**Emerald Star Program**

**San Bernardino County**

1. The San Bernardino County 4-H Youth Development Program recognizes that assertive intermediate and senior 4-H members need an incentive to maintain their enthusiasm. In addition, this is a good age to begin developing leadership skills.
2. The Emerald Star Rank was added to the California 4-H Incentives and Awards star rank program in San Bernardino to:
   1. Close the long gap between Gold Star and All-Star eligibility.
   2. Give members who joined 4-H later the opportunity to enter the star rank system without having to first earn the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Stars.
   3. Give members who beforehand had chosen not to participate in the star rank system the opportunity to now qualify for All-Star consideration.
3. There are no prerequisites for receiving an Emerald Star, and it is not to be used as a prerequisite for any other star rank. It may be used in conjunction with a record book, or in place of it, to enter the star ranks.
4. Established route to achieving star rank:

Bronze Star Silver Star Gold Star Emerald Star All-Star

(optional) (selected)

minimum age 13 minimum age 14

1. Alternate Route for older members joining 4-H or not having earned star ranks:

Emerald Star All-Star

Planned, Approved, and (selected)

Implemented Leadership Activity

Emerald Star is a rank awarded for a planned leadership activity implemented within the 4-H program or within the community. Members are responsible for securing a knowledgeable adult to serve as their Emerald Star Advisor. This advisor’s role is to help the member select and implement a project and give guidance and encouragement. Emerald Star applications must be submitted and approved by the Incentives & Recognition Committee before starting.

**Emerald Star Project Application Form**

**Year**

Emerald Star applicants must be at least 11 years of age as of December 31st of the current program year and have completed one year of 4-H.

Directions:

1. Complete Steps I through II of this Project Form **before you begin your project** and submit a copy to the 4-H Office. The Emerald Star Advisor will review your plan and either approve your project or contact you regarding necessary revisions.
2. Keep the Emerald Star Advisor informed of your progress and any problems that you may encounter.
3. After completing your project, complete Steps III through VI of the Project Form and submit it to the 4-H office. The Emerald Star Advisor will review your work and either approve your project or contact you for additional information. Emerald Stars will be awarded at 4-H Achievement Night.

Name: Age

Club Name: Years in 4-H

Emerald Star Advisor

I. **These are my GOALS.** Goals should answer the following questions: 1) What results do I expect from my work?; 2) What do I expect to contribute to the 4-H program or my community?; 3) What attitudes, knowledge, and skills do I need to succeed, and how will I acquire these necessary attributes?

II. **These are my PLANS.** Prepare your plans with your advisor. Develop your own system of planning. Include a timeline so you can check off the work as it is completed. Plan to do those things you have the time to accomplish.

GOALS and PLANS approved by:

Signature of Emerald Star Advisor Date

**Upon completion of your Emerald Star Project:**

III. What results did you produce? In other words, what happened because of your efforts? Did you accomplish your goals? Summarize your contribution to the 4-H program or your community.

1. What did you learn in this project?

V. Let’s dream for a moment. Suppose you could go back to the beginning of the project year and start fresh. What changes would you make in your plan and the work you did in this project?

VI. What suggestions do you have for others planning an Emerald Star Project?

I have reviewed this report and agree with what has been written.

Signature of Applicant Date

Signature of Emerald Star Advisor Date

**Emerald Star Advisor’s Comments**: