

# 4-H Project Award Application

**Due: September 15, 2026**

## WHY SHOULD I APPLY FOR AWARDS?

Members completing award applications will be recognized for their involvement in the 4-H program and will be eligible for awards in specific project areas.

Accomplishment of completing applications should encourage and challenge you to work hard to increase your interest and involvement to help you learn more.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Age (as of 9/1/24): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check 4-H Project Award area(s) you are submitting application(s) for:**

- Animal Science:** Alpaca/Llama, Beef, Cats, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Dogs, Horse, Meat Goats, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Small Pets, Guinea Pigs, Swine, Vet Science
- Career & Leadership Development:** Babysitting, Communications, Career Development, Consumer Education, Leadership, Ready4Life
- Civic Engagement:** Civic Engagement, Service Learning, Exploratory, Family History, Intercultural
- Creative & Cultural Arts:** Creative Writing, Interior Design, Photography, Theatre Arts, Video, Visual Arts, Clothing & Textiles, Shopping in Style, Floriculture
- Environmental Science:** Beekeeping, Entomology, Forestry, Geology, Natural Resources & Outdoor Adventures, Fishing & Wildlife, Weather, Shooting Sports
- Food Systems:** Crops, Horticulture, Plant & Soil Science
- Healthy Living & Nutrition:** Food & Nutrition, Health
- STEM:** Aerospace, Building Bricks, Computer Science, Electricity, Robotics, Small Engines, Technologies, Tractor, Welding, Woodworking

**Statement by Member:** I personally have prepared this application and certify that it accurately reflects my work. (MUST BE SIGNED)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(4-H Member)

**Approval of this Application:** We have reviewed this application and believe it to be correct. (MUST BE SIGNED)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent or Guardian)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Leader)



**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**READ AND FOLLOW ALL DIRECTIONS COMPLETELY:**

- This form must be filled out completely for award considerations.
- You are encouraged to complete an application for all project areas in which you completed projects in.
- If you completed projects in **more than one project area**, you will **only need to fill out the Participation, Community Service, and Leadership pages one time**, but you will **fill out a separate Project Learning page for each project area** and mark which project area that page is for at the top.
- 4-H members competing in a livestock project area are encouraged to fill out this application for the Animal Science award. You should also fill out the Livestock Record Book for additional recognition. That application is separate from this one and can be found on the unit website: <https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockRecord>.
- The application may be typed or neatly handwritten.
- All information must be from the past 4-H year (September 1-August 31).
- Please review each page and check off the experiences you achieved this year in each dimension: Participation, Community Service, Leadership, and Project Learning. **YOUT CAN ONLY COUNT EACH ACTIVITY UNDER ONE OF THESE DIMENSIONS.**
- Please use the award Experience Log to help you organize your activities: <https://go.illinois.edu/MyExperienceLog>
- For each section checked, please write notes indicating all the dates that you participated and what you did. *For example, do not say that you attended all your club meetings, instead indicate the dates of the club meetings that you attended. We do not know if your club meets 6, 9, or 12 times a year. We need you to list all dates.*
- All items **must be 4-H related unless otherwise noted.**
- Sign the application and get the signature of your parent or guardian and club leader as well.
- Award applications must be turned in to the County Extension office or your Club Leader by **September 15. \*One point will be deducted from your final score for each day your application is late.**
- If you find that you are able to fill out 6 or more activities under the Community Service, Leadership, or Project Learning dimensions, then we encourage you to fill out the State award application located here: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>

**PLEASE READ THROUGH THE ENTIRE APPLICATION  
BEFORE YOU BEGIN FILLING IT OUT.**



# PARTICIPATION DIMENSION

Place an **x** prior to each Experience that you have had this past 4-H program year (September 1 through August 31). Then provide information to verify your selection of this statement. (Must include dates, name of the event or activity, and details for the judges to see that it fits that experience requirement.)

CHECK	LEVEL	EXPERIENCE	DETAILS
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	List all dates of Community Club meetings attended.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LEADERSHIP CLUBS	List dates of Leadership Club (Federation and/or Teen Teachers) meetings attended.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPIN CLUBS	List all dates of Special Interest Club (SPIN) meetings attended, and give the club name(s).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	List club activities that you participated in outside of club meetings. (For any clubs you belong to.)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	List the county activities you attended and dates they occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MULTI-COUNTY or REGIONAL	List any multi-county or regional activities you attended and the dates they occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	STATE	List any state activities you attended and the dates they occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NATIONAL	List any national activities you attended and the date they occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERNATIONAL	List any international activities you attended and the date they occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERNATIONAL	Hosted an international 4-H guest.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERNATIONAL	Travelled internationally as part of a 4-H group.	



# COMMUNITY SERVICE DIMENSION

Place an **x** prior to each Experience that you have had this past 4-H program year (September 1 through August 31). Then provide information to verify your selection of this statement. (Must include dates, name of the event or activity, and details for the judges to see that it fits that experience requirement.)

