



1865 THE UNIVERSITY OF
MAINE
Cooperative Extension



Maine 4-H at ESE

What to Expect as a Chaperone



ESE 4-H Chaperones

ESE 4-H chaperones are

- certified 4-H volunteers age 21 or older
- required to attend scheduled orientation meetings
- responsible for 4-H youth assigned to them while at ESE
- given final decision-making authority in the dorms and in the field
- expected to model 4-H volunteer standards of behavior

Dedicated to Making the Best Better!



Things To Do Before Going to ESE





ESE 4-H Chaperones - Getting Ready

- Have contact information for each delegate and their parent
- Become familiar with the list of youth traveling by bus and who gets on at each stop
- Review and understand list of chaperone responsibilities
- Review and understand list of dormitory responsibilities



Orientation at ESE





ESE Chaperones – Orientation

- Register at assigned dormitory on arrival
- Familiarize yourself with health history reports of youth in your dorm
- Familiarize yourself with locations of alarm box, fire extinguishers and exits in your dorm
- Chaperones must be in their section of the dorm by 10:30 p.m.
- All chaperones must sleep in assigned dormitory





ESE Chaperones – Orientation

- Attend chaperone check-in meetings each morning
- Assume responsibility for proper conduct of assigned youth
- Assist with supervising mealtimes and ESE activities as needed
- Review how youth will get meals if unable to return to dorm on time
- Establish and communicate an action plan for supervising youth to and from dorms as well as evenings on the fairgrounds
- Become familiar with ESE fairgrounds layout





Responsibilities





ESE 4-H Chaperones – Responsibilities

- Be sensitive to interactions with and among delegates
- Know who is assigned to you and how to reach parents and 4-H officials
- Review emergency evacuation plan with youth including physical location of the Maine Building on the Avenue of States as meeting place
- Assume temporary parental responsibility for assigned youth
- Allow youth to retain possession of medications while maintaining awareness of what is prescribed
- Be firm with the rules while allowing youth to practice self-discipline





ESE 4-H Chaperones – Responsibilities

- Set an example by obeying the rules
- If leaving the area, assign responsibility to another ESE chaperone

Chaperones are not to:

- Drink alcoholic beverages on days that you are responsible for youth
- Inappropriately touch, push or strike youth in any way
- Restrain a youth except for the purpose of protection of themselves or others



ESE 4-H Chaperones – Responsibilities

Ensure these dormitory rules are understood and followed by all youth

- Only ESE delegates and chaperones are allowed in dormitories
- Weapons of any kind are not allowed
- Smoking is not allowed
- Wristbands may not be shared
- Lights out is 11:00 p.m. each night
- Dormitories must be clean by 8:30 a.m. each day



For Lead Chaperones





ESE 4-H Chaperones - Lead Chaperone

The lead chaperone has the following additional responsibilities:

- Assemble a notebook containing all youth and chaperone health forms
- Help determine who will go to the ESE check-in meeting each morning
- Have ready a plan on how youth will sign in and out of animal areas
- Ensure all chaperones are familiar with ESE grounds, and youth in their care receive similar orientation
- Review emergency evacuation plan with all chaperones to include physical location of the Maine Building on the Avenue of States as meeting place





Things to Remember





ESE Chaperones – Things to Remember

- Understand your responsibilities
- Represent 4-H to the best of your ability
- Assume temporary parental responsibility
- Be firm while allowing self-discipline
- Encourage fun while demanding respect
- Know the goals of 4-H at ESE
- Set a positive and enthusiastic example





ESE Chaperones

If you have questions please connect with your staff liaison.

And finally thanks for volunteering to make ESE a positive experience for Maine youth!!!!

