

Agent Guide: County Orientation for State 4-H Roundup

State 4-H Roundup is a premier event recognizing outstanding project work and leadership accomplishment of senior 4-H members. It is a unique experience and for some participants, a life changing one. Conducting a county orientation for delegates and volunteer leaders attending the event will ensure you have a well-informed and prepared delegation.

Consider discussing the following:

1. **Purposes** of State 4-H Roundup. They can be found at <http://4h.tennessee.edu/roundup/geninfo/purposes.htm>.
2. **Who can attend:** Youth that submitted a portfolio and where accepted to participate in the next competitive level which is Roundup. State All Star Conference is also held during Roundup. Initiated All Star members can attend Roundup, even if they are not involved in the competitive event. Youth not competing will participate in a service project. For more information on All Stars go to <http://4h.tennessee.edu/allstars/roundup/index.htm>.
3. Preparing well for the **competitive event**. Make sure youth competing know and understand what will take place at this level. Go over the importance of personal presentation during an interview (clothing, etiquette, manners, posture, personal hygiene, proper language.) Some of this information can be found at <http://4h.tennessee.edu/roundup/projcomp/index.htm>.
4. Go over **program**: This gives your delegation an idea of the different activities that will take place. This also is a good time to share the dress code and what to bring. Encourage your delegation to bring comfortable walking shoes and an umbrella/raincoat. They will be a lot of walking on campus to different locations. This information can be found at <http://4h.tennessee.edu/roundup/geninfo/whatbring.htm>.
5. **Conduct**: Make sure your delegation is aware they are representing not only their county 4-H program, but also the region and state. Participants will meet donors, university faculty, university administrators and even other youth group organizations on campus. Talk about the importance of being on time, listening attentively at all assemblies and meal events, dressing appropriately for each activity, using their cell phone responsibly and being respectful of others - adults and youth.

Go over Form 600A with them. Discuss general safety precautions (i.e. Lock dorm room doors, do not leave room after curfew, travel in groups for safety, safety issues at the water park, etc.)

6. Discuss **expectations** for what your delegation can do when they return home (i.e. thank you notes, news articles, radio programs, presentations for other 4-Her's, civic groups, etc.) Volunteers could share their experiences with other volunteers and parents.

7. **Election** of State 4-H Council takes place at Roundup. Inform your delegation of the election process, who is eligible to run, who can vote, guidelines for campaigning and speeches. For information on the elections go to <http://4h.tennessee.edu/roundup/election/index.htm>.
8. Make every effort to select volunteers that are active in your program. Share with volunteers expectations you have for them regarding conduct and communicating with you, regional staff, state staff and others. Leaders are expected to be with delegates and that means they will be walking a lot also - make sure they are physically up to this type of activity. Communicate the importance of being a nurturing adult and participating in activities as well. Region and state staff may have additional assignments for volunteer leaders. Leaders will be informed of assignments once they arrive. General leader guidelines can be found at <http://4h.tennessee.edu/roundup/AgentGuide.pdf>.

*Please note: All volunteers attending Roundup need to have an **approved application** in the Extension office and **be enrolled in SUPER** as a volunteer - **before** you register them for Roundup.*

Our goal is for everyone - youth and adult - to have a positive experience. Your efforts in preparing your county delegation for a meaningful experience is greatly appreciated, and will help make State 4-H Roundup a rewarding, educational activity for more than 400 Tennessee teens, volunteer leaders and coworkers in attendance.