

# ALAMEDA COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADOR APPLICATION

December 2021

Do you have leadership skills which you would like to share with other 4-H members? Would you like to be of service to a broader 4-H audience? Perhaps you should consider becoming an Ambassador! Please review this packet and email [ambassadors@alamedacounty4-h.org](mailto:ambassadors@alamedacounty4-h.org) if you have any questions.

Requirements to become a 4-H Alameda County Ambassador:

- Achieved the 4-H rank of Gold or equivalent\*
- Currently in at least your 2nd year in 4-H
- Currently 14 years old by December 31, 2021
- Ability to attend State 4-H Leadership Conference at least once during your County Ambassador term (coming summer or the following summer)
- Applicant and legal guardian must agree to expectations
- Be prepared to serve on the Team for 18 months (May of current year through October of the following calendar year)
- Complete application

\*See Page 2 for list of alternate requirements

The application linked below for the 2022-2023 Alameda County 4-H Ambassador Team is **due online by April 1, 2022 at 10:00 PM**. This informational packet is for your own use in compiling your application and learning about the program.

Application form: <https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=28907>

## THE ALAMEDA COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADOR APPLICATION COMPONENTS

The 5 items below constitute your Alameda County 4-H Ambassador Application and must be submitted online on April 1, 2022 by 10:00 PM. Late or incomplete applications are not accepted.

- Three sources for your letters of recommendation:
  - 4-H Adult Volunteer not related to you;
  - Unrelated adult from outside of 4-H Program (examples: coach, teacher, pastor); and
  - Peer of the applicant 18 years old or younger.
  - Applicants and their parents may not serve as a reference for another Ambassador applicant.

Submit the names and email contact information of your references with your application.

Please give each of these references the following survey link to fill out:

<http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=29328>

- Essay Questions: Please complete at least a paragraph long answer for each question.
  1. What are you going to bring to the County Ambassador program?
  2. What do you expect the County Ambassador program to do for you?
  
- Autobiographical (or My 4-H) Story
  - Story should highlight your growth, passions and character development within your 4-H life as well as your growth in your community.
  - This should be approximately 1,000 to 1,500 words in length and double-spaced typed.
- Gold Star Rank Page **OR** Alternate Documentation (see alternate documentation required below)
  - All documents must be recently reviewed, approved, signed and dated by Club Leader
- Resume

### Gold Star Alternate Documentation

1. Mastery of a project as demonstrated by at least 6 hours of instruction, documented by a statement of skills.
2. 40 hours of significant leadership roles, either inside or outside of 4-H, with at least 10 hours of leadership contributed to 4-H.
3. 30 hours of citizenship and/or community service, either inside or outside of 4-H, with at least 6 hours through 4-H.
4. 10 public speaking engagements, at least 2 of which must have been given at a 4-H event.
5. Demonstrate involvement in 4-H as evidenced by a list of activities that are a combination of 15 of the following: project skill activities, 4-H events attended, and honors/recognition. Definitions for these three categories are found in the Record Book Manual under the section describing the Personal Development Report (PDR). Completing a PDR is not an application requirement for 4-H County Ambassador.

## **THE ALAMEDA COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADOR APPLICATION TIMELINE**

### **Phase 1: Application Process (now through April 1st)**

All candidates applying for the County Ambassador Team will submit the following by Wednesday, April 1, 2022, 10:00 PM:

- County ambassador online application form
- Three names, with contact info, of the individuals that will concurrently submit Letters of Recommendation for you

### **Phase 2: Interview Process (mid-April)**

All candidates completing Phase 1 of the application process will be invited to a group session to include an individual interview:

- Group activity resulting in a collaborative presentation
- Individual interview with three evaluators
- Wrap-up session with information on the remainder of the process

### **Phase 3: County Ambassador Speech (end of April)**

If the candidate is selected to proceed for the final selection process they will be notified of acceptance to this next phase. Prepare a speech to be presented at 4-H Leader Council on April 26, 2022 or another designated event. The topic of the speech must be on one of the following topics:

- Leadership
- Youth/Adult Partnerships
- Service Learning Projects

The speech should be under ten minutes. Remember to keep it positive.

You are encouraged to research and use the elements of public speaking to your advantage. Notecards are allowed and practice is very important to your delivery. The evaluators will be using criteria similar to those found in the Presentation Day Manual. It is not recommended that you read your speech. The use of visual aids is allowed and, although not mandatory, they can be effective for some people.

## THE ALAMEDA COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADOR PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

County 4-H Ambassador is the highest position of the County 4-H Program. County Ambassador is a “working award”. It provides the County Ambassador Team an opportunity to focus attention on leadership roles. The following are expectations from the Team:

- Participate in informational outreach within and outside of the 4-H community
- Attend monthly County Ambassador Team meetings and 4-H Leader Council meetings
- Develop educational programs and outreach at county, area, and state levels
- Participate in opportunities for social interaction and team building in all 4-H levels
- Commit to 18 month term (May 2022 to October 2023)
- Develop a County Ambassador Team “Action Plan”, with selected team advisors, for the 4-H program year of leadership consistent with program expectations. The Action Plan will then be submitted to 4-H Leader Council in August or September

### Leadership Menu

Ambassador roles are presented through a variety of different activities and events. The following list is an overview of the possible opportunities an Ambassador can choose from but are not limited to.

