

Independent Study/Self Determined Projects

Definitions:

Self Determined Project: offers an opportunity to develop and carry out a project or individual design. This means selecting a topic, deciding upon goals, obtaining resources, and designing records. The project can cover any subject and may or may not be related to any current 4-H project. (these projects are typically designed around an individual interest in which there is not currently a formalized project offered within the County).

Independent Study: is for any youth who are looking for opportunities and new challenges within a specific project in which the member is currently enrolled. The members determine specific experiences needed to accomplish project goals, and locate resources helpful in carrying out their plans. (example: utilizing project “option” books available through the County Extension office instead of the project manuals that are designated for each project.)

Deadlines:

Self Determined: Self Determined project plans must be turned into the County Extension Office by March 1. These plans will be reviewed and approved as a project before moving forward.

Independent Study: A member enroll in the “Independent Study” portion of a specified project area as designated in the 4-H Clover. 4-H project enrollment deadlines apply. Members must also turn in the Independent Study Form with their 4-H Fair Entry. All Entry deadlines apply. If the form is not turned in, members are required to utilize a 4-H Project Book and complete the designated activities in order to complete their project and be eligible for sale at the fair.

Materials:

Self Determined: All project records are required as well the You Decide, 5314 as designated in the 4-H Clover.

Independent Study: All project records for the specified project (i.e. market beef, cooking, leather, etc.) are required. The Independent Study Form (available from the Extension Office) is also necessary to complete the project.