

**District 11 4-H Crossroads
November 20-22, 2015
Hilton Garden Inn, Bryan TX**

Event Information

Crossroads is a three day/two night career development and youth leadership program to involve 8th - 12th grade youth in various projects that will expose them to various career and higher education opportunities.

Event Details

In 2015, District 11 4-H Crossroads will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bryan/College Station, TX (3081 University Dr E, Bryan, TX 77802). A copy of the tentative schedule is attached.

Event Fee

Registration will be from September 28, 2015 to October 23, 2015. The cost for Crossroads is \$175.00 for 4-H members and \$175.00 for adult leaders and county Extension agents. A late fee of \$25.00 will be assessed from October 24 – November 9. **No refunds will be given!**

Payment for Crossroads may be made by county/club check or credit card. The District Office will NOT receive any registration payments for Crossroads. All registration fees (paid by check) must be sent to the Texas 4-H Foundation, P O Box 11020, College Station, Texas 77842-1020.

County Club checks should follow transfer procedures to remit payment

Substitution Policy

Substitutions will be allowed up to one week prior to the event. All substitutions must be submitted to the district office in writing by the County Extension agent. Substitutions may ONLY be made boy for boy and girl for girl. However, there is no guarantee that the substitute will get the workshops wanted; he/she will most likely be placed in the workshops assigned to the original delegate he/she is replacing.

Event Registration

Participants (youth, adults and county Extension agents) must register for District 11 4-H Crossroads on 4-H CONNECT (on-line registration system). **The registration will be open from 12:00 a.m. on Monday, September 28, through 12:00 midnight on Friday, October 23** 4-H members, leaders and county Extension agents may submit an entry at any time during this registration period.

County Extension Agents must 'certify' all entries on 4-H CONNECT within two business days following the registration deadline. Failure to do so may result in the registration being rejected.

Crossroads Check-in/On-site Registration

Each 4-H member must be checked in and checked out by an adult. Once a 4-H member has checked into Crossroads, he/she must stay until the conclusion of the event. There will be no early departures, or leaving and returning later. And remember: NO 4-H member can drive to Crossroads on his/her own unless granted prior approval from your County Office and the District Office.

Registration is 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20. The absolute deadline to arrive on Friday is 12:00 midnight. **The District 4-H Specialist must be notified in writing of a late arrival.** If a 4-H member has a valid reason to not arrive on Friday (i.e. playoff football game), he/she may arrive on Saturday. However, Saturday arrivals must be checked in by 8:00 a.m. Workshops will not be delayed for late arrivals. All Saturday arrivals must be approved by the 4-H member's respective County Extension Agent. The closing assembly on Sunday, November 23, will conclude by 10:00 a.m.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Individuals who require an auxiliary service or accommodation in order to participate in Crossroads need to indicate so and provide an explanation of accommodation(s) needed when registering on 4-H CONNECT. Any additional explanation that needs to be provided can be done by calling the District 11 Office at 361-265-9203 by the registration deadline.

Age Requirement

Crossroads is restricted to youth in 8th to 12th grade as of November 20, 2015.

Adult Chaperones

Each adult attending Crossroads is also asked to provide transportation to and from the workshop to which he/she is assigned. A copy of each adult's proof of insurance may be requested by event organizers.

Adult chaperones will be asked to complete the Youth Protection training on 4-H Connect prior to arrival.

The District 11 Guidelines, adopted 12-16-1997, will be followed for this event. The minimum standards of the policy state:

- "If a county has four (4) or more 4-H members attending, the county must send an adult of either gender. When the number of 4-H participants exceeds 8, the adult to member ratio is 1 to 8. Example: If a county sends 12 members, they must send two chaperones. 4-H members opposite the gender of the county adult chaperone must be assigned to an adult chaperone of their gender. Assignments must be made by the member's county Extension agent. This assignment must then be sent in writing to the District Office five days prior to the event. This letter must state the event, the member's name(s), and the name of the adult chaperone (or agent) from another county that will accept responsibility for the member(s). The assigned adult should be asked before the letter is written,

- If there are three (3) or less participants from a county, without an adult chaperone attending, the members must be assigned to adult chaperones by the member's county Extension agent. 4-H members must be assigned to adult chaperones of their gender. This assignment must then be sent in writing to the District Office five (5) days prior to the event. This letter must state the event, the member's name(s), and the name of the adult chaperone (or agent) from another county that will accept responsibility for the member(s). The assigned adult chaperone should be asked before the letter is written.

