Santa Cruz County 4-H Scholarship Guidelines

The Santa Cruz County 4-H Leaders Council offers a scholarship to eligible applicants who are members of a recognized Santa Cruz County 4-H Club. In order to be eligible, a member must have completed the last 2 years of 4-H (can be sophomore/junior or junior/senior year.) In order to complete the 4-H year, members must be in good standing and have met the following criteria:

1.) Attend 50% of their community club meetings
2.) Complete a demonstration
3.) Participate in at least one community service
4.) Complete a record book
5.) Have a fair entry
6.) Attend the April council meeting, (introduce yourself and explain what your plans are for your future. If you are not able to attend, let your community club leader know. Alternative; you could produce a video of yourself).

FFA members of Santa Cruz County that are in good standing and have completed two years with their program, have participated in the market livestock auction, and have provided service at fair cleanup and fair kitchen are eligible to apply for the scholarship. The FFA Advisor is responsible for approving scholarship applications prior to their submission to the 4-H Council. “Good standings” are at the discretion of the FFA advisor. Applicants must also attend the April council meeting, (introduce yourself and explain what your plans are for your future. If you are not able to attend, let your FFA advisor know. Alternative; you could produce a video of yourself).

In order to apply for the scholarship, members must submit a one-page resume and a one-page story on how 4-H has influenced their life. These are due to a representative of the council by the first Friday in April of the current year. A majority of the council members must approve the scholarship application. Council members with an obvious conflict of interest must recuse themselves from voting. Once scholarship applications are approved, they should be notified in writing of their responsibilities.

Eligible applicants must begin attending an accredited post-secondary institution of their choice in the semester immediately following their graduation, unless special approval is requested by the applicant. Once the student enrolls in school, a copy of their schedule or fee receipt is to be given to the Council Treasurer for payment. The scholarship is automatically renewable for up to eight consecutive semesters. If any semester is skipped, the scholarship award ends. There is no requirement for the type of post-secondary education they receive, nor is there a grade point or academic progress requirement. It is the responsibility of the student to submit their fee receipt or schedule for payment.

Currently the 2019 scholarship award is $250.00 per semester for a total award of $2,000.00 (eight semesters). This can be adjusted, based on revenues or the number of applicants. Scholarship recipients must submit their required paperwork (transcripts and schedule of classes) by September 30th and January 31st to the 4-H council treasurer in order to receive their funds. If applicants have questions or concerns, please contact the Extension Office or the local county 4-H office.