

Question and Answers:

What is California Conference?

California Focus is a unique 4-H Citizenship educational experience that combines hands-on participation in workshops, debates, and simulations with outstanding speakers and visits to historical, cultural, and governmental sites. California's capital city, Sacramento, becomes a "living classroom" for this five-day, action packed adventure.

What will the delegates have the opportunity to do?

As a citizens of "Sierra Cascade" delegates register to vote, conduct a political campaign, elect constitutional offices, analyze the needs and issues of their district, and enact legislation with the goal of securing the governor's signature to make your bill a law.

Will the delegates get to meet with legislators?

Legislative appointments at the Capitol allow delegates to meet face-to-face with their senators and assembly person to discuss current issues, learn how proposals are funded, and advocate for issues critical to them and their fellow constituents. An overview of the executive branch is presented by the governor's staff. A court clerk guides delegates through the judicial process while delegates sit in the chambers of the state supreme court.

Where will the events be held?

The Clarion Hotel & Holiday Inn Express in Sacramento were the site of the 2007 California Focus. The action-packed schedule included time for fun and making new friends through organized recreational activities, a dance, and a Broadway play at the Sacramento Community Center Theater.

Delegate Criteria:

- Be an enrolled 4-H member and have completed 8th grade, or
- Be a certified 4-H leader and 21 years of age or older.

Program Objectives:

- Witness California's government in action.
- Participate in the legislative, political, and judicial processes.
- Learn how to communicate with government officials.
- Learn to empower youth to take an active role in government.
- Study California geography, history, heritage, cultures, and economies.
- Develop a personal or group plan of action to effect positive change in delegates' community.
- Practice leadership skills.
- Practice skills of independent living in an interdependent situation.
- Meet and share ideas with young people from diverse areas and backgrounds.