

TEXAS 4-H AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Education grows here. Advocacy grows here. Purpose grows here. Understanding grows Here.

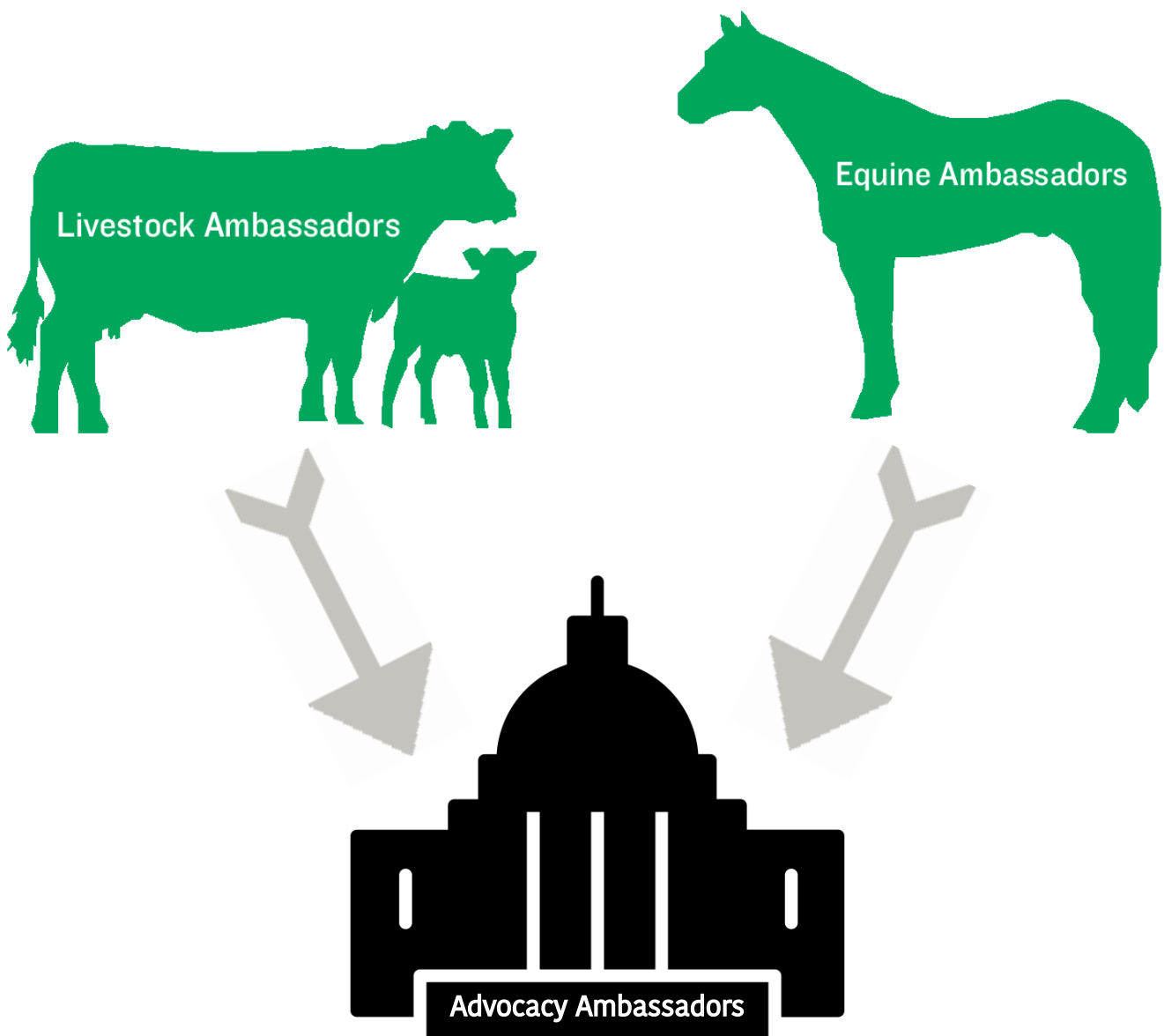
Ability grows here. Service grows here.



Youth
Grow
Here.

