

VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION
STATE FAIR 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PROGRAM: Poultry & Avian Sciences

JOB TITLE: Teen Leader

SUPERINTENDENT: Mary Ann Whipple, Superintendent, NYS Fair

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The purpose of the Poultry Science teen leader program is to expose youth to growing levels of leadership with advancing skill levels. The youth have the responsibility for the entire maintenance of the exhibit. This includes care of the numerous live animal displays, operation of the commercial incubator, general clean-up, paper work, and most importantly, contact with fair-goers. The primary goal is to allow the youth to run the entire exhibit with a minimum of adult instruction.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED: The skill level of the teen leader can be varied. Even the most experienced youth will learn more about poultry through this event. Therefore, this opportunity is open to all youth who have anything from a passing interest in birds to the most experienced breeder.

OTHER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Eligible youth must have reached their 13th birthday by January 1 of the current year and must not have passed their 19th birthday as of January 1 of the current year.
2. Each county may nominate as many individuals as they wish. However, final selection is made at the discretion of the Superintendent

TASKS TO BE PERFORMED:

1. Routine animal care
2. Each teen leader must spend four hours daily in front of the exhibit to answer fair-goers' questions
3. Teens must learn how to fill out appropriate paper work.
4. At least three teens are needed during the judging contest to tabulate scores, register contestants, and serve as timers.
5. Set-up and take-down of exhibit area is required.
6. Constant clean-up of exhibit area is required.
7. Teens will learn how to operate the brooders, incubators and other equipment at the exhibit.

TRAINING AND ORIENTATION NEEDED:

1. Training will be provided on site by Mary Ann Whipple, a Key Poultry Volunteer or Teen Assistants.
2. A major orientation will be provided the first day of each time period.
3. At the beginning of each day's work, all teens will gather for clean-up at 8:30 AM. At this time, any additional information will be provided.

EXPECTED RESULTS: Teens participating in this program will learn a variety of things. The most obvious results (to the teens) will be the knowledge gained of poultry and the operation of the exhibit. However, a multitude of developmental skills will also be gained including: working in groups; leadership skills; speaking to the public; and many others.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Teens may work any time during the Fair. Youth may work more than 1 session; however, they must have an arranged chaperone and approval from Mary Ann Whipple. Approximately ten youth per day are required to efficiently run the exhibit.

Updated: 6/7/10
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