

2026 Junior Royal Ambassador Packet



 ISABELLA COUNTY 4-H 
ROYAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM
“Growing the next generation of Leaders”

Junior 4-H Royal Ambassador Team Criteria

Eligibility Requirements:

- Age: Must be between 8-11 years old as of January 1st of the current year.
- Must have been enrolled in an Isabella County 4-H club for two or more years, including Cloverbud years.

Application Process:

1. Complete the Junior 4-H Royal Ambassador Packet.
2. Submit **one Letter of Recommendation** from a current Isabella County 4-H leader. **Please note** that a family member cannot provide this recommendation.
3. Write and submit a **typed 1-page letter** addressed to Liz Antvelink, the Isabella County 4-H Program Coordinator. In this letter, explain:
 - Your involvement in 4-H.
 - What makes you passionate about 4-H.
 - Why do you want to represent our fair and community as a Duke/Duchess Royal Ambassador?
4. Turn in a completed handwritten Application Form, one Letter of Recommendation, and a Personal Information Sheet to the 4-H Extension Office. When you submit your application, either Liz or Nonie will collect it from you. Your application will be placed in a secure envelope; only what is submitted will be scored.

Deadline: All materials must be submitted by Friday, May 1st, 2026.

Preparation for the Interview:

Prepare a visual aid that showcases your involvement in 4-H. You will present this visual aid during the evaluation panel interview scheduled for **Sunday, June 28th, 2026, from 1-5 PM** at Maranatha Baptist Church. Your visual aid can be related to a 4-H craft, such as a tri-fold display, PowerPoint presentation, quilt, birdhouse, woodworking project, game board, or any other creative work that will impress the judges. Be creative!

Point System

Scoring for Junior 4-H Royal Ambassador Program

Letter:

Grammar/Meeting the Requirements.....	15 points
Your 4-H Experience.....	25 points
How you would get kids to join the 4-H Program.....	25 points
Differences that you could make for the Isabella County Fair.....	25 points
Why would you like to be Isabella Co. Junior Royal Ambassador...	50 points

Application Packet20 points

Interview:

Attire.....	5 points
Poise/Enthusiasm.....	20 points
Involvement in 4-H.....	20 points
Personality/Attitude.....	20 points
Visual Aid:.....	30 points

Total: 255 points

Scholarships to be awarded:

Junior 4-H Duke/Duchess Royal Ambassador: \$200

1st Runner-Up Duke/Duchess 4-H Royal
Ambassador:\$150

Helpful Hints and Information

1. Complete the entire 4-H Ambassador Application packet in handwriting (**Pen**). Answer all questions and read each item carefully.

2. The Leader Recommendation Form should be filled out by a 4-H leader in Isabella County who knows you well and is not a relative. These forms must be submitted to the 4-H Extension office by **Friday, May 1st, 2026**. Make sure to ask a leader soon so they have enough time to complete it; don't wait until a few days before the due date, as there may not be enough time then.

3. When writing your letter to Liz Antvelink, ensure that you meet all the requirements. The letter should be one page long and should explain why you are the ideal candidate for the Royal Ambassador position. Include details about your 4-H experiences and your passion for 4-H. An example letter to Liz will be provided at the back of the packet.

4. Develop a visual aid that represents what 4-H means to you. Bring this visual aid to your interview on **Sunday, June 28th, between 1-5 PM**. It can include pictures, brochures from 4-H events you've attended, accomplishments at the fair, or your future 4-H plans. Your display should be organized, clean, creative, and positive. You may choose to do a PowerPoint presentation, tri-fold poster, scrapbook, quilt, or any other creative format that showcases your 4-H experience. Show your personality and take pride in your work.

5. You will participate in a personal interview, so please dress nicely and neatly. We recommend avoiding jeans, shorts, t-shirts, tank tops, or flip-flops. Make a strong first impression when you enter the room to meet the judges—dress for success! You will have approximately ten minutes (which may be extended depending on the number of applicants) to discuss your visual aid, and the judges will ask you some questions. Practice with someone ahead of time, and most importantly, be yourself. Let the judges get to know you and demonstrate why you would be a GREAT 4-H Ambassador!

6. Remember, the most important thing is to have FUN!

Important Dates

Thursday, January 29th, 2026, 6 pm:

Royal Ambassador Information Meeting

Join us at Maranatha Baptist Church to learn more about our Royal Ambassador program and discover why you should participate this year. We will review the program, discuss its benefits and opportunities, explain how to get involved, and share the experiences gained by the 2024 Royal Ambassadors. **Location:** Maranatha Baptist Church, 5282 E Airport Rd, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858.

Friday, May 1st, 2026, by 4:00 pm:

Application Packets Due to the 4-H Extension Office

Please return your completed Application Packet to the 4-H Extension Office by 4:00 PM. Drop off the packet at the former McGuirk office, located at 510 Pickard Rd, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858. If you encounter any issues submitting your application, please contact our coordinator, Lillian Albaugh.

