

# **4-H Program Year 2024-2025**

## **Star Ranks Program (Bronze/Silver/Gold/Platinum)**

### **LA County 4-H Record Book Competition ID Form and Checklist Packet**

This ID Form and Checklist Packet is for 4-H members submitting 4-H records for the Star Ranks Program.

Only returning Intermediate and Senior 4-H members, who had previously earned at least a Silver Star by June 30, 2024, have the option to continue working on the Star Rank path (Bronze/Silver/Gold/Platinum) and should use the California 4-H Record Book Manual for the Star Ranks Path and use this Star Ranks Path Competition ID Form and Checklist Packet for submitting their 4-H records to the 2024-2025 LA County 4-H Record Book Competition. If you completed your Bronze Star by June 30, 2023, but did not complete your Silver Star by June 30, 2024, you can request for the I&R Committee to allow you to continue in the Star Rank program this year to complete your Silver Star.

Note -

Starting for the 2023-2024 4-H year, California State 4-H requires the following 4-H members to use the Spark Achievement Program for 4-H earning achievements and recording their 4-H records and experiences:

- All Junior members
- All new 4-H members (all ages 9 and above)
- All returning 4-H members who have never completed 4-H records.

These members should use the Spark Achievement Program LA County 4-H Record Book Competition ID Form and Checklist Packet for submitting their 4-H records to the 2024-2025 LA County 4-H Record Book Competition, but not this packet.

**2025 LA COUNTY 4-H RECORD BOOK ID FORM – STAR RANK PROGRAM  
for 2024-2025 4-H PROJECT AWARDS (RECORD BOOKS)  
ID FORM AND CHECKLIST**

Junior (9-10 yrs old, and 4<sup>th</sup> graders)  
Intermediate (11 - 13 years old)  
Senior (14 years old & older)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H AGE \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE IN SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ (2024-2025)  
 (age as of December 31, 2024)  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ YRS in 4-H (include current year) \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLUB \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB LEADER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLUB LEADER'S EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**LIST PROJECTS** in which you are enrolled and applying for awards from the Project List in this packet:  
 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Project \_\_\_\_\_  
 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Project \_\_\_\_\_  
 (See the Project List in this packet for a list of the project areas in which awards are available. Use a project area from the list.)

**SPECIAL AWARDS** See the Project List page for more information about the requirements for these awards.  
**Current Junior/Teen Leaders only:** Have you earned a gold Leadership Merit Award patch? \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Teen \_\_\_\_\_  
 This year applying for Junior (ages 11,12,13) \_\_\_\_\_ Teen (ages 14 & above) \_\_\_\_\_ Neither \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senior member only:** (14 yrs. old by Dec. 31, 2024, or older) Senior Award of Excellence  
 You can only earn each award once.  
I have already earned an AWARD for: Leadership \_\_\_\_\_ Community Service \_\_\_\_\_ Achievement \_\_\_\_\_ Project Work \_\_\_\_\_  
 S.E.T. \_\_\_\_\_ Healthy Living \_\_\_\_\_ None \_\_\_\_\_  
 All Seniors will be considered for the Senior Awards of Excellence.

**Senior members only: (14 yrs old or older by December 31, 2024) State Records Competition**  
 I plan to submit my records to the State Competition: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
 Please review my resume in Section 7 Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
 I need my record book returned early and an authorizing note follows this form: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

<b>Books are due</b> (you may choose)	<b>County Awards Day</b>	<b>Spark Achievement Program Record Book</b>
Aug 19 LA 4-H Office by 4:00 pm	Date: Sept. 6, 2025	Check: Yes ___ No ___
Aug 20 to <a href="#">I&amp;R Committee</a> by 9:00 pm	Location: via Zoom	

**\*\* For your record book to be evaluated, an adult representative for your club must be present 8/23/25 for evaluating. \*\***  
**ALL SIGNATURES ARE MANDATORY.** All signatures subscribed on application certify that 4-H records are accurate, have been completed by 4-H member and that the community leader supports the member's application.

**\*\*\*\* RECORDS MISSING SIGNATURES AND/OR NOT USING THE 2023-2024 STATE MANUAL FORMS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR COUNTY MEDAL AWARDS OR SPECIAL AWARDS. \*\*\*\***

Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*As Club Community Leader, I am verifying that this member is enrolled in the project(s) and records are accurate.*

Your Community Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Please explain any special considerations that you want the evaluators to be aware of when reviewing these records.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guardian/parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 2025 Checklist for Record Book Submission - STAR RANK PROGRAM Los Angeles County 4-H Project Awards

Members **MUST** use the 2024-2025 California 4-H Record Book and 2024-2025 Forms manuals. Please note the record book changes for this year in the manuals located at <http://4h.ucanr.edu/Resources/Members/RecordBook/RBResources> Records not using the correct, current forms will not be eligible for county medal awards or special awards.

