

Guide to Creating a Resume and Cover Letter for 4-H Awards & Trips for Members in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and up 2019 – 2020 School Year

**DEADLINE:** September 20<sup>th</sup> to the \*UW-Extension Office

\*Drop off at: 3506 N. Hwy 51 Building A

OR

Mail to: 51 S. Main St., Janesville, WI 53545

If you have questions regarding what is expected or how to complete the application, please call the Rock County Extension Office at 608-757-5066.

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### Final Submission

<u>**4 copies</u>** (The original and 3 additional copies) of the following should be submitted by <u>**September 20<sup>th</sup>**</u> to the Rock County Extension Office:</u>

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Letter of Recommendation from any adult except a relative

**NOTE:** Letter of Recommendation can be submitted directly to UW-Extension Office by that person

### Resume Packets WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED if:

- Required number of copies are not include
- Packet is turned in after the deadline of Sept. 20th

Interviews will be held Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 with an alternate date of Tuesday evening, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Please refer to page 2 for instructions on including your choice of interview date and time in your cover letter.

The Tuesday evening alternate interview date is ONLY for those who absolutely cannot make the Saturday interview date. You MUST provide the reason for your need to interview on Tuesday evening in the last paragraph of your cover letter.

Interview Locations Both interview dates will be held at: The Rock County Extension Office 3506 N HWY 51, Bldg. A, Janesville WI, 53545

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#### Overview of 4-H Trips and Awards

#### 4-H Space Camp (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Members from across Wisconsin spend a weekend in April at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. They will learn about the U.S. Space Program, ride simulators and work as a team to complete a simulated space mission. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade members complete the Junior Award Form. *Total Cost: Approx.* \$525 / member. Members Out-of-Pocket Cost: Approx. \$350

### Wisconsin 4-H Youth Conference (8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

This event for youth throughout the state is held on the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison during the month of June. Members have the opportunity to participate in educational and social activities, gain new ideas, and meet new friends.

Total Cost: Approx. \$1,200 / member. Members Out-of-Pocket Cost: Approx. \$150

### Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

"CWF" is a week long summer experience at the National 4-H Center near Washington D.C. Activities include tours, legislator visits, and experiencing the government process with 4-H members from across the U.S. *Total Cost: Approx.* \$1,200 / member, a portion of which is paid for by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation

### National 4-H Congress (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Delegates from all over the country meet for 5 days in November in Atlanta, Georgia to participate in seminars, tours, and a service project while exchanging ideas with each other and learning about 4-H in other states. *Total Cost: Approx. \$1,000 / member. Members Out-of-Pocket Cost: Approx. \$667* 

### State Selection, National 4-H Conference (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Rock County youth are selected to compete to be a part of Wisconsin's delegation to National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C. in April.

Total Cost: Approx. \$1,000 / member. Members Out-of-Pocket Cost: Approx. \$667

### Challenge Award (7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Stuart and Marion Paul and their children provide engraved pens for members who are selected for their achievements and service to others.

#### Achievement Award (9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Members who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and achievement in both club and county 4-H programs may receive the Rock County 4-H Achievement Award plaque.

### Leadership Award (10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade)

BMO Harris sponsors a cash award and the Rock County 4-H Leaders Council supplies a pin to members who are selected for their outstanding leadership qualities.

#### Wisconsin Key Award (11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Farm Bureau sponsors a certificate and a pin for members recognized for their personal development. Leadership skills, and active participation.

#### Rotary Award (12th Grade and Up)

The top scoring members in 12<sup>th</sup> grade and up receive a solid walnut clover plaque sponsored by the Janesville Rotary Club.

#### Scholarships (12<sup>th</sup> Grade and Up)

Members may be awarded college scholarships. These include Junior Council and available memorial scholarships submitted for the year.

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Cover Letter Outline



When writing a cover letter, use a font no smaller than 11pt.

DATE

Rock County 4-H Awards Committee 51 S. Main Street Janesville, WI 53548

Dear 4-H Awards Committee,

Paragraph 1:	What you are sending and why you are sending it. Include a listing of the trip and/or scholarships for which you want to be considered. <i>If you are listing more</i> <i>than one trip, <u>please</u> indicate what your first choice is.</i> <b>NOTE:</b> You will only be considered for <u>trips</u> and/or <u>scholarships</u> listed in your Cover Letter. However, you will be considered for any of the other <u>awards</u> for which you are eligible.
Paragraphs 2 & 3:	These paragraphs are the "why me?" paragraphs. Explain in no more than two paragraphs why you are uniquely qualified to represent Rock County 4-H. Ask yourself what distinguishes you from other applicants. <i>Give examples to help explain your statements</i> .
Final Paragraph:	Close the letter. Be sure to include a sentence stating on which date and at which time you would be available for an interview. Thenk the committee for

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Sincerely,

(Type your name here and sign your name above it)

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Please compose the cover letter in your own words, not in the exact words from the sample on the next page!

