

To: Current High School Senior 4-H Members

From: Joshua Flees, 4-H Foundation Chairperson

Re: DeWitt County 4-H Foundation Scholarship

Date: December 2025

Attached is the DeWitt County 4-H Foundation scholarship application. The packet can also be found on our website at go.illinois.edu/dmp4h.

Please note that you are to submit your cumulative DeWitt County 4-H Member Record (up through 4-H year 24/25). If you do not have a record form, please contact the Extension office at 217-935-5764.

Scholarships can be awarded up to \$1000 each for up to four years. Determination will be made by the scholarship committee based upon the application quality and interviews. The number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the amount of available funding.

If you have any questions, please email the scholarship committee at dw4hfoundation@gmail.com.

The scholarship deadline is **February 20, 2026**. The application and all supporting materials must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on this date. Check the list to make sure you have all required materials.

The scholarship committee will be reviewing applications on Saturday, February 21, 2026. Applicants selected for interview will be contacted. Interviews will be held on the morning of Saturday, March 14, 2026.



DeWitt County 4-H Foundation Scholarship Information

1. Eligibility
 - current high school senior
 - currently enrolled as a DeWitt County 4-H member by January 1, 2026
 - 4-H Community Club member in DeWitt County for four years
 - proof of acceptance to an accredited school, college or training center for Fall 2026
 - scholarship money will be given annually for up to a total of 4 years. To continue to receive the scholarship, proof of continuing education will be needed (i.e. registration for classes for fall semester)
2. Summary of materials to be submitted. All items on checklist must be submitted to be considered.
 - ☐ 4-H Foundation Scholarship Application with required signatures. Application must be typed to be eligible.
 - ☐ Reference Letter from current 4-H leader on club accomplishments (sealed and signed)
 - ☐ Reference Letter from another personal contact (sealed and signed)
 - ☐ DeWitt County 4-H Records for every year of 4-H completed (through 4-H year 24/25)
 - ☐ One original essay NOT from previous records. Please choose ONE of the listed topics (minimum of 500 words):
 - Project mastery in a category that you have participated or
 - 4-H experience and impact.
 - ☐ Proof of acceptance to an accredited school, college, or training center
3. 4-H Records shall be submitted for all years of 4-H participation through the most current completed year (4-H year 2024/2025).
4. Payment: The first payment will be paid after the Extension office receives proof of acceptance for schooling for the fall of 2026. Future payments will be received after the Extension office receives proof of enrollment each fall for up to a total of 4 years.
5. The recipient may enter any college or technical school of their choice in any degree program.
6. The scholarship winner/winners will be introduced at the DeWitt County 4-H Fair Awards Program in July.
7. The Foundation board strongly encourages the scholarship winner/winners to display their records and memorabilia and enter and show at least one project at the 4-H Fair to encourage 4-H members to set their goals for achievement.
8. The scholarship will be awarded on a combined basis of merit and 4-H accomplishment, 4-H records, interview and references. Scholarships do not have to be awarded annually by the Foundation.
9. Submit application or equivalent Word Document. Additional pages may be used as needed to complete any area of the application/materials.
10. Interview date with scholarship committee is set for Saturday morning, March 14, 2026.

DeWitt County 4-H Foundation Scholarship Information

Check the following information is included

- ❑ 4-H Foundation Scholarship Application with required signatures. Application must be **typed** to be eligible.
- ❑ Reference Letter from Current 4-H Leader on Club accomplishments (sealed and signed)
- ❑ Reference Letter from Another Personal Contact (sealed and signed)
- ❑ DeWitt County 4-H Records for every year of 4-H completed (through 4-H year 24/25)
- ❑ One original essay NOT from previous records. Please choose ONE of the listed topics (minimum of 500 words):
 - Project mastery in a category that you have participated or
 - 4-H experience and impact.
- ❑ Proof of acceptance to an accredited school, college, or training center

DeWitt County 4-H Foundation Scholarship Application

Name _____ Year _____

Enrolled by January 1, 2026, in DeWitt County 4-H club: Yes ☐ No ☐

Years in 4-H: _____

Name you want used in publicity: _____
(print)

Home address: _____ Zip code: _____

School address: _____ Zip code: _____

Home phone number: _____ (_____) _____

Date of birth _____ / _____ / _____

Age as of January 1, 2026: _____

Parents/Legal Guardians:

Father's name & address: _____

Mother's name & address: _____

Name & address of school you will attend this fall: _____

What career do you plan to follow? _____

I personally have prepared this report and certify that it accurately reflects my work.

Date: _____ Signature of 4-H member _____

We have reviewed this report and believe it to be correct.

Date: _____ Signed _____
(Parent or Guardian)

Date: _____ Signed _____
(4-H Leader)

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1. What are your reasons for pursuing an education beyond high school?
2. In what field are you majoring or planning to major in and why?
3. 4-H Projects- What two 4-H projects have most impacted your career choice? Explain.
4. 4-H Awards, Project Awards, and Honors- (List major awards, project awards and recognition you have received in 4-H -- local, county, state, national.)

Year

Award

Level

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5. Project related accomplishments. (What do you think are your most significant project related accomplishments (not awards) and "project related" involvements.)

6. 4-H Offices Held and for how many years? - (List 4-H offices held, including club, county, district, state.)

7. Community Activities- (List citizenship/community service activities, not just 4-H. Include those things which contribute to the welfare of your community, other individuals, or organizations in which you are a member.)

DeWitt County 4-H Foundation Scholarship 4-H Leader Reference Form

Applicant Name: _____ Leader Name: _____

1. Describe strengths and leadership skills exhibited by the applicant.

2. What activities/community service has the applicant participated in?

3. Give examples of how the applicant work with others.

4. What would you say is the most important accomplishment the applicant has had?

In the **space provided** please offer any additional comments regarding the applicant.

Signature of Evaluator _____ Date _____

Please place in a sealed envelope, sign on the seal, and return to applicant to submit with application.

**DeWitt County 4-H Foundation Scholarship
Personal Reference Form**

Applicant Name _____

Evaluator Name and Position/Title _____

Evaluator Address: _____

1. Describe strengths and leadership skills exhibited by the applicant.

2. Tell us about the applicant and how you know them.

3. Give examples of how the applicant works with others.

4. What would you say is the most important accomplishment the applicant has had?

In the **space provided**, please offer any additional comments regarding the applicant.

How do you know the applicant? (i.e. teacher, etc.) _____

Signature of Evaluator _____ Date _____

Please place in a sealed envelope, sign on the seal, and return to applicant to submit with application.