4-H Records submitted in order as listed

**Los Angeles County 4-H Project Awards Identification Form & Checklist** – included as the first page in the record book before Section 1. Dividers are highly recommended. Do not decorate dividers. Must have all signatures.

### **Section 1: Preliminary Information**

Title page - Contains the member's name, club, county, "Star Rank Program", 4H age, birthdate and program year (2024-25).  
Table of Contents – Lists the order of the record book sections, titles of section headers and page numbers.

### **Section 2: Personal Development Record** (PDR)

4-H Personal Development Report (PDR) for 2024-25. No photos are included in this section. Must be signed by club leader.  
Platinum star 4-H members should probably complete the PDR sections if they want to try for county awards this year.

### **Section 3: My 4-H Story**

4-H Story: "MY 4-H STORY". This 4-H story should cover **all your years in 4-H** with a focus on your current year's activities and experiences in project work, leadership, citizenship and life skills. Tell what you learned, what you would do differently, and how you feel about 4-H. For this year the minimum word count guidelines: Int. 500 and Sr. 1000 with a 2000 word count maximum, are optional. Use type no smaller than 12 characters per inch. Using a word processing program, use one standard typeface such as TIMES in a 12-point or larger. Expand on your 4-H and outside of 4-H experiences, leadership, citizenship, and community service in your projects/ activity. Emphasize goals set and accomplished and personal growth in 4-H and other experiences. Do not merely repeat information listed elsewhere in your records.

### **Section 4: Projects (APR) Annual Project Report**

4-H Projects (One subdivision for each project 4-H member is enrolled in this year) Current year's 4-H project and/or activity records, including supplemental forms, as indicated below. Do not include Primary work in the "years in Project". Annual Project Report forms must be included for each project, including leadership. For each project, there must be one Expression page, which should teach the reader something that you learned in the project. There should be no extra pages of project photos. Must be signed by Project Leader.

**Leadership Project:** All project members should complete an Annual Project Report form for the Leadership Project.

**Animal Projects:** Allowed supplemental animal/livestock records for county evaluating only.

### **Section 5: Collection of 4-H Work** (LA County 4-H variation to use the prior guidelines as listed below)

Newspaper Clippings (Limited to 2 single-sided pages, written by the 4-H member or about the 4-H member.)

4-H Flyers or Brochures (Limited to 2 items which the member created or is featured. May be doubled-sided.)

4-H Letters (Limited to 2 items written by the 4-H member or about the 4-H member.)

4-H Photographs (Limited to 5 pages, one sided. Photo paper may be used. Captions are encouraged. No photo shingling.)

### **Section 6: Leadership Development Reports** (Optional for Intermediates and required for Senior Members)

Complete one Leadership Development Report (LDR) Part 1 (Beginning of Year) and Part 1 (End of Year) for the 4-H year.

Complete one Leadership Development Report (LDR) Part 2 (Beginning of Year) and Part 2 (End of Year) per leadership role

### **Section 7: 4-H Resume** (Senior Members Only) Maximum of two pages (each side is a page)

Resume should highlight your skills, leadership and citizenship development throughout your 4-H career. This resume should cover **all your years in 4-H** with a focus on your significant strengths, skills and talents you have gained and are most proud of. Highlight your 4-H experiences and include a little of your outside of 4-H involvement. The template can be found on the CA State Website.

### **Past Years**

Past 4-H records. For Los Angeles County evaluating only (optional)

**VERIFICATIONS/SIGNATURES** – all requested signatures are mandatory for project and special award consideration  
All 4-H members are to check each division to verify all materials are included and information is complete and accurate. All signatures subscribed on the member records and Identification Form certify that 4-H records are accurate, have been completed by 4-H member, and that the community leader supports the member's application. **This ID form and PDR must be signed by the Club Community Leader.** The Annual Project Report must be signed by the Project Leader.

2025 LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
4-H PROJECT AWARDS (RECORD BOOKS)  
**GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING 4-H MEMBER RECORDS**

