of **10 Ambassadors** will be selected through the application review.

Expectations & Guidelines

All 4-H youth who have been a Freestone County 4-H member for at least 1 year, and are between the 7th-12th grade, are eligible to apply to become an Ambassador. Ambassador applications will be released at the start of the 4-H year. Applications will need to be completed and turned in to the appropriate location by the designated date. All applicants must be enrolled in Freestone County 4-H by the application deadline. All Ambassadors will begin their term in October ending their term August 31st of the following year. Ambassadors will be provided with an Ambassador shirt and name tag to be worn at all official events, tours, etc.

Youth interested in applying must meet the following requirements:

- Must have been a Freestone County 4-H member for at least 1 year
- Must attend at least 50 % or more of your 4-H Club meetings. Your club leader MUST verify this attendance by signing the appropriate documentation.
- Must be willing to be an ambassador for the Freestone County 4-H program, in your school and community. Bring awareness to the public regarding 4-H and recruit members.
- Must be willing to serve in a leadership role by assisting with curriculum enrichment in the schools (ie: Farm Bureau Trailer) and planning and implementation of county wide events.
- Must be prepared to attend the June Ag Tour, End of the Year awards event, and 4 Dine & learn sessions as designated in the “Events” section below.
- Must have a positive attitude
- Must be willing to work & communicate with others.

Ambassadors must be friendly, dedicated, committed, cooperative, and punctual. They must be willing to perform the duties described above to the fullest degree possible, and strive for self-improvement at all times. Ambassadors will need to continue to promote the Ambassador Program & provide as many fulfilling opportunities for each Ambassador's personal growth.

Conduct

Ambassadors are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner during the Freestone County 4-H Year and at any time they are representing the Ambassador Program. They will be helpful and friendly to others. It is very important that they make every effort to portray a positive image for themselves and the Freestone County 4-H program.

- Ambassadors must use wholesome and appropriate language at all times. Ambassadors are in the public eye and are considered role models representing the Freestone County 4-H program.
- Ambassadors must behave in a polite and gracious manner at all times.
- Absolutely no use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances will be tolerated.
- If a member of the Ambassador Program breaks the law of Freestone County, the State of Texas, or the United States and is found guilty of criminal charges, there will be an automatic removal of his or her title, and all duties.

Appearance

Ambassadors must always wear the designated attire when representing the Freestone County 4-H Ambassador program. Matching shirts and a nametag will be provided to the Ambassadors. Keep in mind that Ambassadors are always in the public eye even when not in official attire – this includes activity on social media during their ambassador term. Please act accordingly. Inappropriate social media posts will not be tolerated.

Parents and Friends

The parents of the Ambassadors are very instrumental to the support and implementation of the duties and responsibilities of the Ambassadors; however, it is the intent of FC 4-H Ambassador program to foster leadership skills in the Ambassadors. Although parental input and guidance is encouraged, great efforts will be taken to develop the individual Ambassador's skills by allowing them to make their own decisions. In the event of a disciplinary discussion, the parent will be notified in advance. Friends, including boyfriends or girlfriends, are not allowed to "tag along."

Events

A Calendar will be provided with all events

Dine & Learn Sessions (Must attend first meeting and 4 additional) Dinner will be provided at every

1-October-Working with the Public, What is 4-H, Social Media Etiquette
2-November-Career Exploration Guest Speaker, possible tour
3-December-Community Service-Food pantry lesson & work day
4-January-Career Exploration Guest Speaker, possible tour
5-February-Learning Leadership
6-March-Career Exploration Guest Speaker, possible Tour
7-April-Learning Leadership pt 2
8-May-Wrap Up Meeting, Event planning

Ag Tour (required)

- 1st week of June/Last Week of May, full day of Freestone County Area Ag Tour (lunch will be provided)

Presentations (required)

- Each Ambassador is required to conduct 1 presentation about 4-H/leadership (could be in one of your classes, at another club meeting, or at a public event).
- MUST be present for County Awards Banquet/Event

If you do not attend all required events, you will not be able to apply for the Ambassador program the following year.
If you exceed the minimum attendance at the events a point system will be utilized to receive incentives at the end of the year. The point system will be outlined at the first session.

This is a youth leadership opportunity that is directly associated with the Freestone County Extension Office. Applications must be received at the Extension office by 5pm **Thursday September 22, 2022.** A two or three-judge panel will review the applications and make the Ambassador selection.

The Freestone County 4-H Adult Leaders are solely responsible for the rules governing the Ambassador program. The Ambassador Coordinator will be responsible for coordination of all activities. If the Rules are not practiced, the offending Ambassador is subject to a warning, probation, and review by Freestone County Adult Leaders. Grievances made regarding an Ambassador's conduct will be reviewed by Adult Leaders and appropriate action will be taken

on a case-by-case basis. The Adult Leaders reserves the right to relieve any Ambassador of his or her title. If a member of the Ambassador Program resigns or is relieved of his or her title, he or she will be required to return all clothing and accessories purchased by Adult Leaders and reimbursing them for the cost of other used items and clothing. They will also forfeit any scholarship money.

Agreement

I have read, studied, and understand the enclosed duties, responsibilities, and rules of the Freestone County 4-H Ambassador Program. I have a copy in my possession. If chosen as a member of the 2022-2023 Ambassador Program, I will carry out these duties, responsibilities, and rules to the best of my ability and in accordance with these statements. I understand that I can and will be removed from my position if I do not satisfactorily follow these established duties, rules, and responsibilities.

Applicant Signature: _____
Date_____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____