

A NEW Process for 4-H AIRE Program

NC 4-H is excited to announce a new format for the State-Level 4-H AIRE Program in.

4-H'ers age 11-18 who wish to participate in the State-Level 4-H AIRE Program will need to submit / participate in the following AIRE components:

- Application
- A VIDEO Interview
- Resume
- Electronic Video: VE (3-minute pre-recorded video based on this year's VE question)

4-H AIRE Basics: AIRE (Application, Interview, Resume and E-Video) is a workforce development and college prep program. Youth ages 11 – 18, are eligible to participate in this program in one of two ways.

Option 1: Youth participate in this program by completing the four (4) AIRE candidate packet components. All candidates submitting a complete packet will be invited to participate in either the State-Level competitive program (open to youth ages 14-18) or in the non-competitive program (open to youth ages 11-13). Youth participating in the competitive AIRE program are eligible to be selected to attend national events such as National Congress, National Conference, and International Leadership Conference.

Option 2: Youth participate in this program by completing the AIRE program components as self-study and/or as part of their local 4-H program. Option 2: Does not require the participant to submit their AIRE packet for State-level review.



State-Level 4-H AIRE Candidate Packet Components

1. **Application:** The 4-H AIRE program uses a simple 3-page application that secures general candidate information, denotes what competitive area the candidate wishes to be considered for (i.e. a trip to National 4-H Conference or National 4-H Congress, etc.) and the local 4-H agents' signature.
2. **NEW Video Interview Process:** The State-Level "interview" component of AIRE will be conducted through a secure NCSU Video Interview process (i.e. a live distance video link). AIRE candidates that complete all of the required AIRE components will be invited to participate in a live video interview process. Candidate interviews will take place on-line with a panel of AIRE reviewers.
***Candidate interviews will be conducted in pairs. Paired candidates will not be in competition with one another; and each candidate will have their own set of questions. The group interview technique is meant to make the process less stressful and give candidates an opportunity to learn from one another.**
***Candidates will be able to sign-up for their own on-line interview re: dates and times to be released later this year.*
3. **Resume:** Candidates should develop and submit a resume that is reflective of both their skills and experiences, AND their 4-H History. Candidates are encouraged to use one of the three main types of resumes used today: Functional, Chronological or a Combination.
**Resumes should be no longer than 2-pages in length.*
4. **Electronic Video:** Candidates will create and submit a 3-minute video (videos submitted over 3 minutes in length will NOT be viewed / scored). Candidates can use their phones, tablet or computer to record a 3-minute video that covers this year's NEW EV Prompt (see below).
**Candidates should include a link to their EV on their Resume.*

NEW EV Prompt for 2021: Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?

- In many ways, this is a perfect prompt, given the events of the past year or more, each of us have had time to contemplate the value of gratitude and how small, or not-so-small, acts of kindness can gift you the opportunity to see the world from a different perspective.

To get started, think about times when they have felt acknowledged, heard, and seen. Moments when you have felt that swelling in your chest, as your heart grew three sizes. Think creatively about what you appreciate in your life. It can be a physical gift, an action, or even just a set of feelings projected in your direction. You can be familiar with the person who has inspired your gratitude or reflect on the actions of a stranger or even a public figure who has impacted your life for the better. Just remember that this EV needs to focus on how you process, appreciate and draw inspiration from the action of others, so make sure your response is focused on YOU. Ultimately, we want to know more about how you relate to others in the world, and how you re-purpose good intentions.

- This prompt seeks to explore a time where you were surprised by the selflessness, thoughtfulness, and/or actions of another person. Perhaps it was someone you know well, or alternatively a stranger. What was it about this action that surprised you? Was it the act itself or the act combined with this element of surprise that made you happy and thankful? Moreover, what did this tell you about the importance of family, friendship, community, or the kindness of strangers and how did it affect your view, actions, or goals moving forward? This prompt invites you to share a story that is meaningful to you. It requires you to craft a narrative that explains the 'before and after' of an action and how the 'surprise' triggered some personal revelation or change. The aim here is not simply to show that you felt happy or grateful, but what you learned about others, yourself, your community, humanity... and how these learnings affected you or motivated you in a positive way.
 - Note this phrasing: "happy or thankful in a surprising way." I have to admit this gave me pause; what does it mean to be happy or thankful in a "surprising" way? Try to avoid typical, "expected" stories of someone doing something for you: a teacher offering extra help, a coach sharing motivational words, or a stranger buying your Starbucks.
 - Note this phrasing: "How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?" Don't forget to explain how or why this thing you've just described matters to you and/or how it affected you.

Submission Guidelines for 4-H Professionals:

4-H AIRE Candidate Packets must be submitted via the Google Registration Form **NO Later than June 10, 2021.**

What Gets Submitted: The candidates Application information is entered on-line and their Resume is uploaded (which includes a link to their EV).

When Are the Video Interviews: Video Interviews will take place between June 17, 2021 – July 31, 2021. 4-H AIRE Candidates will be sent a link to sign-up for their Video Interview once the program closes on June 10th.

For Additional Information: Please contact Dr. Mitzi Downing at mitzi_downing@ncsu.edu or 919-515-8487

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