CHECK	LEVEL	EXPERIENCE	DETAILS
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	List any individual service activities you <u>participated in</u> using <i>project specific skills or knowledge from 4-H</i> .	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	List service activities you participated as a 4-H representative that was organized by another community organization or group.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	List community service activities you <u>participated in with your club</u> and the dates they occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	List community service activities you <u>planned for your club</u> and the dates they occurred.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	List group community service activities you <u>participated in</u> that were organized by the county 4-H program.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	List group community service activities that you helped <u>plan</u> for your county 4-H program.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MULTI-COUNTY or REGIONAL	Participated in <i>or</i> planned a group 4-H service activity beyond the county level.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	STATE	Participated in <i>or</i> planned a group 4-H service activity at the state level.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NATIONAL	Participated in <i>or</i> planned a group 4-H service activity at the national level.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERNATIONAL	Participated in <i>or</i> planned a group 4-H service activity at the international level.	



# LEADERSHIP DIMENSION

Place an **x** prior to each Experience that you have had this past 4-H program year (September 1 through August 31). Then provide information to verify your selection of this statement. (Must include dates, name of the event or activity, and details for the judges to see that it fits that experience requirement.)

CHECK	LEVEL	EXPERIENCE	DETAILS
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Helped plan a <i>non 4-H</i> event in my community.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Held a leadership position in another group or organization.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Did a presentation to tell others about 4-H outside of a 4-H meeting.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Served as an assigned mentor to another youth as part of a program outside of 4-H.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Selected activities from a curriculum or designed activities to teach to others.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Planned, led, or facilitated a workshop to teach skills to others.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Taught lesson to a 4-H audience or a group outside of 4-H.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Assessed a group I taught to see what they learned. (i.e. a survey)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	Participated in a 4-H Leadership program within my 4-H club (i.e. officer or committee member).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	Served as a 4-H youth representative on a county/unit or Extension committee (i.e. Extension Council, Foundation).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	Recruited a new 4-H member for my club or recruited a non 4-H member to attend a 4-H sponsored event.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	Attended a 4-H leadership training or event at county level.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY/MULTI-COUNTY	Planned an event for other 4-H'ers in my county/community.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	STATE	Served in a leadership capacity or attended 4-H leadership trainings or events.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NATIONAL	Served in a leadership capacity or attended 4-H leadership trainings or events.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERNATIONAL	Served in a leadership capacity or attended 4-H leadership trainings or events.	



# PROJECT LEARNING DIMENSION

Place an **x** prior to each Experience that you have had this past 4-H program year (September 1 through August 31). Then provide information to verify your selection of this statement. (Must include dates, name of the event or activity, and details for the judges to see that it fits that experience requirement.)

**Project Award Area:** \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK	LEVEL	EXPERIENCE	DETAILS
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Completed at least 3 activities <i>in a 4-H project book related to my project area.</i> *Please list each activity from your book.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Participated in an apprenticeship, job shadow experience or other career exploration <i>related to my 4-H project area.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL	Participated in a 4-H service activity on my own using skills or knowledge <i>related to my project area.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	Conducted a presentation or demonstration <i>about my 4-H project that informed others in my club.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	Participated in a 4-H group learning experience with my club <i>related to my project area.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLUB	Participated in a 4-H service activity with my club using skills or knowledge <i>related to my project area.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	Participated in a county 4-H workshop or other learning opportunity <i>related to my project area.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	Made a presentation or demonstration <i>about my 4-H project that informed others in my county.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	Went on a 4-H field trip or tour <i>related to my project area.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY	Participated in a 4-H competition or exhibit experience <i>related to my project area in my county.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MULTI-COUNTY, STATE, NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL	Participated in a 4-H competition or exhibit experience <i>related to my project area beyond the county level.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MULTI-COUNTY, STATE, NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL	Participated in a 4-H group learning experience beyond my county <i>related to my project area.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	MULTI-COUNTY, STATE, NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL	Participated in a 4-H service activity beyond my county using skills or knowledge <i>related to my project area.</i>	

## My 4-H Story

Tell a story that expresses your experiences in the 4-H program this year. Stories may be handwritten or typed. If typing, please use a 12 pt. font. If writing, please write legibly. Please use additional sheets if necessary.

- 8-10 year olds should write at least one paragraph.
- 11-14 year olds should write two or more paragraphs.
- 15-19 year olds should write at least one page.

Here are some writing prompts to get you started. You may use them or come up with your own ideas.

- ❖ Discuss your projects that you completed this year. Which project was your favorite and least favorite? Which project was the hardest and the easiest? Which projects do you plan on taking again and why? Which projects would you change if you could and how would you change them?
- ❖ Discuss some workshops or extra learning opportunities that you participated in. For example, did you attend any workshops offered through Extension? What did you enjoy? What did you not enjoy? What did you learn? How will it help you in real life? What workshops are you interested in attending?
- ❖ Discuss your 4-H club experiences. Did you enjoy your meetings? What kinds of activities did you do as a club? What would you like to do next year as a club? What do you like about your club and what would you change? If you were a club leader, what would you do differently?
- ❖ Discuss any community service projects that you did throughout the year either with your club or on your own. Tell us about the community service and the impact that it had on others.
- ❖ Discuss shows that you participated in such as county shows, state fair, livestock shows, etc. What was your experience like and what did you learn?
- ❖ Discuss any leadership opportunities that you took on this year. What did you learn about yourself? How were you able to help others throughout the year?