Sunday, June 28th, 2026, 1-5 PM:

Applicant Interviews

Applicants should bring their visual aids to their designated interview time slot and meet with our judges. Interviews will be held at Maranatha Baptist Church, 5282 E Airport Rd, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858. Refreshments will be provided. We encourage you to arrive 20 minutes before your assigned time slot and attend as much of the afternoon session as possible. Last-minute assistance will be available prior to your interview.

Sunday, July 12th, 2026, 2:00 pm:

Announcement of the New 2025 Royal Ambassador Court

Join us at Maranatha Baptist Church, 5282 E Airport Rd, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858, for the announcement of the new Isabella County Royal Ambassador Team. Snacks and beverages will be available before the announcement, and all participants and their family members are invited to celebrate with us.

Royal Ambassador Coordinators' Contact Information:

Lillian Albaugh:

Phone: (989) 513-8202

Email: lillianalbaugh@gmail.com

Olivia Block

Cell: (989) 898-8328

Email: Oliviablock_19@icloud.com

Kourtney Collin

Phone: (989) 444-2097

Email: kcollin10@gmail.com

Lizzie Antvelink (4-H Coordinator)

Cell: (989) 615-6574

Email: antveli3@msu.edu

****Handwritten, use additional sheets as needed. NO SCRIBBLES OR 1 POINT WILL BE TAKEN OFF YOUR SCORE****

Name _____ 4-H Age _____ Years in 4-H _____

1. Tell us a little bit about yourself ? (School, Hobbies, what you enjoy)

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

2. What made you join 4-H?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

3. What projects do you participate in? Which one is your favorite to show and why?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Participant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Personal Information

This personal information sheet is for the use and records of the Isabella County 4-H Ambassador Program coordinators only. Judges or any other outside party will not have access to this information. Please return this sheet with the handwritten Application, typed letter, and Leader Recommendation Form to the 4-H Extension Office.

Needs to be turned in by Friday, May 1st, 2026

Print Legibly

Name _____ Phone _____

Full Mailing Address _____

School _____ Grade _____

4-H Age _____ Years in 4-H _____ Birth Date _____

E-Mail Address _____

4-H Club _____ 4-H Leader _____

Competing in which division (circle one) Junior Intermediate Senior

Shirt Size _____ Youth/Adult (Two are Provided) *These will run in adult sizes Men & Women*

Jacket Size _____ Youth/Adult (One Provided) *Please put your exact size, we will be ordering you a size up. That way you can wear a sweatshirt underneath, this will run in adult size*

Parent/Guardian name(s) and contact number(s):

Parent Number 1:

Name _____ Primary Phone Number _____

Parent Number 2:

Name _____ Primary Phone Number _____

Junior Royal 4-H Ambassador Program

4-H Leader Recommendation Form

Handwritten, use additional sheets as needed. If you have a relative or a parent as your 4-H leader, you are allowed to ask any of the other 4-H Leaders that affiliate with Isabella county and someone that is not a relative.

This needs to be turned in by May 1st, 2026

Applicant's Printed Name: _____

What is your association with the applicant?

Explain why you feel this applicant would be a good representative of the Isabella County 4-H Program?

Other Comments you would like to share about the applicant?

References Printed Name _____ **Date** _____

References Signature _____ **Contact#:** _____

4-H Royal Ambassador Program

*** PLEASE! Read carefully and ask questions for clarification-signature indicates agreement with these terms.****

This needs to be turned in by May 1st, 2026

1. Complete all required forms in your handwriting (besides the letters), following directions carefully.
2. Here is a list of fair week Responsibilities:
 - a. Pre Fair Week Planning
 - b. Assist at the Still Exhibit Auction, Small Animal Auction, and Large Animal Auction – these events are required during fair week.
 - c. The court will be attending grandstand events.
 - d. Participate in Goat Milking, Dairy Hand Milking, Baby Calf Parade, and Pedal Pullers Competition.
 - e. Be present at small and large animal showmanship events to lead pledges and pass out awards.
3. Post-Fair Responsibilities:
 - a. Attending 4-H Banquets.
 - b. Job Shadowing.
 - c. Attend a professional photo session.
 - d. Community Christmas Parades include Mount Pleasant Christmas, Shepherd Christmas, Beal City, Coleman, and Shepherd Maple Syrup Parade.
 - e. Support the TSC PaperClover Campaign(s)- one in the fall and one in the spring.
 - f. Announcement Ceremony for the new upcoming team.
4. When possible throughout the year, assist other 4-H members/leaders at various clinics, workshops, and educational opportunities at the discretion of the 4-H Program Coordinator, as well as complete community service projects.
5. 4-H Ambassadors should always present themselves politely, respectfully, and appropriately.
6. Certain events will require parent/guardian participation/ involvement.
7. 4-H Ambassador Program participants will be held to the 4-H Code of Conduct. The 4-H Program Coordinator and Fair Board representatives will handle disciplinary issues or conflicts.

