



2016-2017 Junior Achievement Records & Interview Competitive Event

The competitive event for the Junior Achievement Records & Interview showcases achievement in a project area, while also giving 4-H'ers an opportunity to highlight 4-H and non 4-H activities throughout the year. Youth must be bona fide 4-H'ers in the following age divisions: Junior (ages 9-11) and Intermediate (ages 12-13).

Age Eligibility

To be eligible for this 4-H event, youth must be classified as a Junior or Intermediate, as follows:

Junior

Between 9 and 11 years old prior to January 1, 2017
Born between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2007

Intermediate

Between 12 and 13 years old prior to January 1, 2017
Born between January 1, 2003 and December 31, 2004

Junior/Intermediate Project Areas

4-H'ers will select ONE project area in which to compete. Please consult with your 4-H Foundation REA with any questions regarding project areas. Choose from the following FIVE project areas:

1. Animals (large or small)
2. Family and Consumer Science (foods, clothing, health, etc.)
3. Arts and Communication (public speaking, music, crafts, arts, etc.)
4. Science and Technology (wood science, aerospace, etc.)
5. Natural Resources and Environmental Science (wildlife, fishing, soils, etc.)

Required Forms/Records

- Submit a completed Registration Packet (which includes all required forms) and a Reference Letter by the deadline to the 4-H Foundation Regional Extension Agent or appropriate ACES 4-H staff in your county. Each county 4-H office has different deadlines for submission, so please check with your county's 4-H or Extension office for information. 4-H'ers who place 1st and 2nd in their county event may be invited to participate at 4-H Regionals at Troy University in June. Check with your county 4-H office for specific information.



- **Checklist of items to submit:**

- ✓ A fully completed 2016-2017 Junior Achievement Records & Interview Competitive Event Registration Packet.
- ✓ A Reference Letter signed and dated by your 4-H Foundation REA or ACES 4-H staff. The person writing the letter should include how they know you, what they know about your 4-H projects and events attended, and they should mention something about your dependability, responsibility, leadership and community service activities.

TIPS: Completing the Registration Packet (Forms/Records)

Cover Page: Make sure this page is fully completed, signed and dated.

My 4-H Year: (everything you've done this year, not just project work)

- **Goals:** Goals should be something that you can or did achieve. This might include participating in the 4-H Good Dog project, becoming a club officer, etc. Also, include some new things that you have not tried or improving things that you have tried before. Include project work, leadership and community service activities.
- **Offices and Committees:** Offices held might be as a 4-H Club Officer, 4-H County Council Officer, etc. Committees might be planning committees, decorating committees, etc. Include both 4-H and non 4-H offices and committees.
- **Leadership in My 4-H Project:** Planning, organizing, leading events and activities....or assisting those who are leading. Examples include calling others to remind about meetings, recruiting new 4-H members, asking someone to be a guest speaker at a meeting, setting up chairs, working the registration table, clean-up, etc.
- **Community Service in My 4-H Project:** Actions that you (individually or as part of a group) do to help your community. Examples include picking up litter, collecting money, food, and clothing for families affected by tragedy, etc.
- **Awards and Honors (4-H and non 4-H):** Activity/Events could include the Annual 4-H Awards Jamboree, County Council meetings, Civic group meetings, etc. for recognition for project work, leadership, community service, etc. Awards could include certificates, ribbons, plaques, medals, trophies, gifts, etc. Location could include local, county, regional, area, state, national, etc. Be specific.

My 4-H Project Journal:

- **What I Did and What I Learned**

Include a variety of project work that helped you reach your goals. Include mistakes you made that eventually helped you make better decisions. Group similar things together...for example, if you feed your chickens every day, you could state "August 1, 2016 through current – I feed my chickens every day and collect the eggs. I've learned that my chickens depend on me for fresh feed and clean water. I also learned that if I don't collect the eggs every day, then some eggs get broken or will go bad".



• **4-H Project Related Income and Expenses**

Income could include “in kind” gifts such as a bag of chicken feed valued at \$10 that was given to you by the local feed store; or it could be prize money awarded to you for your art exhibit at the local fair. Expenses could be chicken feed or entry fees for the art exhibit at the fair, etc. If you have no income or expenses applicable to your project, state “not applicable”.

• **My Thoughts about My 4-H Project**

Did you reach your project goals? Include what you learned and how you can use that new knowledge. Mention people who helped, taught and encouraged you. Could this project lead to a career? Did you help someone in your community as part of this project?

My Creative Documentation: (everything you’ve done this year, not just project work) Include photos, newspaper articles, ribbons, program agendas, etc. Include your project, leadership and community service efforts. Try to show action in any photos that you use.

TIPS: Preparing for the Interview

- Know your strengths and weaknesses. Think about what you’ve done and what you might like to do in the future. This can be related to your project area, leadership, community service, etc.
- The judges will ask you to tell them about yourself. Start with “my name is _____, I’m _____ years old and in the _____ grade. I’m a _____ County 4-H’er. Mention anything that you want them to know about you, like your 4-H interests, other clubs you might be a member of, and any hobbies you may have. It would be beneficial if you prepared a brief 1 minute talk on what 4-H means to you. Don’t sweat it. There is no audience, just 2 or 3 judges.
- Make sure you have reviewed the registration packet you turned in because judges will ask questions based on information you provided.
- Speak clearly and avoid using slang (i.e., “you know”, “yeh”). Dress appropriately, i.e., business casual. Avoid wearing jeans, shorts or a t-shirt. Greet the judges with a smile, a firm handshake, and by name if you know it. If you do not know their name, then listen carefully as they say their name so you can remember it. Be sure to maintain eye contact. Be enthusiastic. Sit up straight. No chewing gum. Listen carefully to the judge’s questions. Ask the judge to repeat a question if you didn’t hear it fully or if you don’t understand it. When it’s over, thank your judges. Call them by name. Tell them that you appreciate them taking the time and interest to talk with you. Make sure to shake hands as you leave. Smile. Breathe. You’ve got this!

Junior 4-H Achievement Awards Potential Scoring

- Junior Achievement Records/Forms/Reference Letter.....100 points
- Interview Score.....100 points
200 points