



Preston R. Willson Virginia Statewide 2026 4-H Summer Camp Scholarships



The **Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation (VFEF)**, the **Virginia Forestry Association (VFA)**, the **Virginia Forest Products Association (VFPA)**, and the **Virginia Loggers Association (VLA)** are announcing the 5th annual Preston R. Willson Virginia 4-H Camp Scholarships for the summer of 2026. Applications for youth ages 9 – 13 can be submitted to VFEF to attend one of six (6) Virginia 4-H Center's 4-H Summer Camps, which include: Airfield, Holiday Lake, Jamestown, Northern VA, Southwest VA, and W.E. Skelton. A total of forty-eight (48) youth will be randomly selected for these full scholarships (including the 4-H Center and locality fees). Each of the six 4-H Centers will host eight (8) scholarship recipients.

4-H has been around for more than 100 years. 4-H camping emphasizes “*learning by doing.*” 4-H believes in the power of young people. Every child has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around them. When it comes to providing a child with a life-changing experience, there's nothing quite like 4-H summer camp. Camp provides the full benefits of a 4-H experience coupled with the fun and wonder of camping in the great outdoors.

Preston, who is currently President/CEO of Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center (HL4HEC), has spent over 50 years positively impacting youth through his service in Central and Southside Virginia. He attended 4-H Camp and served as a Junior Leader at 4-H Camp Farrar in Virginia Beach. He served as President, Vice-President, and Treasurer on the HL4HEC Board of Directors. Preston's vision and hard work have led to many successful projects for the 4-H Center and his commitment to the Virginia 4-H Program has improved the lives of many young people. In 2019, Preston R. Willson was awarded the *Virginia 4-H All Stars Hall of Fame Award*, which is the highest recognition that a Virginia 4-H'er can achieve. In 2021 the Virginia Forestry Association (VFA) recognized him with the *VFA Distinguished Service Award* for his significant, continuing, and lasting contribution to the conservation of Virginia's forest resources and the enhancement of Virginia's forest-based community. Upon retirement in 1995, he joined the staff at the 4-H Center and continues to serve the 4-H community.

These scholarships are made possible by the **Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation**, the **Virginia Forestry Association**, the **Forest Products Association**, and the **Virginia Loggers Association**. Founded in 1943, the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation is a charitable and educational 501(c)3 organization. The mission of the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation is to financially support state-wide youth education promoting sustainable forests for environmental, social, and economic benefit of all Virginians. The Virginia Forestry Association is a not-for-profit, privately supported organization with the mission of representing Virginia's diverse forestry community and promoting the sustainable use and conservation of forest resources to ensure their long-term social benefits for all Virginians. The Virginia Forest Products Association is a non-profit, non-governmental association of individuals, firms, and corporations having an interest in the Commonwealth's lumber and wood products industry. The Virginia Loggers Association is a private, non-profit 501(c)6 organization dedicated to educational training and promoting a better understanding of the Forest Products Industry to the Commonwealth of Virginia and to promote legislative awareness and representation.

To learn how to apply, go to www.vfef.net. Online application can be found at: <https://www.holidaylake4h.com/4hscholarship> Scholarship announcements will be made in mid-April. Anyone can nominate as many campers as they would like, just no duplicates, please. Duplicate camper applicant names will be counted only once. Selected recipient names will be posted mid late April on www.vfef.net and www.holidaylake4h.com .

Applications must be received by April 1, 2026.

Preston R. Willson Scholarship 2026 4-H Summer Camp Application

Made possible by Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation (VFEF), Virginia Forestry Association (VFA),
Virginia Forest Products Association (VFPA), and Virginia Loggers Association (VLA) Member

Please Print

Nominator's Name: _____ Nominator's email address: _____

Please check Nominator's Membership for any or all of the following forestry *affiliations (priority will be given to these applications)*:

___ VFA Member ___ VFPA Member ___ VLA Member ___ NONE

Camper's Name: _____

AGE: _____ (eligible ages are 9-13) BIRTH DATE: _____

Camper's Home Address: _____

Camper's County or City of Residence: _____

County/City Camper will be camping with: _____

What 4-H Center will Camper attend? (please check one)

- ___ Airfield 4-H Educational Center
- ___ Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center
- ___ Jamestown 4-H Educational Center
- ___ Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center
- ___ Southwest Virginia 4-H Educational Center
- ___ W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Center

Camper's Parent/Guardian: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

As the nominator, I have contacted the camper's parents/guardians of this nomination (required). YES _____

*Mail Application to:

Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation (VFEF)
PO Box 6372
Richmond, VA 23230

OR

*Send by Email to: info@vfef.net

OR

*Complete online at: www.vfef.net or www.holidaylake4h.com/4hscholarship

Applications must be received by April 1, 2026.
All the above fields are to be completed.
Any application that is illegible or incomplete will NOT be considered.