



2025-2026

Arkansas 4-H

Record Book

FAQs



Record Book FAQs

Every year 4-H youth summarize the project work they have participated in. To assist in answering some of the most common questions, the 4-H state office has compiled some of the most frequently asked questions to assist in completing Arkansas 4-H Record Books.

How many years of Cloverbud work can I report? While 4 years of work can be reported in a 4-H record book, only one year can include work conducted while a 4-H Cloverbud. For example, a 8-year-old will only have two years reported in their 4-H record book – One year of Cloverbud work (when they were 7) and one year completed once they were 8 years old.

What do the levels of participation refer to? When looking at the work 4-Hers conduct, the level at which the project event or activity occurs is important to show growth. 4-H record books primarily look at eight (8) levels: local, county, multi-county, district, regional, state, national, and international. When considering what level the event or activity should be reported at, the 4-Her needs to consider the audience they are with or presenting to.

- Local – your 4-H club and immediate family, small groups from the same community. These events can be held outside of your county, state, or even nation, but if you are only working with your immediate family or 4-H club, they would still be considered local.
- County – involves other clubs or groups from the same county.
- Multi County – multi-county level event (not open to entire district) (i.e., Quad Day, Star Camp, etc.)
- District – involves 4-Hers or groups from within the same state district areas (i.e., Delta, Ouachita, or Ozark)
- State – involves 4-Hers or groups from all counties in Arkansas at the same event (i.e., State Fair, State Horse Show, State O-Rama, Ross Photography Contest)
- Regional – involves 4-Hers or groups from immediately adjacent states (Southeastern U.S.) at the same event. (i.e., SRTLC)
- National – involves 4-Hers or groups from all states in the event or activity. (i.e., Ignite, CWF, 4-H Summits, 4-H Congress)
- International-involves 4-Hers or groups that are interacting from countries across the globe. (i.e., ACE, International Summitt)

What can we include for Community Service? You can include any community service activities you participate in.



What type of pictures should I use? Your pictures should cover the most recent 4 years of your 4-H experience, with the majority from your current 4-H year. These images should be captioned. These should be action shots rather than staged group pictures.

NOTE: Photography Main Project – you may add an additional 9 photos. These photos should be pictures you have taken in the last 4 years.

What year do I put in the Report Info? You will enter the year the book is being submitted for judging.



Project Areas and Projects

Animal Science/Agriculture

General Ag
Farm & Ranch
Management
Animal Science
Dairy Cattle
Beef
Horse
Meat Goats
Dairy Goats
Meat Science
Pets
Poultry
Rabbits
Sheep
Swine

Civic Engagement

Public Speaking
Entrepreneurship
Safety
Citizen
Communication
Leadership
Workforce Readiness
Service Learning
Mentoring
Journalism
Global Citizenship

STEM

Crop Science
Plant & Soil Science
Entomology
Environmental
Stewardship
Forestry
Archeology
Gardening & Horticulture
Shooting Sports
Outdoor Education
Computer Science
Energy Management
Natural Resources
Water, Wildlife, & Fisheries
Management
Robotics
Tech & Engineering
Welding
Sport Fishing
Electricity
Mechanical Science
Graphic Design
Vet Science
Aerospace

Healthy Living

Personal Development
Child Development
Strengthening Families
Consumer Education
Housing & Home
Environment
Bicycle
Food Nutrition & Food Prep
Food Preservation
Health & Fitness
Family Consumer Science
Personal Finance

Fine Arts

Performing Arts
Theater Arts
Arts & Humanities
Photography
Videography
Visual Arts
Creative Writing
Woodworking
Leisure Arts
Fabrics & Fashion

If you don't see your project of interest?

Self-determined projects can be placed in an area that best describes your focus of work.

Contact your County Extension Agent for assistance



Record Book Basics

The amount, variety, and quality of work are important in a 4-H record that shows excellence. Equally important is how you share what you learned in projects with others through demonstrations, exhibits, talks, promotions, etc. What you attend or participate in as you learn more about your projects also contributes to your record of excellence. Your 4-H Record Books allow you to showcase your work over your 4-H career.

Record Book Ages: Age as of January 1, 2026

- Cloverbud Book: Ages 5-7
- Junior Record Books: Ages 8-10
- Intermediate Record Books: Ages 11-13
- Senior Record Books: Ages 14-15
- Advanced Record Books: Ages 16-19; must include a resume.

Basic Requirements for the Arkansas 4-H Record Book

- 4-H Record Report Form
- 4-H Story, five pages max, double-spaced.
- 4-H Photos, 36 photos max (exception made for Photography, may include up to 9 additional photos).
- Advanced Record Books (Ages 16-19) must have a 1–2-page resume prepared as if you were applying for a job.
- Do not use a type smaller than 12 characters per inch for Story or Resume (12 pt. Times New Roman is preferred)

Scoring

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| • General: | 4 Points |
| • Resume (Advanced Only) | 12 Points |
| • 4-H Story | 27 Points |
| • Project Goals | 13 Points |
| • Main Project Work | 40 Points |
| • Other Project Work | 43 Points |
| • Leadership | 46 Points |
| • Community Service | 26 Points |
| • Awards | 14 Points |
| • Promotion/Marketing | 12 Points |
| • 4-H Impact | 3 Points |