

# FRESNO COUNTY 2026 4-H CAMP KEOLA JUNIOR COUNSELOR GUIDELINES



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

4-H Youth Development Program

## PURPOSE:

Provide interested teens the opportunity to assume leadership roles in a camping situation with special opportunities for educational and social adjustments through group living.

## 4-H YDP OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide a leadership opportunity for an older 4-H member.
2. To participate in the camp program from the planning stages to the actual event.
3. To learn to live, work, and play with younger 4-H members as well as adults.
4. To learn to accept and discharge responsibility.
5. To develop and/or enhance life skills, such as leadership, teamwork, self-responsibility, cooperation, and planning/organizing.

## PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLYING:

1. Must currently be in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade or above for JC, and be eligible for 4-H youth membership as of July 1, 2025.
2. Currently enrolled as a 4-H member.
3. Attend **monthly** camp planning meetings and **spend a minimum of two hours each month working with your committee on appointed tasks**
4. Must be able to arrive at camp at the specified time before camp begins and remain through the closing of camp.
5. Completed applications are **due in the 4-H Office by November 24, 2025 or postmarked no later than November 20th, 2025** to the following address:

Fresno County 4-H Office  
Attn: Tracy Newton  
550 E Shaw Ave., Suite 210-B  
Fresno, CA 93710

6. **Late applications will not be accepted.**
7. Interviews will be held **6 pm December 2, 2025** at the UCCE – Fresno 4-H Office, 550 E Shaw Ave., Suite #100. Interviews will include a group planning session as well as an individual interview. **Candidates will be evaluated on both portions of the interview process. At camp JCs will be expected to teach two separate hour-long educational skill classes. At your interview You MUST provide your lesson plan for two workshop ideas in written format. Please include a list of supplies that you would need.**

8. If you require a disability accommodation in order to participate in this activity, please contact the 4-H YDP staff at least two weeks before the interview.

### **SELECTION PROCESS:**

1. Candidates for Junior Counselor positions shall be interviewed and selected by the Adult Camp Directors.
2. Criteria to be used in selecting candidates:
  - a. Has experience in a 4-H youth development (YD) camp program, preferably Keola 4-H Camp.
  - b. Has had some other experience in a camping program: school, church, or other.
  - c. Has demonstrated leadership abilities and maturity of judgment.
  - d. Is willing to take an active role in the pre-camp planning stages as well as participate during the camp week.
  - e. Has initiative and enthusiasm.
  - f. Enjoys being in the outdoors.
  - g. Has some type of camp skills (i.e. crafts, hiking, sports, recreation, storytelling, song leading, and fishing).

### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Provide leadership for the 4-H Youth Development camp program.
2. Work cooperatively with counselors (adult and junior) and Camp Executive Committee.
3. Active participant with the pre-planning activities for camp, counselor interviews, committee meetings, and camp planning meetings.
4. Meet with your committee each month to develop a program of activities and assigned responsibilities.
5. Use good judgment in working with campers.
6. Be a positive role model for the campers.
7. Adhere to the code of conduct.
8. Make sure campers follow policies, rules, and procedures at camp.
9. Contribute to post-camp evaluation.
10. Attend camp planning meetings scheduled for January, February, March, April, May, and June as well as 4-H camp.

### **SELECTION COMMITTEE:**

1. Adult Camp Directors and Adult Volunteer Leaders appointed by the Directors.
2. The 4-H YD staff shall represent the Cooperative Extension Office as an ex-officio liaison.

# 25/26 KEOLA 4-H Camp JUNIOR COUNSELOR & Counselor in Training



## Application



**Keola 4-H Camp Dates: June 22-27, 2026**

Applications are to be completed by the Junior Counselor applicants and returned to their county UC Cooperative Extension Office **BY November 24, 2025 OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN November 20th, 2025**. Late applications will not be accepted!

Consult the **2026 Keola 4-H Camp Junior Counselor Guidelines** above for requirements and criteria. Junior counselors and Directors will pay a camp fee, to be determined (approximately \$295).

