

Project Entry Information

1. Entry Day —Monday, before fair. Be ready ½ hour before exhibit judging time.
 - a. All project(s) are to be checked in with a leader(s) by 6:15 PM.
 - b. If check-in is not accomplished by 6:15 PM the project(s) will not be allowed for judging.
2. Exhibits are open to 4-H'ers who are in 4th through 12th grade. Juniors – 4th, 5th, and 6th grades. Intermediates – 7th and 8th grades. Seniors - 9th –12th grades.
3. Members do not need to be enrolled in the project area to exhibit at the B.V. County Fair or to be eligible to exhibit at the Iowa State Fair. However, to apply for 4-H Project Awards in August, 4-H'ers must be enrolled in the project which application is made.
4. To exhibit at the Iowa State Fair – **ALL EXHIBITORS** - 4-H'ers must have completed 5th grade through 12th grade (or that equivalent) of the completed school year (2009) and are in good standing at the county and state levels.
5. 4-H'ers are encouraged to use project guides, manuals and program materials to determine goals and learning experiences. Some project manuals include specific exhibit suggestions and procedures.
 - a. Exhibits are an outgrowth of the 4-H'ers participation in the selected project or program and can be done by an individual or group.
 - b. Exhibits might be, but are not limited to, an actual product, poster, display box, report, notebook, model, video tape, audio cassette, etc.
6. An exhibit can represent a part or all of learning involved in the respective project or program.
7. Evaluation criteria will include demonstrated learning, quality of work, techniques, general appearance and design. All articles entered must be bonafide work of the 4-H'er and completed during the past calendar year.
8. **Entry tags must be securely fastened on each exhibit. Each exhibit piece must be securely labeled with name of the club, class number, exhibitor's name and address. Place label on the back of posters and in an inconspicuous place on display items.**
9. If the exhibitor is not present for judging at the Buena Vista County Fair, a written explanation, an audio cassette, or video tape needs to accompany the exhibit. The information requested needs to be well organized and brief. The exhibitor should respond briefly to the following questions about the exhibit: What was your goal(s)? How did you go about working toward your goal(s)? What were the most important things you learned as you worked toward your goal(s)? What ideas or plans do you have for the future based on what you have learned or discovered?
10. Exhibits will be rated blue, red or white. All ratings will receive premiums from the fair board.
11. County Fair premium money will be given to 4-H Clubs to disperse. ***Exhibits leaving the 4-H exhibit building before release time on Sunday, the last day of the fair, without consent of the 4-H Committee will forfeit premium money.***
12. Maximum size guidelines for exhibits include: **Posters and banners are not to exceed 22"x 28" or foam core board size of 22"X30". Exception: See rule #4 in Communications for Poster Art (14"X22" poster board or 15"X22" foam core). Chart or graph boards and model displays, etc., are not to exceed 4'x4' in size. Maximum size of chart boards, graph boards, project presentation boards is determined by measuring the FLAT (unfolded) dimensions. Display boxes are not to exceed 28" x 22" in height or width and 12" in depth. Exception: See rule #5 for Food and Nutrition exhibits & rule #4 in Communications through Posters.**
13. The 4-H Committee recommends a 4-H'er may send only three items to the State Fair. The evaluators may use their own discretion in changing this minimum quota with committee approval.
14. Exhibit quotas for State Fair will be determined by the number of 4-H'ers enrolled in the project areas.
15. Exhibitors chosen to exhibit at the State Fair will be responsible for transporting large items to and from the State Fairgrounds in Des Moines.
16. Endangered and threatened plants and animals (includes insects) should **NOT** be used in any exhibit. Wildflowers taken from parks should **NOT** be used. It is illegal to possess songbird feathers or nests. Game animals "legally taken", such as pheasant, goose, duck, or quail are acceptable. Purple loosestife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is a plant that should not be planted in gardens. It has the potential of becoming noxious in Iowa. Other dried established noxious weeds are acceptable to use in exhibits.
17. Duplication of copyright material or design should not be used in a 4-H exhibit that is presented as original work by the exhibitor. A copyright design cannot be displayed in a public setting (fair), without permission being granted from the owner of the copyright. When permission has been granted by the owner of the copyright, the exhibit will be displayed and labeled appropriately. **Those without permission can not be displayed.**