



## The El Paso County 4-H STAR Award Specifications

The STAR award stands for “Stellar Tabletop All-Around Recognition” and is an award that recognizes the top 4-H members enrolled in 4-H Tabletop projects. These winners receive special recognition at El Paso County 4-H Achievement Celebration.

Tabletop projects refers to the General Projects and Consumer Science Projects, specifically the non-livestock or small animal projects. Junior, Intermediate and Senior 4-H members are all eligible to receive a STAR Award. The procedure for becoming a STAR Award Winner is a 3 step Process.

### **Step One: Qualify**

- A. Enroll and complete 2 tabletop projects or 2 separate units within a project, exhibit at the El Paso County Fair, and receive a Blue or above ribbon in both.
- B. 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 for further advancement towards a STAR award. However, points for blue or higher ribbons will be given and will increase your standing in the competition.*

#### The following list are qualifying contests:

- a. Speech Contests
  - b. Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks
  - c. El Paso County Contest Performing Arts
  - d. El Paso County Contest Bakology
  - e. Creative Cooks
  - f. Cake Decorating Contest
  - g. Fashion Revue
  - h. El Paso County 4-H Shooting Contest, (Shooting Sports)
  - i. 4-H Rocket Fly Day (based on availability)
- C. Complete the letter of intent.  
Letters must be completed and return to the Tabletop Committee by **August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current 4-H year**. Without this form, the Tabletop Committee will not consider you for the STAR award regardless of how many projects you complete. Think of this letter as your “entry form”. The invitational letter will be given out to eligible exhibitors with their record books at the end of the El Paso County Fair.



**PLEASE SEE STAR AWARD INITIAL ELIGIBILITY QUALIFICATIONS CHART BELOW:**

| <b>STAR Award Initial Eligibility Qualifications</b>               |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Qualifications</b>  | <b>Specific Requirements</b>   |
| Enroll & Complete 2 General & Consumer Science (Tabletop) Projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must receive a Blue ribbon or above on both projects at the El Paso County Fair.</li> <li>• Enrolling &amp; completing 2 separate units with a General Consumer Science (Tabletop) project AND receiving a Blue ribbon or above on both, also qualify.</li> </ul>   |
| Compete in an El Paso County Contest                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speech Contests</li> <li>• Demonstration &amp; Illustrated Talks</li> <li>• County Contest Performing Arts</li> <li>• County Contest Bakology</li> <li>• Creative Cooks</li> <li>• Cake Decorating Contest</li> <li>• Fashion Revue</li> <li>• El Paso County 4-H Shooting Contest, (Shooting Sports)</li> <li>• 4-H Rocket Fly Day (<b>based on availability</b>)</li> </ul> |
| Complete & Return Letter of Intent                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete your letter of intent.</li> <li>• Invitational letters will be given out to eligible exhibitors at the end of the El Paso County Fair.</li> <li>• All letters of intent <b>MUST</b> be received by the Tabletop Committee by August 1.</li> </ul>  |

**Step Two: Top 3 Candidate Selection**

Once all qualifying candidate responses have been received, the top 3 candidates from each age division will be determined. Points will be awarded in several areas. Final determination of the top three overall will depend on the total number of points acquired.

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 **2 point bonus** will be given to anyone receiving a Grand Champion Ribbon for a State Fair entry and a **1 point bonus** for Reserve Grand Champion. (Grand Champion awards are only given at the State Level.)

While participating in the County Shooting Sports contest and 4-H Rocket Fly Day is a qualifier because there is no speaking requirement for the contest, only one point is given regardless of placing.



**PLEASE SEE STAR AWARD TOP 3 CANDIDATE SELECTION POINT TOTALS CHART BELOW:**

| <b>Top 3 STAR Award Candidate Selection</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Contest Area</b>   | <b>Point Total Possible</b>   |
| El Paso County Contest(s) Placement Points  | County Blue Ribbon = 1 point<br>County Reserve Champion = 2 points<br>County Champion = 3 points  |
| El Paso County Fair, General & Consumer Science (Tabletop) Exhibit Placement Points     | County Blue Ribbon = 1 point<br>County Reserve Champion = 2 points<br>County Champion = 3 points  |
| El Paso County Fair Shooting Sports Contest Participation                               | 1 point   |
| Colorado State Fair Rocket Fly Day Contest Participation <i>(based on availability)</i> | 1 point   |
| Colorado State Fair Exhibit Placement Points  | State Placement 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> = 1 point<br>State Reserve Champion = 2 points<br>State Champion = 3 points<br><i>State Reserve Grand Champion = 1 additional point</i><br><i>State Grand Champion = 2 additional points</i> |
| Colorado State Fair Contest Placement Points  | State Blue Ribbon = 1 point<br>State Reserve Champion = 2 points<br>State Champion = 3 points<br><i>State Reserve Grand Champion = 1 additional point</i><br><i>State Grand Champion = 2 additional points</i>                                  |

**Step Three: Award Determination**

Once the final Top 3 Candidates have been determined in each age division, these candidates will then compete for the STAR Award.

Top 3 candidates will be ranked by 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> based on Contest/Exhibit point totals. In the final award determinations, candidates will be ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> based on their **Activity Chart Placing, STAR Interview with the Tabletop Committee, a 4-H Knowledge Quiz and a Representative Record Book** from any of their projects from the current 4-H year, which they will bring with them to the STAR Award Interview. STAR Awards will be given to eligible Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors.

- A. **Activity Chart:** Activity Charts must be submitted by August 1, 2024, to Dave McIntosh at: [sahwatch54@gmail.com](mailto:sahwatch54@gmail.com).

Activity Charts will be scored and placed in a rank according to the total amount of points. The areas considered will be participation in the following areas:

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



- B. **Record Book:** Next they will be ranked according to a scoring of a Record Book of their choice which they will bring with them on the scheduled STAR Interview. A panel of Tabletop Committee members will score their Record Book according to the STAR Award Rubric for the book.
- C. **4-H Knowledge Quiz:** Candidates will also be ranked according to their scoring on a Quiz of 4-H Knowledge.
- D. **STAR Award Interview:** Lastly, Candidates will be interviewed by a panel of three Tabletop Committee Members. The questions asked will be the same for all candidates. In a few cases, a simplified question will be given to the Junior Candidates.

| <b>Final STAR Award Determination</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| Top 3 Rank from Candidate Selection Process   | 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> rank |
| Activity Chart for STAR Points (Due August 1)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> rank |
| 4-H Knowledge Quiz  | 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> rank |
| Representative Record Book from any completed 4-H Project from current year (bring on STAR Interview day) | 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> rank |
| STAR Award Interview  | 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> rank |

Final Selection is based on Activity Record/Involvement, Record Book, 4-H Knowledge, and the Interview. Based on those results, a Champion and Runner-Up STAR award winner will be selected. Those winners will be announced and awarded during the El Paso County 4-H Achievement Celebration.

The Tabletop Committee’s decision will be final. Questions up until that time can be addressed to the 4-H County Specialist, or the Tabletop Committee Chair.