

The Star Award Specifications

The STAR award stands for Stellar Tabletop All-Around Recognition. The Tabletop refers to the General Projects and Consumer Science Projects. The procedure for becoming a STAR champion is a 3 step process.

Step One: Qualify

- A. Enroll and complete at least 2 tabletop projects or 2 separate units within a project, exhibit at the county fair, and receive a blue or above ribbon on county fair projects. If you choose to enroll and complete more than two projects, the highest placing projects will be considered for the STAR Award. The maximum number of enrolled and completed projects used for the STAR Award is four.
- B. Complete the letter of intent and activity chart. Email or post mark to Dave McIntosh by August 1st. Without this form in our hands, the Tabletop Committee will not consider youth for the STAR award regardless of how many projects you complete. You should think of these documents as your “entry form”. The invitational letter will be given out to eligible exhibitors with their record books at the end of the county fair. The activity chart can be found on the El Paso County Website ([Link](#)).
- C. Compete in a County Contest:
While it is necessary to receive a minimum of a blue ribbon on a fair entry to qualify, it is not necessary to receive a blue ribbon in a contest. Participation alone is your qualifier. However points will be given for blue or higher ribbons, and will enhance your overall score increasing your standing in the competition.

The following list are the qualifying contests:

- a. County Contest speech and Demo
- b. County Contest Performing Arts
- c. County Contest Bakology
- d. Creative Cooks
- e. Cake Decorating Contest
- f. Fashion Review
- g. County Shooting Contest (Shooting Sports)- this event is a qualifier alone and cannot accrue points for blue ribbons

Step Two: Candidate Selection and Point System

Once all qualifying candidate responses have been received, the top 3 candidates, with the most amount of points, will be selected in each age division. Points will be awarded in the Activity Chart, County Fair Placings, State Fair Placings, and County Contest. Final selection of the top three overall will depend on the total number of points acquired.

A: For County Fair and Contests, (both county and state), **1 point** will be given for each Blue Ribbon, **2 points** for a Reserve Champion, and **3 points** for each Champion placement.

State Fair exhibits will receive points as following: 1 point for placing 3-10, 2 points for Reserve Champion, and 3 points for state Champion ribbons. In addition, a 5 point bonus will be given to anyone receiving a Grand Champion Ribbon for a State Fair entry, and a 4 point bonus for Reserve Grand Champion. (Grand Champion awards are only given at the State Level.)

While participating in the County Shooting Sports contest is a qualifier, because there is no speaking requirement for the contest, points are not awarded for placings.

B: In addition to county and State Fairs and Contests, there are an additional 5 categories in which points will be awarded to select the top three finalists (Activity Chart).

- a. Leadership
- b. Community service
- c. County 4H Involvement
- d. Camps and Conferences
- e. Miscellaneous Representation

Please see the attached chart for specifics and point values.

Step Three: Award Determination

Each individual candidate will be scored in all categories, then total points will be added to select the final Top 3 Candidates overall in Each Age Division (Jr, Int, and Sr). Once the final 3 Candidate's are selected from each age division, the total amount of points will no longer be considered for the placings. Points from the Candidate Selection process only determined who entered the final three and in what position (1st, 2nd, or 3rd).

These final three candidates of each age group will then continue into the Final Award Determination. The final determination will be decided by two additional components; an interview with the Tabletop Committee, and the scoring of a representative record book of the candidate's choosing, which they will bring with them to their scheduled interview.

Each candidate will be scored and placed in either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd position in each area: the interview, their record book, as well as their initial placing from the points awarded for their activities. These three placings will then be added to place each candidate in a final position. In the unlikely event of a tie, consideration will begin to the point totals, as well as the interview.

Based on those results, a Champion and Runner-Up STAR Award winner will be selected. The winners (Champion and Runner- Up) will be announced and awarded during the Achievement Award Celebration. The Committee's decision will be final.

Questions can be addressed to the County Agent, or the Tabletop Committee Chair.