Standards of Excellence for 4-H Clubs and Groups

You may want to consider the following performance standards as you set the annual goals for your club. Place a check next to the following Club Performance Standards completed during the 4-H year. Documentation may come from meeting minutes, scrapbooks, photos, newspaper articles, letters, etc. Purple seals will be awarded based on your club’s work during the current 4-H year. This application is due the last Friday in September, annually.

1. Club/group had a planned annual program that includes group goals. (Ex: recruit 4 new members; 75% of members will attend camp; all members will choose one county learning activity to attend)

2. Group members were actively involved in planning the group’s annual program.

3. Group selected an area of focus for their annual program. (Ex: health & fitness; environmental science; pet care; community service; intercultural; understanding) OR Club is represented in the community, by serving on a committee, council or board with adult partners.

4. Group members were involved in implementing the annual program/activities. (Ex: planning and bringing snacks; leading the pledges; calling club members for a group meeting or assignment; presenting a demonstration; organizing a tour; introducing a speaker; leading recreation; teaching others)

5. A calendar for the year was printed and distributed to members, parents, volunteers, and the local Extension Office. (Ex: identify meetings dates, locations, educational programs; special projects; social events; county or district events)

6. All members were invited and at least 75% of group members were involved in at least nine group activities during the year. (Ex: meetings; club tours; recognition event)

7. Group officers were elected or appointed, and fulfilled their leadership roles.

8. Group completed at least one (1) community service project.

9. Group completed at least one (1) project that promotes 4-H visibility at the community or county level. (Ex: participating in a community parade; radio interviews during National 4-H Week; project displays in business windows; or doing website development for County Extension office.)

10. Group has completed at least one (1) project that promotes 4-H visibility at the county, multicounty, district, state, multi-state, national or global level.

11. Group recruited at least one (1) project volunteer for at least 75% of the member’s project learning areas.

12. At least 75% of the members made progress toward individual 4-H project goals.

13. Group developed a method to communicate with families at least three (3) times per year regarding group activities, education and achievements. (Ex: newsletters; e-mails; calling tree; group activity that includes families)

14. Group planned at least one (1) activity to include parents and families in club activities. (Ex: project showcase; skating party; tours; recognition event)

15. Members took part in a variety of events and/or meetings beyond the 4-H club. (Ex: county project workshops; district events; state fair; interstate exchange programs)

16. A scheduled recognition event held for members, volunteers and parents.
17. Club/group planned and implemented at least one multi-club activity. 
(Ex: doing multi-club community service; several clubs managing a community or county event; conducting a multi-club learning or social event)

18. Group members participated in 4-H activities beyond the club level. (Ex: county educational workshops; district events; state fair)

19. 4-H club/group consistently had a safety/supervision ratio of 1 adult to 10 youth.

20. The racial/ethnic composition of the club reflects the diversity of the surrounding community. (If club does not reflect the diversity of the community, then successful efforts to contact minority citizens in person, by mail, and through mass media may be used.)

21. 75% of members are in good standing.

12-13 Checked of 21 questions = WHITE Clover Club Charter Seal
14-15 Checked of 21 questions = RED Clover Club Charter Seal
16-17 Checked of 21 questions = BLUE Clover Club Charter Seal
18-21 Checked of 21 questions = PURPLE Clover Club Charter Seal