Illinois 4-H Award Application Information and Instructions



Illinois 4-H Award Application Instructions

The Illinois 4-H Award Application follows this cover page. Applicants for award consideration must be 15-18 years of age by September 1 of the 4-H program year in which they are applying. The Application consists of a 3-page form and attached pages with responses to two required essay questions. No additional pages (besides those required for the essay questions) may be added to this application.

Members may submit in more than one Award Area, but may not submit more than one application in the Project Mastery area. (For example, a member may submit applications in Community Service, Leadership, and Project Mastery – Robotics, but may not submit two applications in Project Mastery in the areas of Robotics AND Photography.)

Information placed on this form (except as noted for the essay questions) should include up to, **but no more than, the member's past three years of 4-H membership.** It is strongly suggested that members review the scoresheet posted on page 6 for a good review of what the judges will be looking for when scoring the applications.

Illinois State 4-H Award Areas

- *Community Service* Focus of your 4-H work in service to/for others. Work should focus what you have done as an individual, not only as a member of your club working on group projects.
- **Communications** Focus of your 4-H work in the art of communicating with others, including *but not limited to* public presentations, 4-H ambassadors, Speaking for Illinois 4-H, presentations to elected officials, television/radio interviews, etc.
- *Leadership* Focus on the development of your leadership skills, including offices held, committees served on, programs lead, public presentations on behalf of 4-H, any of the following Teen Leadership roles teaching, mentoring, planning, promoting, advocating, or advising, etc.
- *Personal Growth* Focus on your own personal growth through participating in the 4-H program. Could include, but is not limited to growth in skills, demonstrated initiative, self-confidence, interpersonal interactions, poise, etc.
- **Project Mastery** Focus on your 4-H work in your **primary** project (i.e. Woodworking, Photography, Beef). Only one project should be included in the application and members should not submit an application in more than one "Project Mastery" area. For award purposes, "project" is defined as those areas of enrollment as listed in the Illinois Project Selection Guide. A member could include multiple areas of study in their project mastery application if the member was enrolled in multiple areas within a specific project during those 3 years. (i.e. A member could complete their application in Food and Nutrition and include information on Cooking 301 and Food Preservation OR a Woodworking Project Mastery application could include information from Woodworking Levels I, II and III.)

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Illinois 4-H Award Application

Please check the award area in which you are applying. If a member is submitting in multiple areas, the first 3 pages will be duplicated. The essay on the last page will need to be individualized for the award area(s) in which you are applying. Descriptions of the areas are included with the first page of instructions and information..

	Community Service		Persona	al Gi	rowth				
	Communications		Project	Mas	stery				
	Leadership	_	List Pro	oject	t:				
Co	unty			Dat	te Submit	tted		/ /	
Leg	gal Name								
Na	me you wish used in publicity								
Str	eet Address						Ар	ot. #	
Cit	y/State/Zip Code								
Pho	one				Home			Cell	
Da	te of Birth (xx/xx/xxxx)		G	ende	er	Female	e	Male	
En	nail								
Na	mes of Parents/Guardians								
Na	me of 4-H Club(s)								

Verification Statements

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

Date

Signature of Member

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

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of 4-H Club Leader

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

Section 1: 4-H Project/Program Summary

In this section, list your top projects (i.e. Woodworking, Cooking 401, etc.) or programs (i.e. Teens as Teachers, Teens as Mentors, 4-H Federation) *within the past three years of your 4-H membership*. Show size or scope of the projects or programs by number of animals owned/leased, dishes prepared, articles made, youth taught/mentored, events planned, etc. (Individual Show exhibits/results should not be included) (30 points) **Do not add lines to this section!**

Year	Name of Project/Program	Project/Program Size or Scope
		(what I made, did, raised or cared for, # taught/mentored)
2015	Cooking 401	Made 200 recipes; Prepared 52 meals/4 people; Catered 3 parties

Section 2: Participation in Other Community/School Activities/Events

Include your participation in sports, band/choral, school clubs, drama, other youth organizations, religious groups, etc. *from the past three years*. You can also include any employment you've had. Tell what you did and the skills you learned. Check all locations that apply. L = Local club or community; C = County; M = Multi-county/Unit; S = State; N = National; and I = International. (30 points)**Do not add lines to this section!**

Year	Kind of Activity	What I Did & Skills Learned	L	С	Μ	S	Ν	Ι
2014-15	Spanish Club	Secretary, fundraising, Trip to Mexico, cultural learning	X					X

Section 3: Participation in 4-H Events/Activities

Include training activities, workshops, clinics, field trips, and special club or program activities and events *during the past three years of 4-H membership.* Show where you participated (L = Local Club; C = County; M = Multi-county/Unit; S = State; N = National; and I = International) and also indicate things learned. Do not include 4-H show results. Activities that have occurred during multiple years may be grouped onto one line like noted in example. (40 points) **Do not add lines to this section!**

Year	Kind of Activity	What I Learned	L	С	Μ	S	Ν	Ι
2013-15	Livestock Judging	Conformation of animals, decision-making, presentation	X	X	X	X		
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General Essay Instructions

- The response to your essay should include a 250 to 550 word narrative included on separate pages.
- Essay should emphasize activities in the last three years, but may also speak to earlier motivations and experiences that laid the foundation for the member's current involvement.
- Include the Award Area in the title of the essay (i.e. Communications Mastery Essay; Robotics Mastery Essay).
- Please use a font size no smaller than Times New Roman 11 pt. for readability.
- Essay is worth 50 points. See the Judging Rubric below for information to include.

Mastery Essay

Explain how you have mastered or excelled **in the award area**. This should not be a listing of awards received. This can include, *but is not limited to*:

- describing skills developed in the area,
- what you have accomplished by using those skills to teach others,
- how you have given back to your community,
- demonstrated leadership,
- extended applications of learning,
- goals set and how they were achieved, etc.

Judging Rubric

Section	Criteria	Eligible Points
Section 1: 4-H Project/Program Summary	Illustrated Growth in Projects or Programs over time (30)	30
Section 2: Participation in other Community/School Activities/Events	Participation in Activities (6) Leadership Exhibited (6) Community Service (6) Knowledge/Skills Gained (6) Advanced Levels of Involvement (6)	30
Section 3: Participation in 4-H Events & Activities	Participation in Activities (5) Leadership Exhibited (10) Community Service (5) Knowledge/Skills Gained (10) Advanced Levels of Involvement (10)	40
Mastery Essay	Demonstrated Mastery/Goals Achieved (20) Sharing with or Teaching Others/Giving Back (10) Leadership Demonstrated (10) Extended Application of Learning (5) Organization, Flow of Ideas - Spelling, Punctuation, Grammar (5)	50
	TOTAL POINTS	150