**Year-round opportunities:** Leaders’ Council Officer, 4-H outreach

**Highlighted** activities are expected. Other activities are optional but strongly encouraged!

Month	Event	Role Opportunity
June or July	County Fair	4-H Promo Booth Outreach
July or August	State 4-H Leadership Conference	Promote and attend Conference
September	Club Officer Installation	Host Installation Ceremony
October or November	County Achievement Ceremony	Plan and host ceremony
November to January	County Ambassador Recruitment	- Update application - Contact prospective applicants - Host informational meeting
January to March	Youth Leadership summit	- Present workshop - Attend
February or March	Presentation Day	- Planning Committee Member - Event Host
March or April	County Ambassador Selection	- Help coordinate application - Interview candidates
March to May	Alameda County 4-H events	- Planning Committee Member - Event Host
May	County Ambassador Incoming Team	- Help Mentor and orient new team - Assist with new advisor selection

## **Alameda County Ambassador Advisor**

Once the selection process is complete the candidates will be notified. The Team will begin to develop plans and, along with the Leaders' Council Executive Board, will select two advisors. One will be over 25 years of age and meet State 4-H chaperone requirements. The second will be an adult leader at least 18 years of age. No parent of a current team member is eligible to become an advisor. Advisor applicants will be screened by the Executive Board of Leaders' Council. In cases when there are less than four County Ambassadors, one advisor may be acceptable if another adult is present at all meetings, events and activities. Advisors serve for one 18-month term, but may be reappointed by the incoming team. The final selection of the advisors will be made by the incoming team.

**LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

Below is a copy of the Letter of Recommendation linked through the electronic application. Please give your references this survey link to fill out the actual electronic form:

<http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=29328>

Alameda County 4-H  
Alameda County Ambassador Letter of Recommendation

Please complete the following Letter of Recommendation for:

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity do you know the applicant:  
\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the words that best reflect your opinions of the applicant in each area.

Connection

Does the applicant make positive bonds with people and institutions?  
Strongly Disagree    Disagree    No Opinion    Agree    Strongly Agree

Confidence

Does the applicant exhibit an internal sense of overall positive self-worth and self-efficacy?  
Strongly Disagree    Disagree    No Opinion    Agree    Strongly Agree

Caring

Does the applicant show a sense of sympathy and empathy for others?  
Strongly Disagree    Disagree    No Opinion    Agree    Strongly Agree

Competence

Do you have a positive view of the applicant's actions in interpersonal skills, school performance, decision making, nutrition and exercise, and work habits and exploration of career options?  
Strongly Disagree    Disagree    No Opinion    Agree    Strongly Agree

Character

Does the applicant show respect for societal and cultural norms?  
Strongly Disagree    Disagree    No Opinion    Agree    Strongly Agree

Contribution

Does the applicant make a contribution to self, family, community, and the institutions of a civil society?  
Strongly Disagree    Disagree    No Opinion    Agree    Strongly Agree

Does the applicant exhibit strong leadership qualities:    Yes    No  
Please explain and give examples of why you believe this is true:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Would the applicant be a beneficial addition to the Alameda County 4-H Ambassador Team:    Yes    No  
Please explain and give examples of why you believe this is true:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Comments (If further room is necessary, please attach additional documents as needed):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## SAMPLE STAR RANKING PAGE FROM CALIFORNIA STATE RECORD BOOK PDR FROM

Record what you accomplished during the year. To qualify for any of the achievement rank awards, you must attend 80 percent of both the local club and the project meetings held during the year. To obtain any of the ranks, you must complete the asterisked (\*) categories as a part of your total effort.

**Bronze Star:** Complete at least 5 of the 8 categories listed.

**Silver Star:** Complete at least 6 of the 8 categories listed.

**Gold Star:** Complete at least 7 of the 8 categories listed.

**Platinum Star:** Complete at least 7 of the 8 categories listed.

Star Ranks are designed to encourage members to participate in a wide variety of activities over a number of years. The bronze, silver, gold, and platinum stars build on past achievements.

# Star Ranking

Categories of Participation <small><i>Transfer credits from previous years to the column headed "Total From Past Years."</i></small>	Total Past Years	Total This Year	Total All Years	Number of Different Categories Required			
				Bronze 5 Required	Silver 6 Required	Gold 7 Required	Platinum 7 Required
1. Projects Completed				2*	4*	8*	12*
2. Project Skill Activities				4	8	15	20
3. Events Attended				12	25	40	60
4. Leadership Development				10	20	30*	40*
Significant Leadership Role (requiring 20 hrs. or more of work)				(0)	(0)	(2*)	(4*)
5. Citizenship & Community Service				10	20*	30*	40*
6. Communication Skills				12*	24*	36*	48*
4-H Presentations				(4*)	(7*)	(10*)	(15*)
7. Honors and Recognition				5	10	15	20
8. Healthy Lifestyle Activities				10	20	30	40

### Star Rank

4-H Member must be currently enrolled in the 4-H Youth Development Program.

**Present Rank:**         None         Bronze         Silver         Gold         Platinum

**Rank Applying for:**    None         Bronze         Silver         Gold         Platinum

Approved    Not Approved

\_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club/Unit Leader's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\* Required for Star Rank

Numbers contained within parenthesis are included in the total category number (not an extra requirement).

