



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CITIZENSHIP TRIPS REGISTRATION AND BILL DUE JANUARY 31, 2024

Each year 4-H members are offered exciting opportunities to participate in Citizenship trips designed to educate and inspire youth to learn and experience our State and country's governmental processes. Delegates participate in a mock trial, create and debate bills, meet with elected officials, and participate in service learning projects.

Yellowstone County sends up to 4 individuals to the Montana Citizenship Seminar in Helena and 3 individuals to Washington Focus in Washington, D.C. The Yellowstone County 4-H Council and the Yellowstone County 4-H Foundation help to pay the expenses for delegates from our county to attend both Citizenship Helena and Washington D.C. Focus.

### **CITIZENSHIP HELENA** – January 2025 (4-H'er's 13 and older by October 1, 2024)

Offers a close-up view of the State's political process. Participants will meet with senators and representatives to discuss issues, visit historical sites, and attend workshops focused on teaching life skills, policies, and possible solutions to domestic problems. You will interact with 4-H members from across the State that may have different customs, interests, and values. You will study many aspects of citizenship and how you as a responsible citizen can have an effect on your community, your State, and your nation.

**CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON (D.C.) FOCUS** – June 15-20, 2024, or June 20-27, 2024 (4-H'er's 14 and older by October 1, 2023) This program takes place at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Washington, D.C. Attendees will hear from motivational speakers and participate in educational workshops that increase individual leadership capability and build lifetime skills for success. Attendees will tour the White House, National Archives, Presidential and war monuments/memorials, Smithsonian museum, and more.

To be considered as a delegate for any trip, members must write a bill and participate in Citizenship Interviews. It is recommended that participants attend the Citizenship Seminar in Helena prior to going to either Washington D.C. but it is not mandatory.

What is involved in the Citizenship Interviews?

- 1) You must complete and send your application to the Extension Office by 5:00 PM Wednesday, January 31, 2024.
- 2) You must prepare a bill and return it with your application by January 31. A sample bill and bill writing instructions are enclosed. You can call the Extension Office for help or attend the Bill Writing Workshop (see next page) January 4.
- 3) You will be asked questions about why you wrote the bill, resources used to develop the bill, etc.
- 4) You will be asked questions about your own citizenship experiences and how a bill becomes a law. We will mail information to you on these topics after we receive your application.
- 5) Interviews will be held on Wednesday, February 7, 2024.

*Montana State University,  
U.S. Department of  
Agriculture and Montana  
Counties Cooperating.  
MSU Extension is an  
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educational outreach.*

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**Mountains & Minds**

**Yellowstone County  
Extension Office**

**CITIZENSHIP INTERVIEWS** – An Interview schedule will be mailed to all applicants after the deadline. Applications and bills are due in the Extension Office (not postmarked) by 5:00 pm, Wednesday, January 31, 2024. **No exceptions.**

**A Bill Writing Workshop** will be held at the 4-H Building at MetraPark on Thursday, January 4 at 6:00 pm. Participants will learn how to write a bill and hear from other 4-Hers who have previously represented our county in both Washington D.C. and Helena. Parents are welcome and encouraged to stay and listen. To RSVP or if you cannot attend and would like help writing your bill call the Extension Office and we can set up a time to meet. Come even if you forget to RSVP!

Sincerely,



Roni Baker  
Yellowstone County Extension 4-H Agent

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**CITIZENSHIP INTERVIEW APPLICATION**  
**DUE BY (NOT POSTMARKED) 5:00 PM January 31, 2024**  
**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Mail your application and bill to: Yellowstone County Extension Office, PO Box 35021, Billings, MT 59107.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthdate (include year) \_\_\_\_\_ Age on October 1, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Year in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Club \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Your School Principal \_\_\_\_\_  
School you attend \_\_\_\_\_  
Address of School \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to interview for the following trip(s):

- \_\_\_\_ Citizenship Seminar in Helena – January 2025 (for members ages 13-18, by October 1, 2024)
- \_\_\_\_ Citizenship Washington Focus (D.C.) – June 15-20, 2024, or June 20-27, 2024 (for members ages 14 and older, by October 1, 2023)

*The Montana State University Extension Service is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of Educational Outreach. Montana State University Extension encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of special accommodations or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact the Extension Office at 406-256-2828 in advance of your participation.*

# How to Write a Bill

Each participant is required to write at least one bill prior to the 4-H legislature at the Citizenship Seminar.

Set up your Bill as a letter size (8 ½" wide by 11" high) portrait document. Try to keep your Bill to one page or less and double space all lines.

A Bill should be formatted as follows:

Line 1	Legislative chamber and bill number (4-H Bill No _____)
Line 2	Your name should appear after (Introduced by _____)
Line 3	Leave blank
Line 4	Intent statement (Start on line 4 using as many lines as necessary)
Line *	Should state as follows: (BE IT ENACTED BY THE 4-H CITIZENSHIP SEMINAR OF THIS STATE OF MONTANA:)
Line *	First statement of the bill labeled: (SECTION 1)
Line *	Second statement of the bill labeled: (SECTION 2) conclude with "Effective date is upon passage and approval" unless otherwise stated.
Line *	END
Last Line on right margin of page	(INTRODUCED BILL 4-H _____)
Anything in ( ) should be typed just as it is in the example.	

## **SAMPLE BILL**

4-H Bill No \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by

To change Montana School Law regarding Adult Education to allow students under certain circumstances to enroll in Adult Education classes offered by school districts.

(BE IT ENACTED BY THE 4-H CITIZENSHIP SEMINAR OF THE STATE OF MONTANA)

(SECTION 1)

Students 14 years and older who are regularly enrolled in public or private high schools may enroll in Adult Education classes offered by school districts. Preference would be given to those persons 16 years and older who are not regularly enrolled, full-time pupils for the purposes of ANB computation. Regular students could only attend classes if space permitted and their attendance was approved by the local school district.

(SECTION 2)

Effective date is upon passage and approval

(END)