Types of Ambassadors

The Texas 4-H Ambassador program strives to provide high school age 4-H members the opportunity to develop and practice advanced leadership skills related to mentoring other youth, and to become advocates for animal agriculture.





Livestock Ambassadors

Through an application process, 50 youth are chosen to participate in rigorous college-level animal science curriculum. Held at both Texas Tech University in conjunction with West Texas A&M, and Texas A&M University, short courses generate exceptional knowledge gained outcomes. Livestock Ambassadors are required to commit at least 40 hours of service annually. Ambassadors conduct educational livestock project clinics, speak to civic groups, assist with livestock shows, and advocate for livestock and agriculture across Texas.

Mentorship
Grows
Here.

Education Grows Here.

Equine Ambassadors

The Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador Program is helping create a new generation of equine industry professionals. Through a selection process, 25 youth are chosen to attend a general health knowledge and horsemanship short course. Equine Ambassadors are prepared to teach other youth and adults the skills of being good stewards, producers, and exhibitors of horses.





Advocacy Ambassadors

Livestock and Equine Ambassadors are eligible to apply to be an Advocacy Ambassador, the second phase of the Ambassador Program. Advocacy Academy exposes youth to the legislative process and agricultural policy. Youth build upon the first phase of the program, grow into stronger communicators, and develop a broader perspective of the animal agriculture industry.

Purpose
Grows
Here.



Advocacy Grows Here.

Sharing Our Story

Advocacy is the common thread running through the entire Ambassador experience. Skilled communicators share research-backed information locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Ambassadors are charged with seeking and creating animal agriculture advocacy engagements through civic clubs, radio stations, newspapers, television, social media, grocery stores, major livestock shows and elected official interactions. Ambassadors recognize the critical need to share the non-fictional story of youth livestock programs and the positive impact of animal agriculture worldwide with people several generations removed from the farm.

Understanding Grows Here.

International Agricultural Experience

In August 2016, an elite group of 19 Ambassadors were selected to attend an educational agricultural experience in Uruguay and Argentina. The study abroad program was an unquestioned success as Ambassadors were exposed to the diverse characteristics of agricultural production in South America. Through visits of progressive and established farms and ranches, Ambassadors gained a greater understanding of varying agricultural practices abroad. Consequently, this experience increased awareness of global agriculture and international trade. Upon reflection, the Ambassadors reported meaningful changes in their world views and solidified interest in pursuing a degree in agriculture.





Domestic Agricultural Experience

In August 2017, an elite group of 20 Ambassadors were selected to participate in an educational agricultural experience in California. The educational program was an incredibly valuable opportunity for the Ambassadors. The Ambassadors reflected on their experience and submitted an extensive report of their gained knowledge such as an understanding of immense challenges in the Nation's top agriculture producing state like heavy regulations on water and animal rights. California's diverse production capabilities throughout the state introduced the Ambassadors to a broader spectrum of agriculture in the United States. The experience introduced the Ambassadors to various new agricultural career opportunities and solidified interest in collegiate degrees to pursue those careers.

Ability
Grows
Here.

Service Grows Here.

Ambassador Impact
2013-2017

HOURS WORKED

35,500

PEOPLE REACHED

686,276

MONETARY
IMPACT

\$862,828.30

NUMBER OF
AMBASSADORS

415

COLLEGE AGE AMBASSADORS
ENROLLED IN HIGHER
EDUCATION

98.8%



Ambassador Testimonials

“My leadership experiences in 4-H has taught me that being a leader is about teaching others to lead, that self-confidence, determination and hard work is what makes a person the best they can be, and that education and advocacy are the key to a better tomorrow.”

-Kaitlyn Smith
Comal County

“The connections that I have made during my 3 years of service will stay with me while trying to build a career in agriculture. I will undoubtedly continue on my path advocating for this great program, and industry, for many years to come.”

-Tanner Stefka
Burleson County

“I began to see the impact that we have on youth and I began to advocate more to help the younger kids so that they could develop and grow as a livestock exhibitor.”

-Kade Klapper
Robertson County

Knowledge
Grows
Here.



TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION



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