Interviews will be held **December 2, 2025** at 6pm at the UCCE- 4-H Fresno County Office. If you require a disability accommodation in order to participate in this activity, please contact the 4-H YD staff at least two weeks before the interview.

**LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!**  
**TYPE USING BLACK FONT COLOR**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Years as a 4-H member \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade in school \_\_\_\_\_ Years as a junior/teen leader \_\_\_\_\_

Years attended 4-H Camp as a camper \_\_\_\_\_ Years attended Keola 4-H Camp as a Junior Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be considered (circle your choice) for the following Director position(s):

**(Please see description of director positions)**

Traditions/Campfire

Education/Crafts

Sports & Recreation

Evening Activities

Hospitality

Fishing

List other camps (non-4-H) that you have attended and the number of years. Describe your experiences and any responsibilities. \_\_\_\_\_

The first camp planning meeting will be held **January 19, 2026**. JC Directors will meet at 4:00 pm. All JCs will meet from 4:30 - 7 p.m.

\_\_\_\_ I will be able to attend this planning meeting

\_\_\_\_ I will not be able to attend this meeting

**USE ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NEEDED**

1. **In addition** to your 1 hour class, what new activities would you like to help organize and incorporate into the 4H camp program?
2. List junior counselor responsibilities that you have had at previous 4-H camps and other camp leadership experiences.
3. List any activities/organizations in which you participate (i.e. sports, band, FFA, year book, church, etc.) and indicate leadership roles/offices you have held in those groups.
4. List other 4-H leadership (offices held, junior/teen leadership, chair of committees, etc.):
5. Place a 1, 2, 3 on the blanks below to indicate your first, second, and third choice of committees that you would like to work with  
  
\_\_\_\_ **Traditions:** (Campfire songs and skits, flag, vespers)  
\_\_\_\_ **Sports and Rec:** (games and activities)  
\_\_\_\_ **Crafts and Education**  
\_\_\_\_ **Evening Activities**  
\_\_\_\_ **Hospitality:** (Dining hall fun, opening and closing activities)  
\_\_\_\_ **Fishing**
6. Explain why you want to be a camp junior counselor and what you want to learn from your experience.
7. What experience do you have working with and providing leadership for youth between the ages of 9 – 13? Please explain.

8. You will be expected to teach two skills workshops at camp (*each an hour long*). Are you an artist, dancer, skilled in crafting, science experiments? What hobbies do you have that you could teach others? **Attach your written lesson plans for two activities to this application or bring it to your interview.** Your lesson plan should also list supplies that you would need for a class of ten campers. You may teach the class multiple times.

9. If chosen to be a junior counselor, how will you encourage 4-H members to attend camp? Do you have younger siblings that will attend camp or a parent that will serve as an adult counselor?

10. What skills do you possess as a result of past experiences or training that would help you in this position? (i.e CPR certificate, first aid certificate, craft courses, musical talent, school classes)

11. Please rate the days of the week on your availability for evening camp staff meetings. Circle or check your response for **each** day.

<b>MONDAY</b>	Good	Fair	Bad
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Good	Fair	Bad

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Good	Fair	Bad
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Good	Fair	Bad

12. Please list activities, including summer school, that you will be involved in this spring and summer that might conflict with your total involvement in camp or camp planning meetings.

Camp is usually held the first week of summer school and during summer sports practice times. If you are not able to miss summer school or unwilling to miss a sports practice to fulfill your JC responsibilities, **please do not apply**. You must also schedule jobs around your camp meetings. **Your application is a commitment to attending all camp meetings and the entire duration of camp.**

I understand that I must hold my commitment to JC responsibilities as a priority.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

**Signatures required:**

**(By your signature, you give permission for your address, phone, and email to be distributed to 4-H camp staff.)**

4-H Member \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I recommend this member for the position of Junior Counselor:

Community Club Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**USE ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NEEDED**