

EMERALD STAR GUIDELINES

In 1992 Kern County implemented the Emerald Star Award for 4-H members 14 years of age and older to enter a new phase of *leadership, responsibility, and citizenship*. This rank was added to give 4-H members the opportunity to enhance the county 4-H program. It also prepares 4-H members for All Star responsibilities if they chose to apply to become an All Star at a later date.

What does an Emerald Star do?

An Emerald Star applicant must present a plan of proposed leadership to be completed during the following one-year period. They must complete this plan, submit a self-evaluation on their plan (after completion), and show good leadership qualities and overall 4-H work throughout the year. The project or plan must provide service to the Kern County 4-H program.

Who is eligible to apply for the Emerald Star?

Kern County 4-H members who:

- Have completed two years of 4-H and were at least 14 years of age by January 1 of the current year.
- Hold the rank of Gold Star (this is optional).
- Are currently enrolled in a Junior/Teen Leader project.
- Are approved for nomination by the Community Club Leader.

How do you become an Emerald Star?

1. Identify an adult who will serve as adult advisor to the project or plan.
2. Prepare the "4-H Emerald Star Application (Part One)" and submit it to the Cooperative Extension Office by December 1st or June 1st.
3. Review the project or plan with the interview committee. An interview date will be set up after the application is turned in. At the interview, the applicant is to dress in the 4-H uniform or as you would dress for a job interview.
4. Complete your prepared project or plan.
5. Prepare the final report, "4-H Emerald Star Completion Report (Part Two)" and submit it to the Cooperative Extension Office.
6. Applicant will give an oral report, 3 – 5 minutes in length, before the Kern County 4-H Leader Council.

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What should the project or plan be?

The 4-H member must present a plan of proposed leadership to be offered on a multi-club basis, county or area level, or in the community during the following year. Some examples are:

- Organize a county-wide project workshop or field day.
- Plan and conduct training at local 4-H clubs on selected topics such as presentations, record books, citizenship, etc.
- Organize and conduct a 4-H outreach program to promote 4-H or a specific 4-H event such as LCORT, State Leadership Conference, Camp, etc.

These are only examples. Your plan can be something that has been done before and needs to be repeated or it can be something that no one has ever done. It should fill a need in the 4-H program or community.

How are Emerald Stars award recipients recognized?

Those who complete the process will receive their award when they give their oral report before Leader Council. The award is a pin in the shape of a star and emerald in color. It is pinned over the existing cloth star rank, ie. bronze, silver, gold. Emerald Star recipients are also recognized at County Awards Night.

6. What resources (people, material, facilities, etc.) will you use?

7. Will the plan or project need financing? Yes____ No____ If so, how much will you need? What will the money be used for? How will the money be acquired?

8. What date will your project be completed by?_____

(Signature of Emerald Star Applicant)

(Date)

(Signature of Emerald Star Project Advisor)

(Date)

I understand the size and scope of the project/plan my son/daughter is submitting and support him/her in carrying it out:

(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

(Date)

I nominate this 4-H member to be considered for the Emerald Star program:

(Signature of Community Club Leader)

(Date)

Approved by Emerald Star Committee Members:

Date Approved:_____

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA * KERN COUNTY * COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**4-H EMERALD STAR COMPLETION REPORT
PART TWO**

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

ZIP CODE _____ 4-H CLUB _____

This is the final report of your plan or project. You will also be giving an oral report to the Kern Count 4-H Leader Council. Photographs are optional. When you have completed this report, turn it in to the Cooperative Extension Office.

(Additional pages may be added to the report if needed).

TITLE OF PLAN OR PROJECT _____

1. How did you complete your plan? What happened? What did you do? Who was involved? How did you advertise it? What were the results?

2. What did you learn form this project or plan?

3. If there were participants, what did they learn?

4. What were the highlights of doing this and what were the low points?

5. If you could go back to the beginning of this project and start fresh, what changes would you make in the plan you wrote and the work you did developing this activity?

(Signature of Emerald Star Applicant)

(Date)

(Signature of Project Advisor)

(Date)

When you have completed your project and written report, submit the final report to the Cooperative Extension Office.