### Interviews will be held Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 with an alternate date of Tuesday evening, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

ONLY those who absolutely cannot make the Saturday date may interview Tuesday evening. If this applies to you, you MUST provide a reason in the Final Paragraph of your Cover Letter.

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Sample Cover Letter

September 1, 2017

Rock County 4-H Awards Committee. 51 S. Main Street Janesville, WI 53545

Dear Leaders:

It is my pleasure to submit my resume and letter of support in consideration for the Citizenship Washington Focus Trip, a Junior Council Scholarship and any other awards for which I am eligible.

I believe my 4-H experience has prepared me well for representing the Rock County 4-H program. My 4-H experiences have given me a strong sense of personal and intellectual accomplishments. My best accomplishment to date has been receiving a merit award on my dress at the State Fair. Personally, I have learned the value of working with other people to accomplish a task by helping chair my club's activity committee. I need to be prepared for meetings and work with the other five members of the committee. Being a good role model has been emphasized in my 4-H club and I demonstrate this in what I say and do.

Intellectually, I have devoted a great deal of time to learning about my project areas especially in the clothing project as I have been in that project for five years. I have participated in many countywide activities related to my project work such as the Clothing Revue. As a youth leader, I have helped younger members learn how to do the things I learned from older 4-Hers and adult leaders.

Thank you for considering my application. I feel that my qualifications listed above and on my enclosed resume and portfolio make me a good representative of Rock County 4-H. I would be available for a personal interview in the morning on Saturday, September 23. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Chris Clover

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**Resume Outline** 

### NAME

Address Line 1 Address Line 2 Phone Number Email (if applicable)

- **EDUCATION** School name, grade in school 4-H Club name, number of years in 4-H
- 4-H PROJECTList all projects in which you are or have been enrolledSUMARRYInclude the number of years you have been a member of that projectIndicate which projects you are currently enrolled
- **4-H ACTIVITY**Summarize all 4-H Activities in which you have participated**INVOLVEMENT**Include the number of years you have participated
- SKILLExplain what you have learned as a result of participation in 4-H projects,<br/>and activities and the skills you have developed
- **PERSONAL**Explain what you have personally gained as a result of participation in**DEVELOPMENT**4-H projects and activities in terms of your personal attributes
- **LEADERSHIP** Explain what you have learned personally and how you have gained additional responsibility
- OTHERIn this section, include school activities, work experience, special<br/>activities, etc.<br/>Include the number of years you participated

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Sample Resume **Chris Clover** 4H Hwy. CC Janesville, WI (608) 757-4444 chris.clover@gmail.com Fields High School, 10<sup>th</sup> grade **EDUCATION** Lucky Clovers 4-H, 8 years **4-H PROJECT** Clothing, Visual Arts, Dairy, Photography, Sheep, 5 years – current projects **SUMMARY** Foods and Nutrition, 3 years Poultry, 2 years Mechanical Science, 1 year **4-H ACTIVITY** Delegate to CWF, 2016 Delegate to State 4-H Conference, 2014 **INVOLVEMENT** International Exchange Host, 2015 Dairy Workshop, 3 years Offices Held: Pres., V. Pres. **Cloverbud Camp Teacher** Dairy Judging, 5 years Ambassador, 3 years Card Party Committee, 3 years Club Calendar Committee, 5 years 4-H Jr Council Board, 2 years County Fair Exhibitor, 5 years Club Fundraisers, 5 years Club Community Service, 3 years Junior Council Member, 3 years Club Fundraiser Chairperson, 1 year SKILL \*Proficient knowledge of dairy nutrition, fitting, showing, training, and judging DEVELOPMENT \*Proficient knowledge of sheep nutrition, fitting, showing and training \*Experienced show person taking top awards in animal projects the past 5 years \*Able to document projects in record book \*Developed optimum feeding rations for market animals staying within family budget and utilizing crops produced \*Cultural arts skills: crocheting, framing, quilting, flower arranging, stenciling, painting, layout and design \*Proficient in composing photographs using the four rules of composition PERSONAL \*Excellent role model, mentor and team player. \*Effectively work with younger members, peers and adults in varied situations DEVELOPMENT \*Organize special events and meetings while paying close attention to detail \*Delegate tasks effectively and appropriately as part of leadership role in club \*Sportsmanship exhibited in and out of competitive situations \*Understands and use parliamentary procedure \*Teach younger members and peers effectively \*Well-developed interpersonal and public speaking skills