Transportation

It is the responsibility of each county to provide transportation for participants to and from Crossroads. We strongly encourage youth to travel to a district function with an adult.

Transportation to and from workshops will be provided by adult leaders and county Extension agents. Each adult attending Crossroads is also asked to provide transportation to and from the workshop to which he/she is assigned. A copy of each adult's proof of auto insurance may be requested.

T-Shirts

When registering, all participants (youth and adults) need to indicate the size of t-shirt preferred. The t-shirts will be distributed at Crossroads registration/check-in. All participants (youth and adults) should plan to wear the t-shirt on Saturday of Crossroads.

Dress Code

Dress for Crossroads is casual, but neat. Conventional shoes or sandals must be worn at all times. Items of clothing advertising alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or drugs or that has vulgar, offensive messages are not appropriate. Tank tops, halter tops or tops with spaghetti straps are not appropriate for girls at Crossroads. See-through or muscle shirts are not appropriate for boys at Crossroads. Hats and caps are not appropriate inside buildings.

What to Bring

All participants (youth and adults) will be housed in hotel rooms. Youth will be four (4) per room and adults will be two (2) per room. Therefore, each participant must bring:

- Pillow (optional)
- Toiletries and personal items
- Light jacket or sweater and/or rain gear (depending upon the weather forecast for the weekend)
- Closed toe shoes (i.e. tennis shoes)
- Professional dress outfit for etiquette dinner.
 - BOYS – SLACKS, NICE BUTTON DOWN SHIRT. NO JEANS.
 - GIRLS – PROFESSIONAL SLACKS OR APPROPRIATE DRESS.

Please do not bring valuable electronic equipment.

Crossroad participants may bring snacks. Snacks will be provided during the dance on Saturday night.

Do not bring items such as water guns, water sling shots, shaving cream (except for personal use), etc. If you are caught with these materials, disciplinary action will be taken.

Medical Information

Each participant (youth AND adults, including CEAs) is required to turn in the following forms on 4-H Connect. They are available on the Health Form tab of your profile.

- Waiver and indemnification Agreement and Medical Treatment Authorization
- Health Statement

Each youth participant agreed to the Code of Conduct and Consequences of Misbehavior form when enrolling in 4-H for the 2015-2016 4-H year on 4-H CONNECT. This Code of Conduct policy will be followed during Crossroads.

Crossroads Workshops

There will be five workshops offered at Crossroads this year. When registering, all youth and leaders need to select which workshop they prefer to attending, ranking them 1-5. The committee will work to honor workshop preferences; however, it is not a guarantee that you will get your first choice. The workshops are:

- Law Enforcement - Join us as we visit the home to some of the world's top training facilities, the emergency preparedness campus in Bryan/College Station includes the Brayton Fire Training Field, Disaster City and the Emergency Operations Training Center. Customized TEEX training programs develop practical solutions through hands-on instructional facilities for public utilities, law enforcement and unexploded ordinance training.
- Veterinary/Animal Science - Take a behind the scenes look at the Veterinary Science career path along with other career options related to animal science. A behind the scenes tour of the vet school at TAMU and one on one conversation with Veterinary science professors is included. ***MUST WEAR CLOSED TOE SHOES***
- Marketing/Communications – Marketing is prevalent in almost every career path you choose to pursue. In the marketing session you will learn the importance of personal branding when pursuing your marketing career. You will also explore various marketing techniques used in varying career fields.
- Engineering/Robotics – Explore science and robotics as technology continues to impact today's world. A behind the scenes look at the career options related to science and technology, along with robotics and the role they play in everyday life.
- Health Sciences – Health sciences is an up and coming career path which plays an important part in every person's life. Youth will explore health as it relates to athletics and sports nutrition. A tour of the exercise and sports nutrition lab at Texas A&M university will be included.

This year we will offer youth the opportunity to participate in an Etiquette Dinner as part of the Saturday evening activity. Please bring a nice outfit (church clothes) to wear to the dinner. Youth will be given time after dinner to change for the dance.

District 11 Community Service Project

A BIG part of 4-H is giving back to the community so join us in participating in our District wide Community Service Project.

Participants will create cards for our service men and women to distribute at a local VA Hospital.