



CRAWFORD COUNTY 4-H

RECORDS/AWARD GUIDE 2024-2025

Record-keeping is an important part of 4-H. By completing records of what you have learned and accomplished during your year and the 4-H Fair. Your member portfolio shows your growth through your entire 4-H career. You have done the work, now let's work on getting rewarded for those accomplishments! Records are available online, at the Crawford County Extension Office, or from your 4-H Leader.

Follow these easy steps to complete your records:

1. **RECOMMENDED**- Fill out the "[Crawford County 4-H Member Portfolio](#)". This will serve as a permanent record throughout the 4-Her's career, showing ALL of your involvement in 4-H and community activities. *This record REALLY helps when you are older and filling out college applications and scholarships!*
2. **REQUIRED YEARLY**-Fill out the "4-H Experience Checklist" below. All of this information you will have after completing your Member Portfolio. It's that EASY! This is what is required for any recognition at Achievement Night.
3. Submit the above records to your 4-H Leader, the date to be announced each year. Applications must be signed by the 4-H'er, parent/guardian, and 4-H Leader before being turned in to the Extension Office.

Award Opportunities at the 4-H Show

County Project award/banner- banners or awards are donated by local businesses, individuals, and county leaders' organizations to be presented to 4-Hers showing outstanding project work. Livestock projects are given banners to Grand and Reserve Champions. General projects are given an award whose projects are selected as top exhibits in several general project areas.

Completion Member Award- A special 4-H is given to each completion member during the 4-H Fair. All 4-H members who have been enrolled and meet yearly requirements for 5-plus years and are aging out of the 4-H program are eligible.

Herdsmen Award- superintendents in the area of beef, dairy, sheep, swine, horse, rabbits, goats, and poultry will select one 4-H'er as the recipient of the Herdsmen Award for their species. The award will be based on the Neat Pen and Show Box or supplies, keeping animals presentable, helpful attitude, and general helpfulness in the barn and arena. A member can only receive this honor once per species. The award will be presented during the Livestock Auction.

Award Opportunities on the County Level

Achievement Award- Given to 4-H'er at the completion of the first year. Must turn in application to receive achievement banner.

4-H Experience Award- Given to 4-H'ers in the following categories: The Bronze Clover Award is the first level of recognition during the PAST YEAR. The Silver Clover Award is the second level of recognition for 4-H'ers during the PAST YEAR. The Gold Clover Award is the third level of recognition for 4-H'ers during the PAST YEAR. All three are awarded at the county level. The Diamond and Emerald are awarded at the State level.

Inspire Award- 4-H'ers are selected because of the difference they have made in their club, county, and community by demonstrating leadership qualities and participating in community service activities. Two 4-H'ers (1-13 and younger, and 1-14 and older) per club selected by club leaders.

Outstanding 4-H Member- Up to 2 4-H Members will be selected by Club Leaders and Local 4-H staff as the Outstanding 4-H Members for the year. These members must be Completion Members and have made a difference in their clubs, county, and community. They demonstrate leadership through out their time in 4-H as well as participate in 4-H events and community service activities.

[Livestock Records](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/library/member-resources) on the animals you have shown. An award will be given for the best Livestock Record. This may be found at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/library/member-resources>

[Crops Records](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/library/member-resources) on the crops you have shown. An award will be given for the best Crops Record. This may be found at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/library/member-resources>

Cloverbud Completion- This certificate is given to cloverbuds and those that are transitioning to a traditional club, awarded at achievement night

Club of the Year- All clubs will participate for Club of the Year. There is a points system in place for activities participated in through out the year. Club leaders will submit a report form to the Crawford County Extension office. Contest runs from October 1-September 30. Once County winner will receive an award. One Unit winner will receive an award.

Award Opportunities at the State 4-H Level

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/library>

Illinois 4-H Experience Award | Illinois 4-H Awards & Recognition | Scholarship opportunities

What do the Ribbons mean at the Fair?

The judging process has two phases. The first part is non-competitive, and everyone receives a ribbon/rating based on their own project's individual merits. A blue ribbon means the project met the standards; a red ribbon means the project met most of the standards but needed some improvement, and a white ribbon means the project did not meet the standards and needs much improvement. A participation ribbon will be given if a project is entered late or doesn't follow the exhibit requirements stated in the fair book.

The second phase of judging is the competitive phase. In the competitive phase, projects are judged against each other. A class champion ribbon means that the project was the best in its class. A Champion ribbon means it was the best overall project in a class or group of classes. A Reserve Champion ribbon means it was the second-best overall project in a class or group of classes. A State Fair Delegate ribbon means that this project was selected to represent Crawford County at the Illinois State Fair. A State Fair Alternate ribbon means that the project can go to the Illinois State Fair if the selected delegate chooses not to participate.

Please call the Crawford County Extension Office at 618-546-1549 if you need additional information. We can help you out!



Illinois Extension

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University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.
If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend, call 217-826-5422.

20__ - 20__
4-H Experience Checklist

NAME _____ CLUB _____

	List Details - Must be filled out to qualify for awards.
<p><u>ACHIEVEMENT AWARD</u> First-year members only- must complete this portion</p>	<i>Must attend 1 club meeting, list project shown at the Fair-</i>
<p><u>BRONZE CLOVER AWARD</u> Selected a project and show at the 4-H Fair.</p>	<i>What project areas did you complete and show? Example – (Cooking 101, swine, visual arts scrapbooking, etc.)</i>
Attend at least 3 club meetings-	<i>How many meetings did you attend-?</i>
Give a talk or demonstration.	<i>Name of talk or demonstration and what month did you present -</i>
List all community service activities you participated in:	<i>List all community service you participated in -</i>
<p><u>SILVER CLOVER AWARD</u> List committees, offices, or leadership roles in your club or county.</p>	<i>What Leadership role(s) did you serve -</i>
Take part in a learning activity related to a member's project.	<i>What activity or workshop did you attend -</i>
Recruited a non 4-H member to become a member OR invited them to a 4-H event.	<i>Who did you invite and what event -</i>

Participate in two or more county level activities.	<i>What events did you participate in?</i>
<u>GOLD CLOVER AWARD</u> Participate in two or more unit, regional, or state learning experiences.	<i>What experience(s) did you attend and where was it located -</i>
Provide leadership by planning, promote or lead for a project or activity at the club or county level.	<i>Explain what you did -</i>
Take part in a learning activity related to a members project	<i>What activity or workshop did you attend? -</i>

*** This form must be completed yearly to receive any recognition/award/pins etc. for completion or at Achievement Night. BRONZE, SILVER and GOLD are all awarded at the local level.**

****Experiences can only be used once per application.**

*****Experiences must occur in the current 4-H year (September-August)**

******IF you have completely filled out Bronze, Silver and Gold, you should consider applying for the Illinois 4-H Experience Award for Individuals, found here: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/library>**

Verification Statements

Date _____ Member Signature _____

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

Date _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

I personally reviewed this application and certify that it accurately reflects the member's work

Date _____ 4-H Club Leader Signature _____

I personally reviewed this application and certify that it accurately reflects the member's work

Date _____ Extension Staff Signature _____

I have reviewed this application and believe it accurately reflects the member's work and approve it for state competition.