1. All age categories are as of December 31, 2024. Intermediate = **11-13** years old  
Senior = **14** years and older
2. **Do not submit Primary record books to County.** Primary 4-H member records are submitted to the project leader or club leader, optionally evaluated at district, per district decision.
3. All 4-H records submitted must be completed by the 4-H member.
4. Individuals must have been enrolled 2024-2025 in the project area in which applying for awards.
5. Select up to two projects in which you were enrolled in 2024-25 and applying for awards.  
(See the next page of this packet for a list of the project areas available for awards.)
6. 4-H Records are evaluated only in categories (projects) listed on the 4-H Project Awards ID Form & Checklist.
7. If a member is not awarded County Winner in their 1st choice, the 2nd choice is evaluated for possible County Winner. Choices are based on project area selected and indicated on the applicant's 4-H Project Awards ID Form.
8. 4-H Records are to be submitted in an acco-type binder (4-H member binder available from National 4-H Supply). Use the record book forms from the 2024-2025 California 4-H Record Book Forms – Star Ranks Path manual.
9. The Checklist indicates the records to be submitted. Extra pages are ignored and not included in the evaluation. For example, if more than one page is used for an Expression Page for an Annual Project Report, we will only evaluate the first page and ignore the following Expression pages for that project.
10. All signatures subscribed on Identification Form and project records certify that 4-H records are accurate, have been completed by 4-H member and that the community leader supports the member's application.
11. Required leader signatures on related records (Identification form, PDR and Annual Project Report Form) and using the current state forms are mandatory for consideration for County medal awards and special awards.
12. Records must be turned in to the LA office or a member of the County Incentives and Recognition Committee by the County deadline to be evaluated. Late records are not accepted or evaluated.
13. It is the responsibility of the 4-H member to have the records turned in to the 4-H office or a member of the County Incentives and Recognition Committee (see below) by the County deadline.
14. The submitted records of all Senior 4-H members (14 yrs. or older as of 12/31/2024) will be reviewed for consideration for the L.A. County Senior 4-H Awards of Excellence in the areas of Achievement, Community Service, S.E.T. (Science, Engineering, Technology), Healthy Living, Project Work and Leadership. Only one of each award will be presented in a year. A Member cannot be awarded more than one Award of Excellence in a year. A Member may receive a specific Award of Excellence only once.
15. State Senior Record Book Evaluation – Evaluating state record books is done on your overall records for the year, not only in one project area. This year the county will again evaluate records in the requested projects on the ID form, but Seniors who may want to submit their record book to the State Record Book Evaluation should remember that their record book will be evaluated at the state level for all their project work for the year.
16. Only hard copy records should be submitted to the LA County 4-H Record Book Competition. If you are keeping your records in an online file, the records need to be printed out and then submitted to the county competition in an appropriate binder. The 2024-25 Record Book Manual does suggest other online and electronic options for the record book and the Collection of Work, but these options are not available for our LA County Record Book competition. Note that there are a few other LA County 4-H variations for your records this year, such as no minimum word counts for My Story and LDR forms, LDR forms are only required for Seniors, and more items may be included in the Collection of Work that is currently stated in the 2023-24 Record Book Manual.
17. You must have been in the Star Rank program in the past and have earned at least a Bronze Star, to be in the Star Rank program this year.
18. If you completed your Bronze Star by June 30, 2023, but did not complete your Silver Star by June 30, 2024, you can request for the I&R Committee to allow you to continue in the Star Rank path program for this year, as you work to complete your Silver Star.
19. The evaluators' decision is final.

**Books are due** (you may choose)  
Aug 19 – LA 4-H Office by 4:00pm  
Aug 20 - To [I&R Committee member](#) by 9:00 pm

**County Awards Day**  
Date: Sept. 6, 2025  
Location: via Zoom

(11/07/2024)

# Project List

## 4-H Project areas in which awards are available for 2024--2025

Only use a project area from this list for your project(s) in which you want to be evaluated.

Several projects might fit under one of the project areas below, such as a Public Speaking project or a Sign Language project would fit under Communications. Another example would be that Indoor & Mini Gardens, Jr. Master Gardener, Vegetable Gardens & Crops and Ornamental Horticulture projects would fit under Gardening. You and your club leader should decide where your project fits best.

### Citizenship

Career Exploration  
Citizenship  
Community Pride & Community Service  
Economics & Marketing  
Arts & Crafts  
Beginning 4-H  
Communications  
Cultural and Performing Arts  
Graphic Arts  
Leather craft  
Photography  
Leadership Development  
Record Keeping  
Self-Determined  
Group-Determined

### Science, Engineering, Technology

Ag and Livestock Education  
Aviary Science  
Beef/Cattle  
Bees  
Cats  
Cavies  
Dogs  
Goats  
Goats Pygmy  
Guide Dogs and Service Animals  
Equine - Horse & Ponies  
Llamas/Alpacas  
Pets and Small Animals  
Poultry  
Rabbits  
Sheep  
Swine  
Embryology  
Entomology  
Marine Biology  
Veterinary Science  
Astronomy  
Climatology  
Environmental Stewardship  
Fishing and Fly Tying  
Forestry  
Gardening  
Geology

Oceanography  
Outdoor Adventure & Camping  
Wildlife  
Aerospace & Rocketry  
Automotive & Small Engines  
Bicycles  
Computers  
Construction, Engineering & Building  
Electricity & Electronics  
Farm Machinery  
GIS/GPS  
Metal Working  
Robotics  
Science  
Shooting Sports – Archery  
Shooting Sports - Guns  
Video Production  
Woodworking