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### **Chris Clover**

### 4H Hwy. CC Janesville, WI (608) 757-4444 chris.clover@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	*Effectively chaired the card party committee for 2 years *Assist dairy project leader with meetings *Chair of club calling tree committee *Member of County Foods Committee, assisting with Foods Revue *Teach younger members in Foods, Clothing, and Dairy *Current Vice President of club *Current Secretary of Rock County Jr. Council, past treasurer
OTHER ACTIVITIES	CCD, 5 years June Dairy Month Recipe Contest Entrant, 7 years Holstein Association Member, 7 years Honor Roll, 4 years Volleyball team, 4 years Women's Choir, 3 years Basketball team, 2 years

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Tips for Doing your Cover Letter and Resume

### Use a Computer

You can save your work and make revisions as necessary. If you do not have a computer at home, work with your school, a friend, or the library. The resume and cover letter <u>should not</u> be handwritten.

### **Plan Ahead**

Go through each part of the resume and cover letter before typing. Use your old record books to help you. Put your thoughts together. Translate your skills into action oriented, concise descriptions.

A list of action verbs can be found at <u>https://mass4h.org/programs/list-action-verbs</u>

As much as possible, think if your 4-H experience as a job. What do you do? What skills have you developed as a result of your participation in 4-H? How can you break it down into Life Skills, Leadership Skills, Career Skills, and Community Service? How have you personally changed as a result of your 4-H experience?

### **Order is Important**

Arrange information chronologically within the following sections: 4-H Project Summary, 4-H Activity Involvement, and Other Activities. See Sample Resume for example.

### Layout and Design

Your resume should be easy to read and understand. Arrange your resume as illustrated in the sample copy provided. Choose an appropriate font and font size, no smaller than 11pt. Use the same font throughout your document. You will want to experiment with spacing. As a general rule, a 1" margin us used at the top, bottom, and both sides of your page. White space is a good think. Each description should begin with an action work and be short, concise, and to the point. The resume should be no more than one, two, or three pages long.

### **Proofread It**

Your documents should be free of spelling errors. Use spell check if you have it and follow that up by having at least two people proofread your resume and cover letter.

### Ask for Help if You Need it.

If you haven't ever gone through this process, you may have questions. Don't hesitate to ask!

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Resume and Interview Scoring Information

The following point system will be used by the 4-H Awards Committee to score your cover letter, resume, and interview. Members will be selected for trips and awards based on the total score and the member's grade.

<b>Cover Letter</b>		15 Pts
Resume	Section 1: Name, Address Phone Number, and Email Section 2: Education	
	Section 3: 4-H Project Summary	15 pts
	Section 5: Skill Development	15 pts
	Section 6: Personal Development	15 pts
	Section 7: Leadership Development	20 pts
	Section 8: Other Activities	5 pts
One Adult Recomn	nendation	<u>15 pts</u>
Total Possible Point	s for Cover Letter, Resume, and Recommendation:	100 pts
Interview	Personal Appearance: Well Groomed, Appropriate Attire Manner & Maturity: At Ease and Alert	10 pts
	Self-Expression: Communicates Effectively, Eye Contact Evidence of Original Thought	50 pts
	4-H Leadership: Evidence of Leadership Roles, Experiences, and Skill	40 pts
Total Possible Point	s for Interview:	100 pts
Total Possible Score	for Cover Letter, Resume, Recommendation, and Interview	200 pts

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Adult Recommendation

The following applicant, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is applying to represent the Rock County 4-H Program on an award trip and/or to be selected as a 4-H Award recipient. You have been identified as a person who could speak to their qualifications for these trips and awards.

Please complete the following recommendation and return it as directed.

Below or on a separate sheet, please discuss why the applicant is deserving of the trip and/or honors. Feel free to describe the applicant's leadership skills (ex. Communication, listening skills, presentation skills, self-confidence, teamwork, time management, responsibility, etc.). Also included any additional information that would be helpful to the selection committee.

Name (print): _
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

### <u>4 Copies</u> of this recommendation should be sent directly to the UW-Extensions Office by SEPTEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>

### Rock County Extension 4-H Award Recommendation 51 S. Main Street Janesville, WI 53548

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