Applicant and parent/Guardian Acceptance: If chosen as a 4-H Ambassador, we understand and agree to the rules, expectations, and statements made throughout this application packet. Any breach of these rules, responsibilities, and expectations may result in removal from the program and forfeiture of any monetary award and other benefits.

4-H Ambassador Program Applicant Signature Parent/Guardian Signature

Date: _____

(Your Name and Last Name)

Address

City State, Year

May 1st, 2026

Liz Antvelink
510 W. Pickard St
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

EXAMPLE

Dear Mrs. Liz Antvelink,

Hello, I am Amelia Hetzner, a member of the Tinker 4-H club. I am contacting you because you have an open position for the Duke/Duchess Royal Ambassador. You are lucky because I would like to be the next Duke/Duchess Royal Ambassador for the Isabella County Fair and the community. I have been involved in 4-H for 3 Years and have enjoyed every second. I get excited to work on my projects, such as Horses, Poultry, Dairy Feeders, Hogs, Sheep, and multiple crafts. I have learned much from my projects by learning nutrition facts, body parts, and how to help people around my community. As a 4-H participant, I have had the opportunity to do so by going to a nursing home during Christmas and decorating doors for older people. Talking with the residents while decorating the doors is so much fun. Other community service projects I am involved in include roadside clean up, Relay for Life, Gifts from the Heart, soup kitchen, and many more. From these different experiences that I have gained, I would like to give back to my community by representing my fair and community.

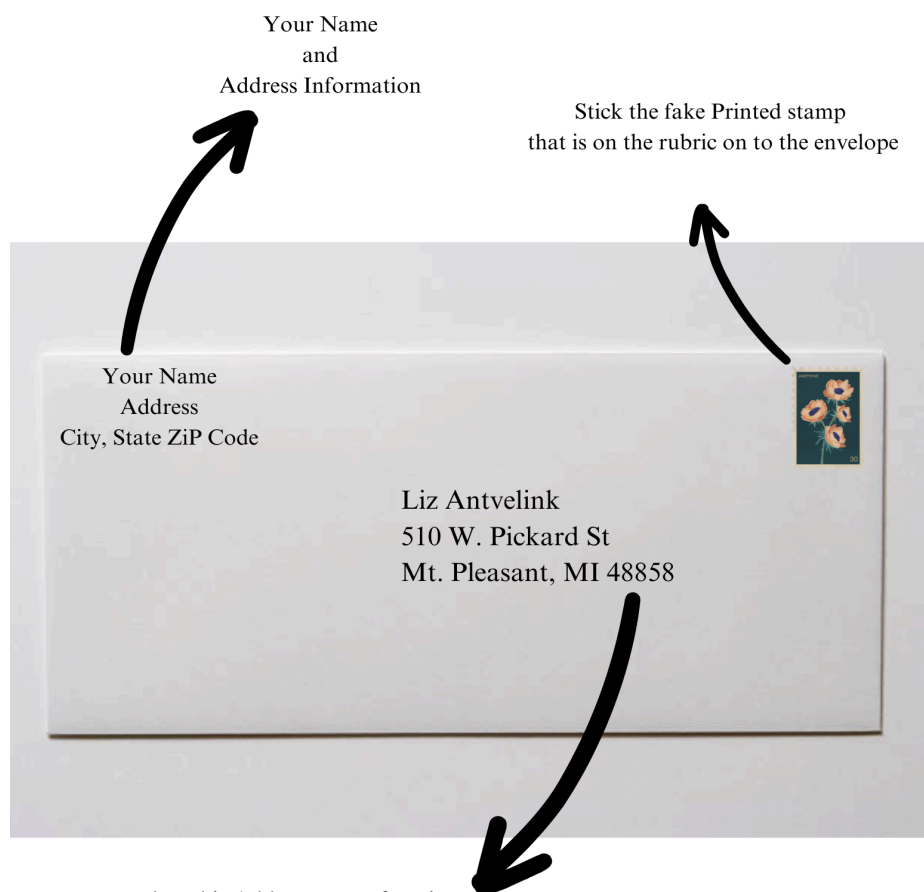
I should be the Isabella County Fair 4-H Duke/Duchess Royal Ambassador because I want to give back to those who have helped me along the way and the chance to represent such a wonderful community that has allowed me. Also, with my personality, it would be great to have on the court because I am caring, responsible, creative, friendly, bright, cheerful, exclusive, dedicated, and passionate about what I do. If I were a Royal Ambassador, I would share many ideas to help make our fair successful.

Again, thank you so much for your time; I am excited to run this year and be your next future 2025 Duchess Royal Ambassador. I hope to hear from you soon and share why I am so passionate about being a 4Her, Especially in Isabella County. Thank you again

Sincerely

Amelia Hetzner

(Write your Signature here)



This needs to be turned
in with letter in
envelope by May 1st,
2026

DO NOT SEND THIS IN THE MAIL!

You will attach the letter to the packet Information when you turn it