

# Missouri 4-H

## Standards of Excellence for 4-H Groups

### Purpose of Standards and Seals

#### 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. Four or more meetings of a minimum of six hours of teaching time. Include demonstrations, judging, skill-a-thons, quiz bowls or other skill performance
4. At least one project group with a minimum of six hours of hands-on learning
5. Enrollment records on file at the County University of Missouri Extension Center
6. The group planned, implemented and evaluated a community service project.

#### Silver Seal

1. Recruited and mentored new member 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 County 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 University Outreach and Extension center
9. Seventy percent or more of the members complete at least one project by reaching their project goals in that project.
10. Youth and adults in the group jointly complete the *What is Your Group Like? Vibrant Youth Group Assessment (Y671F)* and submit it to the county University of Missouri Extension center.