

for my club, my community, my country,
and my world. 

SONOMA COUNTY 4-H

EMERALD STAR PROJECT

Congratulations on reaching your Gold Star rank, you are now ready to work towards your Emerald Star! The 4-H Council is excited for you to expand your leadership experience.

WHAT IS THE EMERALD STAR PROGRAM?

The Emerald Star program is designed to help youth learn about project planning, organization, and presentation. In general, the Emerald Star project's purpose includes:

1. Providing an opportunity for 4-H members to develop projects in their community or in 4-H beyond the club level.
2. Improving, creating, and expanding 4-H programs.
3. Helping individual 4-H members grow and improve in the areas of organization, leadership, and project planning. This is not a cumulative award; it is achieved by application, filing a plan of action, interviews (beginning and ending), completion of plan and evaluation.

You will be working with the Sonoma County 4-H Council (CCC) to complete your project. Lets go over what your responsibility are and ours.

DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL:

To Mentor & Guide

1. We will coordinate the Emerald Star Program.
2. The Emerald Star committee will consist of at least 3 Council members. We will meet with you to discuss your action plan and approve the plan prior to it being undertaken. The committee shall meet with and evaluate your work at the beginning and conclusion of the project.
3. We shall coordinate the work being done in the county to assure that there are no duplication of projects by 4-Hers in this county.
4. We shall keep the 4-H office informed of all individuals who have been approved and completed this program, any changes in the Emerald Star program, and the various projects that have been completed to avoid duplication of projects.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES:

To Use Your Passion & Creativity

1. Complete the application in full.
2. Please send your completed application to the 4-H office.
3. If you have any questions, please contact the committee chair, and they will be answered.
4. Please inform the committee if your work plan changes at any time during the completion of your project.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- A 4-Her who wishes to participate must submit a plan of action for approval to the Emerald Star Committer PRIOR TO THE WORK BEING DONE and submit a complete plan of action for evaluation at completion of the project.
- The Emerald Star rank award is not a prerequisite to becoming an All Star. To be eligible for the Emerald Star, the applicant must be at least 14 years old, and/or a graduate of 8th grade, and have achieved the Gold Star rank.
- The work being done to achieve an Emerald Star is not done on a cumulative basis. This work is to be completed within one calendar year of the time of entry interview. The Emerald Star can be received one time.
- The work of the Emerald Star applicant is not part of the Jr/Teen work that the applicant does and is not part of the Jr/Teen Leadership Development program. This is an additional area of leadership that members may select. Emerald Star recipients will be announced at the yearly Achievement Night Program.

TO APPLY A 4-H MEMBER MUST:

1. Currently be enrolled in the 4-H program.
2. Hold the rank of Gold Star.
3. Be at least 14 years old, and/or a graduate of 8th grade.
4. Present an action plan of proposed leadership work to be offered on a multi-club basis, district, county, or area level or representing 4-H in the community, during the following year.
5. Be prepared to handle any financial cost involved to complete the plan of action. It is not permissible to apply to CCC for funding.
6. The 4-Her may apply as an individual or a group of individuals. Groups are limited to four persons. When submitting the plan for a group, one plan will need to be submitted, with each person's responsibilities clearly defined.
7. If in a group, each individual in that group will come to the interviews.

HOW IS MY PROJECT EVALUATED?

Emerald Star projects are need to portray a value to the Sonoma County 4-H program, the community in terms of presenting a positive image for 4-H, practicality and feasibility. Further, it will be evaluated on the newness and innovativeness of the plan of action.

PROJECT DESIGN:

1. A **new and innovative** idea.
2. An event, activity or area of project work that will benefit the county 4-H Program. This includes: a community activity involving a group to serve a need or educational purpose or recreating a past or present event/activity/program with a different design plan unique to you.

EMERALD STAR APPLICATION

Please submit two copies of this application. The application must be approved before any work is to be completed. Be specific on your application. All work must be completed within one calendar year of date of initial (entry) interview. Please submit answers to the following questions, on separate sheets of paper, attached to this front application sheet.

Submit pre-project and post-project Application & Summary Question to:
The Sonoma County 4-H Office, Attn. 4-H Program Lead, 133 Aviation Blvd, Suite
109, Santa Rosa CA 95403

Please answer questions fully and complete. Please include the following information: Name, Address, Phone Number, Email Address, Age as of January 1, Year Achieved Gold Star, 4-H Projects Taken, and Outside Activities.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. What is your plan of action to achieve your Emerald Star rank, what do you hope to accomplish, how is it new and innovative, and how will it benefit the 4-H program?
2. Please state an outline of your proposed place of action.
3. Please state your reason for selecting such a plan of action.
4. Is this an individual or group plan, if it is a group plan, who is coordinating the work, and how will the work be divided? Secondly, will you be seeking outside help to accomplish your plan of action, and if so, to what depth will that outside help be involved?
5. What is the anticipated time allowance for this activity, when will the plan of action take place, and where will it take place?
6. Will there be any adult participation, and how will they be involved?
7. What supplies and facilities will be needed to carry out the plan of action?
8. Whom and how will this plan of action be of benefit?
9. What are the estimated costs of the plan of action, and how is it to be financed?

Pre-Project Signatures

Applicant _____ Date _____

Club Leader _____ Date _____

Advisor _____ Approval ____ Yes ____ No

EMERALD STAR PROJECT SUMMARY

Please as thoroughly as possible, answer the following questions on separate sheets of paper, attached to this front summary sheet. Please include your Name & Contact information and submit two copies. The committee will invite you to an exit interview. You may attach pictures or any other items that will help explain your work.

EMERALD STAR EVALUATION OF WORK COMPLETED:

1. Please give us short description of the plan of action you set out to accomplish.
2. Please give the date, time, place, and any other pertinent statistics, (numbers) of the event of activity, so we may understand its impact more.
3. What was the impact of this plan of action on the individuals involved in completing this plan of action?
4. Did you accomplish what your originally planned to do? Were there other things you achieved that you had not planned to achieve, and were there things your planned to achieve that you did not achieve? What areas did you see as needing improvement, or change?
5. In what ways did this plan of action affect the club, community, or the general 4-H program?
6. Is there any other information that you would like to share that you have not already done so regarding this plan of action?

Post-Project Signatures

Applicant _____ Date _____

Club Leader _____ Date _____

Advisor _____ Approval ____ Yes ____ No