### Healthy Lifestyles

Foods & Nutrition  
Food Preservation  
Health and Physical Fitness  
Sports – Individual & Group  
First Aid & Safety  
Child Development and Care  
Clothing & Textiles  
Consumer Education  
Heritage Arts  
Home & Personal Management  
Home Arts & Furnishings

### **Senior 4-H Member Awards of Excellence**

The submitted records of all Senior 4-H members (14 yrs. or older as of 12/31/2024) will be reviewed for consideration for the 2025 LA County Senior 4-H Awards of Excellence in the areas of Achievement, Community Service, S.E.T., Healthy Living, Project Work and Leadership. Comment on your work in these areas in the My Story section of your record book. Signatures are mandatory for award consideration. Only one of each award will be presented in a year. A Member cannot be awarded more than one Award of Excellence in a year. A Member may receive a specific Award of Excellence only once.

### **Junior/Teen Leader Merit Award**

Current Teen and Junior Leaders may request that their 4-H records be reviewed for consideration for a Junior/Teen Leader Merit Award. To be eligible for this award, your 2024-2025 records must include:

1. a completed **Leadership Development Report (LDR)** for being a Junior or Teen Leader in a specific project and
2. a completed **Annual Project Report (APR)** for a Leadership Project that was attended.

Signatures requested on the forms are mandatory for award consideration. A Member may earn this award only once as a Junior Leader (ages 11, 12, 13) and only once as a Teen Leader (ages 14 and above).

The state 4-H office has released a new California 4-H Record Book Forms Manual 2024-2025 effective July 1, 2024. Continue to use the 2023-24 Record Book Manual. Please do not use any previous forms or reference any of the previous record book manuals. Watch for revisions to these manuals that may occur during the program year. The manuals can be found at <http://4h.ucanr.edu/Resources/Members/RecordBook/RBResources/>

Record Book forms and guidelines are available on the LA County 4-H website under FORMS and under APPLICATIONS/AWARDS. Record book forms and guidelines are also available on the California State 4-H website.

Use the new 2024-2025 California 4-H Record Book Manual Star Ranks Path forms and guidelines for your record book this year, except where we have indicated an optional LA County 4-H variation for this year.

## SENIORS NOTE –

### Senior Awards of Excellence

There are some special awards that are only available to Senior 4-H members. Senior Awards of Excellence are awarded in the areas of Project Work, Community Service, Healthy Living, Science, Engineering and Technology (S.E.T.), Leadership and Achievement. All Senior record books submitted to the County Record Book Evaluation are considered for these awards. If a Senior thinks they have done a lot of activities and work in one of these areas, they should include comments about that in their My Story section of the record book.

### State Record Book Competition

Records submitted to the state record book competition must use the new 2024-2025 Record Book Manual forms and guidelines. LA County 4-H is relaxing some of the state guidelines for the County Record Book competition for this year. If you want to submit your records to the State Record Book Competition, you may need to make the some necessary adjustments to have your records satisfy the state guidelines before submitting your records to the state competition.

Remember that at county we evaluate your records for your designated project area. At the state level competition, your records are evaluated generally so when you write your records remember this so your records can easily be evaluated in both ways. Another way would be to change your recording emphases after the county evaluating before you submit your records for the state competition from project emphases to general emphases. Records for the county competition are submitted in mid August. Records for the state level competition are submitted in October.

To compete at the state level, your records do not need to be submitted to the county competition, but you would miss the opportunity to earn county honors for your work and to receive some evaluator comments about your records before you submit them to state. You can use the county-level evaluators' comments to improve your recording for the state level competition. To compete at the state level, you must submit an Intent to Submit online to the state 4-H office **around the middle of September**, so watch for details and reminders to come out about this. The specific details about the 2025 State Record Book Competition are on the state website. Watch for more information about this.

### **Possible updates for COVID-19 and record books**

At this time, we cannot predict what the conditions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic will be in the future. We will still have a county record book competition for 2024-2025 4-H Record Books and it would probably be run much like it was for evaluating 2023-2024 record books.

1. We will probably be following the above deadlines of Aug. 19 and Aug. 20 for record book turn in.
2. If you are not comfortable submitting your record book for the competition, you could complete your record book with all the required signatures, make a copy of the 2024-2025 portion and submit the copy to the county competition. Indicate on the ID form that you are submitting a copy and whether you want the copy returned to you after the competition or not.
3. During the program year, watch for further information on any special guidelines due to pandemic restrictions.

Contact a member of the county [I&R Committee](#) if you have any questions about record books.

(11/07/24)