

Merced County 4-H Emerald Star --

Merced County 4-H Youth Development Program – 4-H Rank System

In addition to the star ranks (Bronze, Silver, Gold) achieved through the Personal Development Report (PDR) the following stars are available on through a leadership development level (**Emerald**, All Star, & Diamond). Because some members join 4-H at an older age or become interested in leadership at this time members can work their way through the PDR ranks or apply directly for the Emerald and All Star ranks. Emerald Star is a leadership plan designed for the above club or group level. All Star is the highest rank at the county level. Diamond Star is selected at Regional and State Level.

- Emerald Star Steps:
1. Complete and submit this Emerald Star Application
Set up interview time,
 2. Use Leadership Project Plan to develop plans,
Submit proposed plan and be interviewed,
 3. After approval implement plan,
 4. Compile final report and Leadership Project Completion Report for review.
 5. Presented Emerald Star

Developmental Level - Senior Level (includes 8th grade)

The high school and older aged members are encouraged to work in a more independent environment. Older members that have developed skills can share with younger members. Teens are seen working on projects more independently, developing leadership plans and carrying out those plans, providing information and resources to others in the program. At this level, there needs to be overall guidelines, general direction, and assistance, but highly independent and individualized plans and programs. These can be at a variety of levels, from project groups within a specific club to a group of clubs, or countywide.

Emerald Star focuses on planning and evaluation skills, carrying out assignments, and working in a community or countywide basis.

INCLUDES:

- Interview with committee
- Emerald Star star
- Recognition at Achievement Night, in newsletter, etc.-
- Maximum of two plans per year per individual approved

REQUIREMENTS:

- 8th grade or 14 years old
- Display leadership (enrolled/completed project 8-j)
- Allow ample time to plan, approve, and complete activity
- Request topic selection & setup interview time
- Develop plans using Emerald Star Plan and report form
- Submit proposed plan and have interview
- Have proposed plans approved
- After approval implement plan
- Complete plan and final report for committee review.



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WHAT DOES COMPLETING AN EMERALD STAR MEAN?

Emerald Star is different, in many respects, from the other stars. Emerald Star is based on a leadership plan, and on how it is completed, Emerald Star is optional and can be repeated for additional leadership experience. Emerald Star is a process in which plans are developed with prior approval. These plans are to be of proposed leadership on a multi-club, area, county or community level. The back page of this form is to be used to follow your progress on the Emerald Star Project. The Emerald Star Application is used to request a topic and to schedule an interview appointment time. A separate Leadership Plan and Goal Setting Form is to be used for the detailed plans. A Leadership Completion Report Form is used when completing the project.

The important factors to consider in deciding what to do as an Emerald Star are:

- Is it something useful, something that is needed, something not duplicating other programs.
- Does it provide a chance for you to demonstrate leadership beyond you project and club level?
- Is it a scope that you can handle---cost, time, skills, you have or can acquire, people involved?
- Has a time schedule that is feasible?
- If the activity needs financing, how will you obtain the needed funds? Request approval from 4-H Management Team, etc.

Topics for Emerald Stars

Topics for Emerald Stars can vary, generally they fit into the following categories: Projects, Events, Publication, Educational resources.

Some examples of topics are listed below. Please remember these are only

PROJECTS

Be a junior/teen leader for a project that involves several clubs or groups.
Lead a Countywide project.

EVENTS

Work on event committee
Hold a project show or field day
Hold a judging activity

PUBLICATIONS

Project manuals
Workbooks
Handouts/flyers

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Make a slide show
Make a video tape
Make leader teaching aids

OTHER

Present a series of programs or talks about 4-H
4-H Promotional activities on some 4-H program
Assist members with Demonstrations, Records, ??
Help new members or leaders learn the ropes.

Working with friends is fun!
Teaming leadership takes planning and coordination. Each member must develop their own plan, have specific assignments, and report separately when more than one person is working on a similar activity.

