

2006 COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY YOUTH LIVESTOCK JUDGING CAMP

Chaperon Guidelines

Adults working with children have a unique opportunity to encourage their growth and development in residential situations apart from the activities that take place in one's own community. This event will strive to develop youth through the unique combination of leadership experiences, competitions, educational workshops, and social opportunities. Your support of the total scope of activities being offered, beyond the interests that may draw you to become involved, will be a powerful model that participants will learn from and respond to.

The label on your nametag may say "chaperon," but your role and responsibility is to develop life skills in youth. Please consider the total range of youth development taking place and encourage the youth with whom you're traveling to become fully involved in the camp activities.

Chaperons should be familiar with the rules and regulations and accept personal responsibility for their implementation during the camp.

1. Know the names of all the delegates with whom you are working (including those from other counties you may be chaperoning). You will be responsible for the conduct of those under your charge.
2. Know the room assignments of all people you are chaperoning. Ensure all participants are in their assigned rooms, and that they comply with quiet hours, lights out, etc.
3. Know the schedule of the camp and support their active participation.
4. The possession or use of alcoholic beverages and/or drugs, other than prescribed medication, is prohibited.
5. Assume responsibility for any youth when need arises.
6. Assist your participants in being at the right place at the right time.
7. Strive to model the highest levels of character and integrity. (See opposite side of sheet).

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES FOR ADULTS

Trustworthiness

1. Always act to encourage and justify trust. Teach children the meaning and importance of trustworthiness.
2. Be honest and demand honesty from youth. Do not engage in or permit dishonesty by lying, deception or omission.
3. Teach and model the importance of integrity by doing the right thing even when the cost is high. Admit your mistakes openly and honestly as a demonstration of integrity.
4. Keep commitments. Do what you say you will do, when you say you will do it, to model the values of promise-keeping and reliability. If you are unable to keep a commitment, apologize to those who were depending on you.

Respect

5. Treat everyone, with respect, courtesy and consideration and require youth to treat others with similar respect. Encourage all youth, not just the ones for which you have direct responsibility. Avoid and prevent put-downs, insults, name-calling, yelling and other verbal or nonverbal conduct likely to offend, hurt or set a bad example. Promote politeness and use of “please,” “thank you” and “excuse me.”
6. Teach youth to be on time and that others are depending on them to be where they should be when they should be.
7. Teach youth to treat others as individuals, recognizing and appreciating their diversity in skills, gender, ethnicity and race. Never permit statements or acts of prejudice.
8. Listen to youth. Respect their opinions and answer their questions without being defensive or arbitrary.

Fairness

9. Teach and model fair play. Make sure youth understand the importance of playing honorably.

10. Teach and model fair-mindedness by being fair and by being open to new ideas, suggestions and opinions of others.

Responsibility

11. Always exercise and demand self-control. Do not lose your temper.
12. Teach and model self-discipline and a sense of duty to meet obligations even when it is difficult or unpleasant.
13. Teach and model the pursuit of excellence measured by doing one’s best.
14. Teach and model accountability by accepting responsibility for your choices of both action and inaction.

Caring

15. Teach and model kindness and compassion for others. Discourage selfishness. Treat others the way you would want to be treated.
16. Help to assure that the youth experience is one of fun, learning and enjoyment. Correct and instruct in constructive ways. Be generous with your praise when it is deserved. Demonstrate appreciation for the effort of all who contribute.
17. Demonstrate sincere interest in the child.

Citizenship

18. Teach and model the importance of obeying laws and rules as an obligation of citizenship. Teach how unfair it is for some people to abide by the rules while others don’t.
19. Teach and model respect for the environment and the obligation to contribute to the greater good.
20. Everything we do makes a difference. What we say and what we do starts a chain reaction that affects the lives of others.