

Steps to Success - Tuolumne County 4-H

This document accompanies the STEPS TO SUCCESS IN 4-H effective 7/1/2015 for California 4-H, located at <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/210544.pdf>. Each section below contains the California 4-H standards, followed by the policies of Tuolumne County 4-H.

1. MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

For California: Complete the enrollment process and be enrolled in at least one project. Comply with 4-H Member Code of Conduct.

For Tuolumne County: The policy for a Member in Good Standing is the same as California 4-H

A member in good standing may participate in all 4-H activities unless the project, event, or competition has rules announced in advance that may limit participation. For example, some events and leadership opportunities may have age limitations, some projects may have a limit on numbers of members or require purchase of supplies, and some competitive events require pre-qualification. See the handout or description for the specific activity for participation rules.

2. PROJECT COMPLETION

For California:

Be a member in good standing.

Complete a minimum of 6 hours of project instruction or more as required by the project leader.

Complete the Annual Project Report (APR) form.

Annually receive a year stripe and pin.

Primary members: youth aged 5 to 8 years, do not complete the APR. Record keeping is not required for project completion. Primary members receive a year stripe and pin for participation in a project. Project completion is not required

For Tuolumne County:

To receive project completion credit, a Junior, Intermediate or Senior Member (age 9-18) must be a member in good standing, complete a minimum of 6 hours of project instruction or more as required by the project leader, and complete the Annual Project Report (APR) form. The APR must be signed by the project leader and turned in to either the Community Club leader or the 4-H office by June 15. A member who satisfies the requirements for completion of at least one project receives an annual year stripe and pin, awarded at Achievement Night.

Per state policy, a member is not required to attend Community Club meetings to receive project completion credit.

A Primary Member, age 5-8, receives a Primary stripe and year pin for being a member in good standing and participating in a project. Completion of the Primary Member Report Form is optional and not required.

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A project leader may determine how many hours are required to complete the project depending on the goals of the project and skills taught. For example, learning how to care for an animal, work with it and show it (if that is the project goal) likely requires substantially more than 6 hours. However, if a youth is learning how to bake and decorate a cake this may only take 6 hours of project instruction. If the project leader requires more than 6 hours of instruction to complete the project, this shall be communicated to project members at or before the first project meeting

To enroll in a project that is offered in a different club other than the member's primary (home) club, the member must complete a "Project Sharing Form" and turn it into the 4-H Office by the first project meeting.

3. CLUB PARTICIPATION

For California: Be a member in good standing. No attendance requirement.

100% attendance pin for perfect club meeting attendance.

For Tuolumne County:

To participate in a Community club, the 4-H member must be in good standing (enrolled in 4-H, enrolled in at least one project, and comply with the code of conduct), and enrolled in the Community Club. There is no attendance requirement to participate in club meetings. There may be additional requirements to participate in club events or trips, which shall be announced at club meetings.

A member meeting the requirements above who attends all club meetings held during the program year is eligible to receive the 100% Attendance pin.

Community club attendance provides members with the opportunity to participate in leadership, community service, team building, citizenship, achieve personal growth, and serve on committees.

4. REQUIREMENTS TO EXHIBIT AT FAIR

For California: Complete Project Completion requirements.

Meet requirements as set by the county or fair.

For Tuolumne County:

To qualify to exhibit at the Mother Lode Fair or any other county, district, or state fair as a 4-H member, a member must:

Be a member in good standing. A returning member must be enrolled by October 15 and a new member must be enrolled by December 1.

Satisfy the project completion requirement of that project as determined by their project leader with at least 80% attendance at the project meetings. The project leader's signature on the APR verifies this.

Meet the following minimum written record keeping requirements:

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Page 1 of the PDR is completed, all sections, with all signatures in place.

The 4-H Story is written describing the member's year in 4-H, minimum length one page.

All sections of the APR are completed and the form is signed by the member and project leader.

Expression page and photo with project animal is required.

The 4-H Story and APR are written by the member in the member's own words. Another member or an adult may assist a member with special needs but this must be documented in the record book.

If the member is entering a market animal, the record book must include one photograph of the member with the animal.

The club and project leader must both sign the minimum record book before the member's fair entry form is signed.

Meet the following minimum meeting attendance requirements:

The member must attend 80% of all club meetings held during the program year. A new member must attend 80% of all club meetings held after the member enrolls.

To meet the 80% attendance requirements, 20% of club meetings may be missed without an excuse and 20% of club meetings may be missed with an accepted excuse. An excused absence must be requested prior to the meeting to the club leader or designee.

A member may make up an unexcused club meeting absence by attending another club's meeting, having a note signed by that club's leader verifying attendance, and returning the note to the member's club at the next club meeting.

The club leader's signature on page 1 of the PDR verifies the member has met the required club meeting attendance.

Meet the following event attendance requirement:

Attend a Tuolumne County 4-H event during the 4-H program year, other than the Mother Lode Fair. The member must sign in for attendance credit. Some events meeting these criteria are but are not limited to: Livestock Field Day, Achievement Night, Teen Retreat, 4-H Fest, County Presentation Day, Horse Level Testing, and Fashion Revue. Working in the Hi 4-H Haunted House for a complete performance also counts. Some of these events may not occur every year and additional events may be added during the year.

5. EVENT PARTICIPATION

For California:

Participation in county, sectional, state and national 4-H events is open to all 4-H members in good standing. There may be eligibility requirements established by the event planning committee.

For Tuolumne County:

All members in good standing are eligible to participate in any 4-H event unless there are

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additional requirements announced by the event committee or Tuolumne County 4-H Council.

Participation in Horse Level Testing requires horse project leader approval.

6. INCENTIVES AND RECOGNITION

For California:

There are many ways to earn recognition in 4-H. Awards can be earned based on project and club attendance and work. Awards can be earned for participating at county, sectional, state and national 4-H levels. Awards earned will be governed by county and state 4-H Incentives and Recognition Committees.

For Tuolumne County: The policies for California 4-H Incentives and Recognition apply.

Awards may be earned by members participating in many different Tuolumne County 4-H events such as the 4-H Community Dinner poster, decorated cake, and ticket contests; judging contests at Livestock Field Day, Everything but Animals Field Day (EbA Day), and Fashion Revue; the food contest at EbA Day; Horse Level Testing; County Presentation Day; County Fashion Revue; and others as announced. In addition, awards may be earned for members completing Club Officer books and Record Books.

Tuolumne County 4-H members participating in sectional and state events may be eligible for awards at events such as Sectional and State Presentation Days, State Postal Shoot, and State Fashion Revue.

Star Ranks: The Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Stars are awarded based on the "points" or numbers recorded on the member's PDR and supported by documentation. 80% attendance of club meeting is required for any achievement rank. Star ranks are awarded annually at Achievement Night. See specific rules for the Emerald Star and the All Star, both awarded at the county level.

Record Book Awards are for complete record books submitted by Junior, Intermediate and Senior members by the deadline established by the member's club. See the California 4-H Record Book Handbook for information about the complete book at <http://4h.ucanr.edu/Resources/Members/RecordBook/RBResources/>

Record books must receive a gold seal at club judging to advance to county judging. Books entered in county judging are also eligible for additional awards such as Kiwanis Livestock awards and the Harry Hinkley Award for the best Tuolumne County record book. Senior members may submit their books to state judging.

Tuolumne County 4-H Council offers scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are 4-H members. See the scholarship information for specific requirements.