

Self – Determined Projects

2024 Project Completion Guidelines

Skill Levels: N/A

General Requirements

- ✿ Member must participate in Project Interviews (County or Club level) for the project to be considered completed for the 4-H year.
- ✿ Member must participate in a Project Interview during the Franklin County Fair, on the appropriate day, to be eligible to be considered for Ohio State Fair Selection.
- ✿ Member must display a representation of their project in their 4-H club fair booth.

Franklin County Project Completion Requirements

1. Use the online Self-Determined Project Guide.
2. Complete at least 3 areas of interest, each with at least 3 activities.
3. At least 2 learning experiences.
4. At least 2 leadership/citizenship activities.
5. Completed Project Summary.
6. An educational display on a topic from the project book. The display must be a 3-sided cardboard tabletop display.
 - Your display is a way of showing others what your project is about. The display alone is not the project, but it is nevertheless important. As with all parts of your project, you should take the time to do it right. The diagram below gives the required components and their placement for a basic 3-sided display. However, your own creativity will determine how your display looks. In your own words, use narrative and/or bulleted points for the sections labeled Background, Areas of Interest, Results, and Conclusion.
7. Be prepared to discuss your project experiences.

Ohio State Fair Exhibition Day – Self-Determined Day

- ✿ Selections for the Ohio State Fair will be made during the Franklin County Fair and will be based on Franklin County Project Completion Requirements.



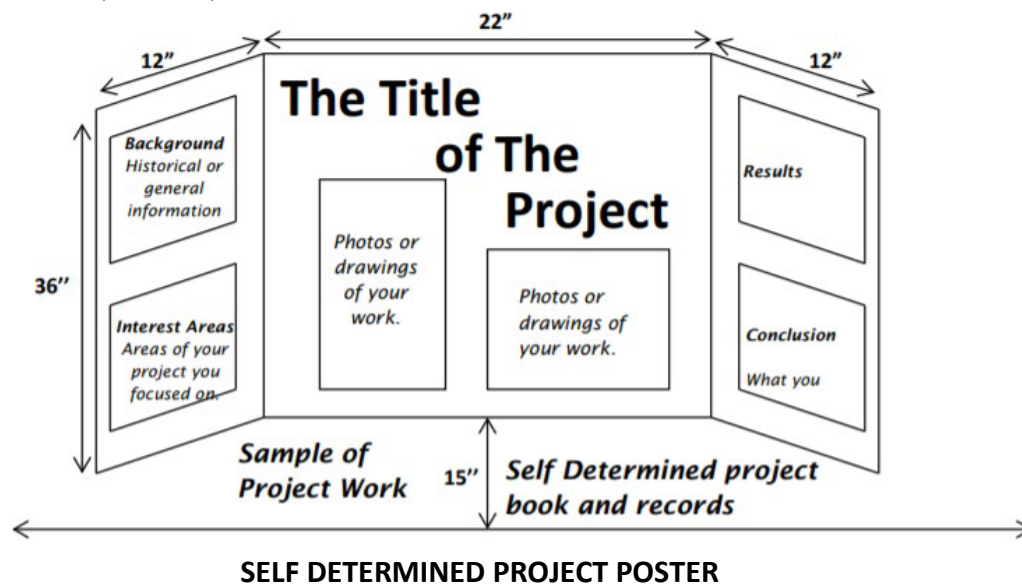
Self – Determined Project Topic Areas

365.00 General	365.04 Natural Resources
365.01 Companion Animal	365.05 Quilt
365.02 Creative Arts	365.06 Workforce Preparation
365.03 Family Life	

****For a more detailed list of idea starters for each topic area check out the Ohio 4-H Family Guide.****

Contest Requirements for 3-Sided Cardboard Tabletop Display

Your display is a way of showing others what your project is about. The display alone is not the project, but it is nevertheless important. As with all parts of your project, you should take the time to do it right. The diagram below gives the required components and their placement for a basic 3-sided display. However, your own creativity will determine how your display looks. In your own words, use narrative and/or bulleted points for the sections labeled Background, Areas of Interest, Results, and Conclusion.



Material

Due to limited space, participants are required to display their project work on a 36" high by 48" wide cardboard tri-fold display board with 12" wings. In addition, each participant will be limited to a 48" wide by 15" deep tabletop display space. Additional exhibit space and electrical connections are not available. The display itself can be handmade or purchased.

Color

Before you go any further, decide what color you will use. If your background needs painting, acrylic paint works best. Choose contrasting colors for lettering. If you are in doubt about your combination, get another opinion.



Lettering

Your title can be cut out of construction paper, poster paper, or other materials and attached (taped or glued) to the display board. Display boards can also be lettered by hand, first in pencil, and retraced in marker.

Drawings

Drawings and sketches should always be drawn in pencil first and then retraced.

Photos

Every project display does not need photos, but if you have a camera, you might consider recording your progress. If photos are included with your project records, they should be placed at the end. Photos on your display board should be labeled.

Your Presentation to the Judges

You must consider your presentation as important as any other part of your project. Practice will make a difference in how well you present yourself to the judges.

Here is a step-by-step approach to organizing the ten minutes you have with your judges.

1. Introduce yourself. "Hello, my name is _____."
2. Give the title of your project. "The title of my project is _____."
3. Explain the background of your project. "The background of my project is _____."
4. Tell the judges how you got interested in your project topic.
5. Explain your areas of interest. "The areas that I chose to explore in my project were _____."
6. Talk about your results. If you have charts, graphs, or a notebook, show them to the judges and explain them. If results are shown on your display, point them out. Also, be sure to show them a sample of your project work.
7. Explain what you have learned. If you think that you had some problems or errors in your project, don't be afraid to admit these.
8. Tell the judges what you might do in the future to continue your project. What would you have done differently if you were to do the project again?
9. Of what interest would your project be to other 4-H members?
10. "Do you have any questions?" If you do not know the answer to a judge's questions, then say, "I am sorry, but I do not know the answer, but I think it is _____."
11. Thank the judges at the end of your presentation.



Other Tips for Presenting

It is very important to use your time well. You will want to impress your judges with your project, your knowledge, and your enthusiasm. All people are affected in one way or another by the way we look, the way we talk, and the way we act. Adults are usually impressed with good manners and nice clothes.

Here are some tips:

1. Wear nice clothes
2. Stand up straight on both feet. Don't say from foot to foot.
3. Look straight into the eyes of your judges. Pay attention to all of the judges.
4. Stand to the side of your exhibit when talking.
5. Get the judges involved in your project. Let them see, taste, smell, hear or hold a sample of your project work. Point out important points using your display.
6. Do not chew gum or candy.
7. Speak loudly enough to be heard by all judges.
8. Smile and
9. Be polite.

