Program Highlights:

- **“Tennessee Song”**
  Sunday’s opening assembly will highlight the Tennessee 4-H Performing Arts Troupe and the participants in the leadership, citizenship and public speaking contests. You will learn about Tennessee’s past, present and future as you enjoy “Tennessee Song.”

- **Know Your Government**
  You will visit the state capitol to sit in the seat of your elected representative to the state legislature and actually vote on bills. Be sure to study the bills before your legislative session. You will be able to state your views and try to influence your peers regarding the bills introduced at the “Know Your Government” sessions of Congress.

- **State Contests**
  The state citizenship, leadership, essay, poster and public speaking contests are held at Congress. Awards will be presented at the Monday night assembly. The History Bowl is Tuesday morning.

- **Legislative Visits**
  On Monday afternoon you will have a chance to go with your county delegation to meet some of your state legislators. Be prepared to talk with them about 4-H and the issues that are important to you. You may want to show your appreciation with gifts that represent 4-H and your county.

- **General Jackson and Educational Tours**
  Nashville is an exciting city with natural beauty, culture, and more than 200 years of history for you to explore. While in the city, you will enjoy many of the sights and sounds of your state capital, including a ride on the General Jackson® Showboat.

- **Citizenship Banquet and Inaugural Ball**
  Congress ends on Tuesday night with the banquet and dance.

- **Election of Officers**
  One of the Congress highlights is officer elections. A regional caucus is held on Sunday night to nominate the candidates to run for Congress Governor, Speaker of the Senate and Speaker of the House. To be eligible to run for a Congress office, you must be approved by the state 4-H office for membership in the Tennessee 4-H Honor Club by March 17, 2005. Following nominations, the election goes into full swing. Delegates will vote on Tuesday morning, and new officers will be installed at the banquet that night.

- **What to Wear**
  You will be serving as an ambassador for the Tennessee 4-H program while you are in Nashville. You will be interacting with state officials, legislators, 4-H donors and others in Nashville. It is important that you look like an official Congress delegate at all times.

  Congress delegates will wear their official 4-H Congress sweaters to all Congress functions except the ride on the General Jackson® Showboat, the final banquet and the dance. You will receive your sweater when you register in Nashville. The Congress sweaters are cream-colored with the 4-H clover. Delegates will need to dress professionally in clothes to complement the sweaters. Suggested colors include green, navy, charcoal and khaki. Gentlemen are expected to wear ties when wearing their Congress sweaters.

  Jeans and other sportswear are not appropriate for any Congress activity.

  For the banquet and dance, ladies will need a dress or party dress (length optional). Gentlemen should wear a suit or sports coat with a shirt and tie.

  Don’t forget rain gear and comfortable shoes!

Sponsors

Tennessee 4-H Congress is conducted by UT Extension with the sponsorship of the Tennessee 4-H Foundation in cooperation with a number of other interested friends of 4-H.

58th Annual
Tennessee
4-H Congress

March 20-23, 2005
Nashville
Preparing for 4-H Congress

Tennessee 4-H Congress is an activity that supports the citizenship project and helps 4-H'ers develop the life skill of responsible citizenship.

Be a Good Delegate

1. Make it a point to be on time or ahead of time for each session and event.
2. Be a good listener. You will hear some of your most important state officials speak. You can impress them by your attentiveness.
3. Smoking and chewing gum are out of place during any 4-H event.
4. Cell phones are out of place at any meal or assembly.
5. Show your appreciation by writing thank-you notes to sponsors, leaders, agents and parents.
6. Share your experiences with others when you return home. Take notes and be prepared to give an interesting and worthwhile account of your Congress experience.

4-H Congress Purposes
1. To recognize outstanding 4-H'ers and leaders from all Tennessee counties.
2. To provide new opportunities for 4-H'ers and leaders to develop a better understanding of citizenship and how it relates to daily living.
3. To offer new and stimulating leadership experiences for 4-H'ers on a statewide basis.
4. To provide the opportunity for 4-H'ers and leaders to learn how their state government functions.
5. To encourage 4-H'ers and leaders to assume and continue leadership roles in their communities.
6. To encourage 4-H'ers to develop a greater appreciation of the history and heritage of Tennessee.

Activity and Event Acceptance Form
Before coming to state 4-H Congress, you and your parents or guardians must sign the 4-H Activity and Event Acceptance Form (F600A).

Arrival and Departure Time
Congress registration is at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown on Sunday, March 20. The opening assembly is Sunday evening. Congress ends Tuesday evening with the Citizenship Banquet, followed by a farewell dance. Delegates return home on Wednesday.

Rooms and Meals
All delegates will be housed by regions in the Sheraton Nashville Downtown, located on the corner of Seventh and Union Avenues.

Most meals will be special events sponsored by various friends of 4-H. Monday night dinner and Wednesday breakfast will be on your own.

The official Congress headquarters will be in the Davidson Room of the hotel. Should your parents/guardians need to get in touch with you during Congress, they should call the Sheraton Nashville Downtown at (615) 259-2000. When you are at planned Congress events, they may leave a message at Congress headquarters.