

WARREN COUNTY 4-H Achievement Record Project

Congratulations on selecting the 4-H Achievement Record project. This project is designed to encourage all 4-H members to keep good records of their 4-H work in an organized way. These records will help you in preparing future scholarship, award, and job applications while providing a lasting record of your years in 4-H.

The Warren County Achievement Record project is divided into 4 levels according to what grade you have are currently in or just completed....

Level A: grades 3 & 4

Level B: grades 5 & 6

Level C: grades 7 through 8

Level D: grades 9 through 12

Why continue with the Achievement Record project?

This project is designed to be the gateway to applying for the Indiana 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship, National 4-H Congress Trip, National 4-H Conference, and the records you will build will be helpful in completing countless scholarship and future job applications. Your 4-H Achievement Record is an organized presentation of what you have learned and accomplished through 4-H, and how you've helped others as a result of being involved in 4-H. When accurately kept and carefully assembled, it is a useful tool for determining your own progress and personal growth.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE INDIANA 4-H ACCOMPLISHMENT SCHOLARSHIP . NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS and NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE?

Any 4-H member in grades 10 and up is eligible to apply for these honors. Remember, even if you've earned it, you won't be awarded it if you don't apply!

*Level D of the Warren County Achievement Record project is based solely on the Scholarship/Trip process. Once you've completed this project for exhibit at the fair, it's just a matter of fine-tuning it for the state level. Likewise, **once** you've put forth the **effort** to complete it for the state level, you have a project completed for the next year's county fair.*

PUTTING TOGETHER YOUR ACHIEVEMENT RECORD PROJECT

Preparing your 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship(s)

The following materials are required for application to the Indiana 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship/National 4-H Congress and completion of the Warren County 4-H Achievement Record project. The sequence listed below is the order that pages should appear in your completed work. Choose a category from the enclosed list and focus your record around that category.

1. Completed Indiana 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship Demographics Form.
Be sure to obtain all signatures. (Replaces your record sheet)
2. Cover Letter: 1 page (*Please note worksheet to assist in developing your cover letter*)
3. Resume: 1-2 pages (*Please note worksheet to assist in developing your resume*)
4. State 4-H Scholarship/Trip Application Form.
(4-page form included with this packet).

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.....

Q. *What is the purpose of the Cover Letter/Resume process???*

- A. This is the opportunity for you to share with the state selection committee how 4-H has made a difference in your life; to share what you've learned through 4-H and how you've helped make a difference in the life of another/others as a result of your 4-H experiences. It is a means of marketing your major skills, strengths, etc. -it is quality--not quantity. It is not what you have won.

Q. *What is a Cover Letter???*

- A. It introduces you to the reader. It should highlight life skills that you cover in your resume. It should be relevant to the category in which you are applying. It entices the reader to review your resume.

Q. *What is a Resume???*

- A. Just as if applying for a job, a resume is a means of "selling yourself on paper." This is the opportunity for you to convince the committee that you are the best person for this scholarship. It is an outline of Biographical Information. It should highlight at least three (3) category-specific Life Skills that you have learned through 4-H. If room allows, state your future goals. Only if there is room, state honors earned that are specific to the category in which you're applying.

Q. *How many categories can I submit an Accomplishment Scholarship Application?*

- A. You may submit a complete application in up to three (3) categories on an annual basis. However, a person is only eligible to earn one scholarship annually. Submitting more than one application may increase the possibility that you will be selected for step two of the Accomplishment Scholarship process. See *Listing of Categories included in this manual*.

Q. *What is the basic judging criteria for the State 4-H Accomplishment Scholarships?*

- A. The quality and substance of the Cover Letter. How well you tell in the resume how specific 4-H experiences helped strengthen the life skills you listed.

GENERAL TIPS

Pastjudges have liked:

Heart-warming 4-H stories with evidence of learning and evidence that you have learned a skill(s) in 4-H. Area, State, & National participation combined with evidence of learning

A resume and cover letter that is very specific to the project category.

Showing specific knowledge gained in your 4-H project category.

Entrepreneurship - Making money.

Uniqueness with a professional look and limited graphics.

THAT YOU FOLLOWED DIRECTIONS:

Cover Letter kept to one page;

Resume kept to 2 pages.

Pastjudges have NOT liked:

Lists of awards that focus on winning, not learning.

The same resume/cover letter used for more than one category.

Lists of what you did without stating what you learned or the impact/results.

DON'T SUBMIT YOUR FIRST DRAFT! WORK ON IT; THINK ABOUT IT; LET IT SIT; LET SOMEBODY ELSE READ AND CRITIQUE IT..... THIS IS NOT A LAST MINUTE PROJECT!

LIFE SKILLS WORKSHEET

Work Skills

RESOURCES: Identifies, Organizes, Plans, and Allocates Resources

Time: selects goal-relevant activities and ranks them, allocates time, prepares, and follows schedule.

Money: uses or prepares budgets, makes forecasts, keeps records, prepares, and follows a schedule.

Material & Facilities: acquires, stores, allocates, uses material or space efficiently.

Human Resources: assesses skills and distributes work accordingly, evaluates performance, provides feedback.

INFORMATION: Acquires and uses information

Acquires and evaluates information

Organizes and maintains information

Interprets and communicates information

Uses computers/technology to process information

SYSTEMS: Understands complex relationships

Understands systems: knows how social, organizational, or technological systems work; operates effectively with them.

Monitors and corrects performance: distinguishes trends, predicts impact on system operations, diagnoses deviations in systems' performance, corrects malfunctions.

Improves or designs systems: suggests modifications to existing systems, develops new or alternative systems to improve performance.

TECHNOLOGY: Works with a variety of technologies

Selects technology: chooses procedures, tools or equipment, including computers and related technologies.

