

Missouri 4-H

Standards of Excellence for 4-H Groups

To encourage

- A quality educational program for **all** members
- A **safe** environment where **all** youths feel like they **belong**
- An environment where youths have opportunities to connect with **caring adults**
- An environment where youths are actively **engaged in exploring** and **learning** about their **interests**
- Opportunities for youths to strive for **mastery** in subject matter of **interests**
- Opportunities for youths to set goals and be actively involved in the planning, implementing and evaluating the group's program
- Opportunities to **experience** and **value service** to others and community
- A **vibrant** environment where youths **want** to participate

To provide

Recognition for 4-H youth groups reaching Missouri 4-H Standards of Excellence

Bronze Seal

1. Recruited and mentored new members and their families or other caring adults
2. Supportive adult leadership for officers to succeed, learning through projects and activities, recreation and community service
3. Group held four or more meetings of a minimum of six hours of teaching time. Group included demonstrations, judging, skill-a-thons, quiz bowls or other skill performances.
4. At least one project group with a minimum of six hours of hands-on learning
5. Enrollment records on file at the local University of Missouri Extension center

6. The group planned, implemented and evaluated a community service project.

Silver Seal

1. Recruited and mentored new members and their families
2. Necessary youth leadership (example: President/Chair, Vice President/ Vice Chair, Secretary/Recorder, Treasurer, Recreation Leader) who are prepared to fulfill their leadership roles
3. Supportive adult leadership for officers to succeed, learning through projects and activities, recreation and community service
4. Group meetings should include recreation, education and business. A group should meet eight times during the year for meetings, group activities or community service projects.
5. At least one hands-on project with a minimum of six hours of hands-on learning
6. An annual program planned by the youths that includes skill performance (for example: demonstrations, judging or exhibition) **and** health/safety **and** recreation **and** community service
7. Participation of group leadership (youths and adults) in advisory groups, program planning committees (local or county) or training opportunities
8. Evaluated the program planned by youths and determined that two or more goals are achieved in the group's annual program plan
9. Enrollment records on file at the local University of Missouri Extension center
10. Sixty-five percent or more of members complete at least one project

Gold Seal

1. Recruited and mentored new members and their families or other caring adults
2. Necessary youth leadership (example: President/Chair, Vice President/ Vice Chair, Secretary/Recorder, Treasurer, Recreation Leader) who are prepared to fulfill their leadership roles
3. Group meetings should include recreation, education and business. A group should meet 10 times during the year for meetings, group activities or community service projects.
4. At least one project group with a minimum of six hours of instruction
5. An average of six hours of hands-on learning for all project groups
6. An annual program planned by the youths that includes skill performance (for example: demonstrations, judging or exhibition) **and** health/safety **and** recreation **and** community service
7. Participation of group leadership (youths and adults) in advisory groups, program planning committees (local or county) or training opportunities
8. Enrollment records on file at the local University of Missouri Extension center
9. Seventy percent or more of the members complete at least one project by reaching their project goals in that project. Youths and adults in the group jointly complete the *What is Your Group Like? Vibrant Youth Group Assessment* (Y671B) and submit it to their local University of Missouri Extension center.