Suggested Time Line	Member	Emerald Star Review
Minimum of one month	<p>Inform - - Ask for topic and setup interview/consultation time (check sheet - page 4).</p> <p>Develop plans using Leadership Planning and Goal Setting form.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send confirmation letter for topic, 2. copy of plan and report to complete 3. date for interview/consultation. <p>Resource contacts, committee chair, etc.</p> <p>Hold interview/consultation to discuss plans with leader and/or committee.</p>
Min. two - six months	<p>After approval implement plan.</p>	
Min. one month	<p>Complete final report for committee review, written report and or presentation.</p>	<p>Review, redo and/or approve Report</p>

The final report will include the Leadership Report Form, but will also need to have additional materials for the review committee. A separate copy of the Leadership Plan and Report Forms should be included in your 4-H record book.

The Emerald Star Report should include what the project was, how many participated or benefited from the project, who helped, how it was promoted - with samples of handouts, flyers, event notebooks, or other project notes and



Notes:

Emerald Star Application - Step 1

TO APPLY

Complete the following steps ---

1. Complete and submit Emerald Star Application Form
- with topic and interview schedule request
2. Complete and submit Leadership Project – Planning and Goal Setting Form
3. Conduct project after plan approval
4. Submit final report including a Leadership Project - Completion Report

From

5. Emerald Star presentation at Achievement Day – October

For Office Use	
Date received	_____
ES project number	_____
Request	_____
Approval	_____
Revision	_____
Plan	_____
Interview	_____
Report	_____
Completed	_____
Presented	_____

EMERALD STAR IS A LEADERSHIP PROJECT AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

Star Ranks - - Bronze, Silver, or Gold, **EMERALD**, All Star, Diamond Star

Name _____ Age _____ Year in School _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Club or Group _____ Years completed Project 8-J (Jr/Teen Leadership) _____

Suggested Time (s) for Interview _____

1. Describe the leadership project you would like to conduct as an Emerald Star: _____

2. Goals and Objectives -

a.) What do you want to do and accomplish? What will you learn? _____

b.) What will others do and learn from this project? _____

3. How do you feel you are prepared to conduct this project? _____

4. Who will be your advisor/coach for this project? * _____

Advisor/Coach's Signature

Organization Leader's Signature *

Member's Signature

RETURN THIS FORM TO THE 4-H OFFICE

* Advisor/leader to send a written confidential recommendation to the 4-H office prior to the interview.

HOW TO APPLY:

So you want to do an Emerald Star project!

To apply and complete an Emerald Star project, simply

- 1 First think about what you want to do
- 2 Talk to your community club leader about your idea, they will need to sign your application.
- 3 Ask a leader to act as your advisor during this project.

Then follow the steps as indicated in the chart below.

Note: Post this chart in a prominent place and use it to keep track of each step as it is completed and to remind you of what you need to do next.

Name _____ Emerald Star Project _____

Steps	What to do	Due Date Submit to UCCE 4 -H office	Date submitted	Who forms were turned in to (mailed, 4-H Secretary, Advisor, etc.)	Date Completed /Approved
Step 1 APPLY	Emerald Star application (idea of what you want to do) Interview/share – idea/topic	Can be begun any time during the year. As soon as possible after applying .			
Step 2 PLAN	4-H Leadership Project Planning and Goal Setting Form	As soon as possible after your Emerald Star <i>idea</i> has been approved			
Step 3 DO	Conduct your Emerald Star project.				
Step 4 REPORT	Share results: Put together final report with documentation of project: event binder, pictures, poster, handbook, samples, etc.	Complete after project/event is conducted			
	4-H Leadership Project - Completion Report Form - Make <i>Two</i> copies –	Submit one with final report and one for 4-H record book			
Step 5 PRESENT	Emerald Star announcement at Achievement Day - October	At least Two weeks prior to Achievement Day, for current year presentation.			