Applies technology to task: understands overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment.

Maintains and troubleshoots equipment: prevents, identifies, or solves problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

Interpersonal Skills

WORKS WITH OTHERS: Facilitates teamwork to accomplish goal

Participates as a member of a Team: contributes to group effort

Teaches others new skills

Serves clients/customers: works to satisfy customers' expectations

Exercises leadership: communicates ideas to justify position, persuades and convinces others, responsibly challenges existing procedures and policies.

Negotiates: works toward agreements, involving exchange of resources, resolves divergent interests.

Works with Diversity: works well with people from diverse backgrounds and encourages others to see the positive side of others.

Interpersonal Skills-continued

- PERSONAL QUALITIES :** Displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity, and honesty. Responsibility: exerts a high level of effort and perseveres towards goal attainment.
Self-Esteem: believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self.
Sociability: demonstrates understanding of friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings.
Self-Management: assesses self accurately, sets personal goals, monitors progress, and exhibits self control.
Integrity/Honesty: chooses ethical courses of action.

Foundational Skills

- BASIC SKILLS:** Reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens, and speaks.
Reading: locates, understands, and interprets written information in manuals, graphs, schedules, etc.
Writing: communicates thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing; creates letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, flow charts, etc.
Arithmetic/Mathematics: performs basic computations and approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.
Listening: receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and other cues.
Speaking: organizes ideas and communicates orally.
- THINKING SKILLS :** Thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, knows how and is willing to learn, reasons.
Creative Thinking: generates new ideas
Decision Making: specifies goals and constraints, generates alternatives, considers risks, evaluates and chooses best alternative.
Problem Solving: recognizes problems, devises and implements plan of action.
Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye: organizes and processes symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information.
Knowing How to Learn: uses efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills technologies.
Reasoning: discovers a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and uses it to solve a problem.

ACTION VERBS

The underlined words are especially good for pointing out accomplishments.

Management Skills administered analyzed assigned attained chaired contracted coordinated delegated developed directed evaluated executed <u>improved</u> <u>increased</u> <u>organized</u> oversaw planned prioritized produced recommended reviewed scheduled <u>strengthened</u> supervised	Research Skills clarified collected diagnosed evaluated examined extracted identified inspected interpreted interviewed investigated organized reviewed summarized surveyed systematized	Communication Skills addressed arranged authored collaborated convinced corresponded developed directed drafted edited enlisted formulated influenced interpreted lectured mediated moderated negotiated persuaded promoted publicized reconciled recruited spoke wrote	Helping Skills assessed assisted clarified coached counseled demonstrated diagnosed educated <u>expedited</u> facilitated familiarized guided motivated referred rehabilitated represented	Clerical or Detail Skills approved arranged catalogued classified collected compiled dispatched executed generated implemented inspected monitored operated organized prepared processed purchased recorded retrieved screened specified systematized tabulated validated
Technical Skills assembled built calculated computed designed devised engineered fabricated maintained operated <u>overhauled</u> programmed remodeled repaired solved upgraded	Teaching Skills adapted advised clarified coached communicated coordinated demystified developed enabled encouraged evaluated explained facilitated guided informed instructed persuaded set goals stimulated trained	Financial Skills administered allocated analyzed appraised audited balanced budgeted calculated computed developed forecasted managed marketed planned projected researched	Creative Skills acted conceptualized created customized designed developed directed established fashioned founded illustrated initiated instituted integrated <u>introduced</u> invented <u>originated</u> performed planned revitalized shaped	More Verbs for Accomplishments achieved exoanded imoroved pioneered reduced (losses) resolved (problems) restored <u>spearheaded</u> transformed consolidated arbitrated critiqued

COVER LETTER WORKSHEET

Use this as a guide if you'd like to develop your cover letter. You do not turn this worksheet in with your project.

1. What category are you submitting an application? _____
2. What have you learned through 4-H in this category? _____

3. How has 4-H, and this category specifically, helped you become the person you are today?

4. List your life skills as they apply to this category, why they are important, and how you use them:

A. Life Skill: _____

B. Life Skill: _____

C. Life Skill: _____

D. Life Skill: _____

E. Life Skill: _____

SEE LIFE SKILLS WORKSHEET TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THIS CONCEPT.

RESUME WORKSHEET

Use this as a guide if you'd like to develop your resume. You do not turn this worksheet in with your project

There are many formats for developing a resume. This worksheet is designed to help you get your specific thoughts down on paper. Consult your local or school library to find a resume format that fits your style. Refer to your Cover Letter when developing your resume & vice versa; this will ensure that they are consistent with each other and specific to the category in which you are applying.

Skills and Accomplishments: (Most important to least important)

Life Skill #1 _____

1. How have I learned it? _____

2. How do I use it? _____

3. Why is it a strength? _____

List specific illustrations of this skill

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

Life Skill #2 _____

1. How have I learned in _____

2. How do I use it? _____

3. Why is it a strength? _____

List specific illustrations of this skill

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

Life Skill #3 _____

1. How have I learned in _____

2. How do I use it? _____

3. Why is it a strength? _____

List specific illustrations of this skill

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

Life Skill #4 _____

1. How have I learned it? _____

2. How do I use it? _____

3. Why is it a strength? _____

List specific illustrations of this skill

A

B.

C.

D.

E.

Life Skill #5 _____

1. How have I learned it? _____

2. How do I use it? _____

3. Why is it a strength? _____

List specific illustrations of this skill

A

B.

C.

D.

E.

Future Goals: _____

Honors: (Only if space allows...list 4-H honors specific to the category in which you are applying.)

Indiana 4-H Youth Development
Update Every Yr!
Accomplishment Resumé Scholarship