

## Kings County 4-H Emerald Star Project Guidelines

### **PURPOSE:**

- a. The purpose of the Emerald Star Program is to provide leadership opportunities to 4-H members who wish to share his/her skills and knowledge in any area of 4-H to help others.
- b. A secondary purpose is to prepare 4-H members for All Star responsibilities should they wish to become a Kings County All Star at a later date. (Completing an Emerald Star Project is a *requirement* for those 4-H members interested in applying to become an All Star Candidate.)

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

4-H members who meet the following criteria are encouraged to apply for an Emerald Star Project.

- a. completed at least two (2) years of 4-H and currently in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of 4-H
- b. will be at least 13 years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current 4-H year

### **PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:**

- a. Applicants must attend a meeting with 4-H Youth Development Advisor, 4-H Program Representative and/or Emerald Star Committee member to discuss project prior to submitting an application.
- b. Emerald Star projects must demonstrate the member's leadership ability, the ability to work with others, and the ability to plan and conduct a successful program of work.
- c. The project must have an adult advisor (enrolled as a 4-H leader) and Community Club Leader approval.
- d. The project must provide service beyond the club level to benefit the Kings County 4-H Program and/or community.
- e. Emerald Star projects may be conducted as an individual or part of a team. Each applicant must submit separate paperwork.
- f. Applicants must prepare a plan of action timeline as part of the application process showing dates each task will be completed (see Exhibit A).
- g. Applicants must prepare a budget as part of the application process, showing how they plan to finance the project. The applicant(s) should identify where they will obtain the funding (see Exhibit B). The Emerald Star applicant(s) will assume all financial costs involved in the project such as printing, distributing materials etc.
- h. Applicants must prepare a draft flyer for interview and submit final flyer to include in the "Youth Talk".

Note: Examples of the Plan of Action/Timeline and Budget, as well as guidelines for creating a flyer can be found on the 4-H Program website.

### **PROJECT EVALUATION:**

4-H members submitting plans (entrance- Part A) are interviewed by a panel of judges. The submitted plan will be reviewed for the following:

- a. It is of value to the Kings County 4-H Program, members and/or leaders
- b. It is of value to the community and to others
- c. The plan is realistic, practical and can be accomplished
- d. The plan shows thought and is in keeping with what 4-H stands for

## **INTERVIEW:**

Attire: the applicant is to dress in the 4-H uniform or as you would dress for a job interview.

If Emerald Star plan is to be carried out as a team effort, the team will be interviewed together in the *Entrance* Interview. In the *Exit* interview, the team members will be interviewed individually. Each team member must complete and submit their own paperwork.

Visual aids (pictures, posters etc.) may be used in the *Exit* interview, but are not required.

## **IDEAS FOR EMERALD STAR PROJECTS:**

- a. Organize a county-wide project workshop or field day or some other type of county-wide activity. i.e. learning day such as showmanship, foreign/cultural cooking, healthy living, small animal/livestock judging, etc.
- b. Plan and conduct training at local 4-H clubs on selected topics such as presentations, record books, officer training, citizenship etc.
- c. Organize and conduct a 4-H outreach program to tell young people about 4-H.
- d. Plan and carry out a community outreach or service project such as a park clean-up day, Thanksgiving for the homeless, animal adoption. This may also expand to include other local youth organizations, upon approval.
- e. Create a new 4-H event and build a strong committee that will support it indefinitely.
- f. Write a project member handbook and submit it to the 4-H office for future use.
- g. Be creative! Be sure to include others in your plan so you can demonstrate your ability to provide leadership to others.

## **IMPORTANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER IN SELECTING AN EMERALD STAR PLAN:**

- a. Is it useful, needed, and not duplicating existing programs?
- b. Does it demonstrate your leadership beyond the project and club level?
- c. Is the scope (cost, time, skills, and other resources needed) manageable?
- d. Is the time schedule feasible?
- e. If the activity needs financing, how will you obtain the needed funds?

## **APPLICATION DEADLINES:** *(Please watch The "Youth Talk" for exact dates, times & locations.)*

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| September   | *Applicant(s) submit a 4-H Emerald Star application- Part 1 for an <i>Entrance</i> interview or Part 2 for an <i>Exit</i> interview.<br>*Interviews (Entrance & Exit)  |
| November    | *Applicant(s) submit a 4-H Emerald Star application- Part 1 for an <i>Entrance</i> interview or Part 2 for an <i>Exit</i> Interview<br>*Interview(s) (Entrance & Exit) |
| January     | *Applicant(s) submit a 4-H Emerald Star application- Part 1 for an <i>Entrance</i> interview or Part 2 for an <i>Exit</i> Interview<br>*Interview(s) (Entrance & Exit) |
| March/April | *Applicant(s) submit a 4-H Emerald Star application- Part 2 for an <i>Exit</i> interview<br>*Interviews (Exit only)  |
| October     | *Receive your Emerald Star at County Achievement Night   |

Emerald Star projects should be completed during the current club year.