

Washington County 4-H Award Opportunities



ILLINOIS
Extension



Unit wide meeting/activity policy

Every enrolled 4-H member must attend a *minimum* of four 4-H sponsored meetings, activities, or events during the current 4-H year (September 1 - show day) in order to be eligible for 4-H exhibition, premiums, or other 4-H awards and recognition.

4-H Member Performance Standards of Excellence

In order for 4-H members to be eligible for awards and recognition, they must complete all of the performance standards for their age group (see last page of this document for standards by age) and submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record (due September 1) AND Illinois Project Plan Goal Sheets (due February 15). Members submitting their records for review, but not achieving performance standards status, will be presented with a participation certificate only.

Individual Awards

- Engage Recognition** – Recognizes all members of 4-H for their participation during a 4-H year.
- Experience Recognition** – Recognizes members who are involved in a diverse 4-H experiences (club, county, multi-county, state, national, and international levels). At the county level, members will submit the Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record listing experiences in the following dimensions:
 - Participation
 - Project Learning
 - Community Service
 - Leadership

Eligible members may be asked to complete the My Illinois 4-H Experience Application for state level recognition. Recognition is based on meeting the requirements for each level as follows:

- Bronze Clover – 1 experience in each dimension
- Silver Clover – 2 experiences in each dimension; at least 2 at county level or beyond
- Gold Clover – 4 experiences in each dimension; at least 2 beyond the county level
- Diamond Clover – 6 or more experiences in one dimension; at least 4 beyond the county level
- Emerald Clover – 8 or more experiences in one dimension; at least 4 beyond the county level, plus at least 2 at state or national level

- Project and Activity Awards** - Presented to members scoring at least 60 points on the Project Learning dimension of the Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record. Additional recognition will be given to the top scoring member in each project/activity area. Livestock Exhibitors should also complete the Illinois 4-H Livestock Record.

Project Award Categories:

<i>Animal Science & Veterinary Science</i> Animal Science/Veterinary Science Beef, Cat, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Goat, Horse & Pony, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Small Pets, Swine	<i>Food, Nutrition & Health</i> Food & Nutrition, Health
<i>Community Involvement and Global Awareness</i> Citizenship, Intercultural, Service Learning	<i>Home & Family</i> Clothing & Textiles, Fashion Revue, Interior Design
<i>Engineering & Technology</i> Aerospace, Auto Tech, Bicycle, Computer Science, Electricity, Geospatial, Robotics, Science and Tech-General, Small Engines, Technologies (3-D Printing and Design, Drones), Tractor, Welding, Woodworking	<i>Personal Development</i> Collectibles, College & Career, Communications, Consumer Education, Exploratory, Leadership, Photography, Public Presentations, Theatre Arts, Video/Filmmaking, Visual Arts
<i>Environment & Natural Resources</i> Beekeeping, Entomology, Forestry, Geology, Natural Resources, Outdoor Adventures, Shooting Sports, Sportfishing, Wildlife	<i>Plants & Soils/Agriculture</i> Agriculture – General, Crops, Floriculture, Horticulture, Plants & Soils

4. **Cloverbud Engage Recognition** – Recognizes all Cloverbud members of 4-H for their participation during a 4-H year.
5. **Cloverbud Graduation** – Presented to members completing their final year as a 4-H Cloverbud and who turn in a Washington County 4-H Cloverbud Member Record.
6. **1st Year Member Recognition** – Recognizes 1st year members who submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record.
7. **2nd Year Member Recognition** - Recognizes 2nd year members who submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record.
8. **5th Year Member Recognition** - Recognizes 5th year members who submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record.
9. **10th Year Member Recognition** - Recognizes 10th year members who submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record.
10. **11th Year Member Recognition** - Recognizes 11th year members who submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record.
11. **Alumni Medal Awards** - Recognizes members who are completing their last year as a 4-H member and who submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record. Members should be enrolled in 4-H for five or more years in order to receive this award.
12. **Trip Assistance Awards** – Trip assistance vouchers will be awarded to members according to grade levels who score the highest on the Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record. Members can receive this award only once in their 4-H career per trip. Trips include: Youth Livestock Conference, 4-H Camp, Discover Chicago, Illini Summer Academies, and Junior Leadership Conference.
13. **National Leadership Award (I Dare You)** – Presented to members who are 15-18 years old or who have completed the 9th grade. The award is designed to recognize members who are climbing up the ladder of achievement and leadership responsibilities. The “I Dare You” title encourages youth to strive to be their best and to make a difference in the lives of others. A member can receive this award only once in their 4-H career.
14. **County Outstanding 4-H Member** – Presented to 4-H member(s) that have completed the Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record and have achieved an outstanding score. Members can receive this award only once for each age division (Junior: ages 8-13, Senior: ages 14-18).
15. **Career achievement** - Presented to members that have completed the Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record and have achieved an outstanding score reflecting a “career” in 4-H. Members can receive this award only once in their 4-H career.

County Scholarships

Washington County Extension Education Foundation Scholarship – 4-H members who are a full-time college or trade school student or a high school senior planning to attend college or trade school the following year should inquire about an application. Applicants must have been a Washington County 4-H member during their senior year in high school and for a total of five years. \$500-\$1000 scholarships (to be determined annually) are awarded on the basis of merit upon review of submitted application materials. Scholarships may NOT be awarded annually, contingent on the number of qualified applicants and available funds.

Club Awards

1. **President & Vice President Award** – Members serving in the role as President or Vice President for their club will write a one page essay, including details regarding their experiences in this officer role. Essays should include examples of personal leadership (such as preparing the club agenda, planning programs, assisting members, holding officer meetings, etc.) which gives insight into the leadership role they served in. Requires a club leader signature on the essay as a nomination.
2. **Secretary Award** – Must include completed secretary book with attendance log and minutes.
3. **Treasurer Award** – Based on completed treasurer book, completed financial statements and audit.
4. **Reporter Award** – Based on reports turned in to Extension Office within two weeks of meetings, special events or activities. At least eight reports must be submitted.
5. **Historian/Scrapbook Award** – Based on completion of club scrapbook (no more than three people working together) capturing details of events/activities that the club has participated in during the current 4-H year. Captions should be provided regarding details of the event.
6. **Star Member** – Requires nomination from club leader (up to two per club). Reserved for youth who are 5th grade and above. Ask Program Coordinator for details.
7. **Club Excel Award** – Clubs who submit the Illinois 4-H Club Award Application are eligible for cash awards at the county level. State competition winners could be eligible for additional cash awards from the state level.
8. **Club Clover Challenge** – Clubs who participate in the Washington County Clover Club Challenge, designed for club innovation, leadership and dynamic club meetings are eligible for cash awards. Clubs should complete a designated amount of activities in order to earn a BINGO and must submit the Clover Club Challenge Report Form.
9. **Seasonal Club Contests** – Clubs are encouraged to participate in county sponsored seasonal club contests in order to build 4-H visibility in their local communities, to support teamwork among club members, to provide possible opportunities for committee work, and to encourage youth to participate in activities beyond their local clubs. Contests may include: Pumpkin, Scarecrow, Holiday Tree, “Can”-struction/Pack the Pantry, Show Me Some Love, and Lucky Clover. Prizes in the past have included pizza parties, ice cream parties, popcorn parties, etc. Ask the Program Coordinator or watch monthly 4-H newsletter for details regarding current year contests.
10. **Dairy Month** – Sponsored by Midwest Dairy Association and St. Louis Dairy Council. Clubs should ask the Program Coordinator and watch 4-H newsletter and emails for details regarding criteria regarding these opportunities.
11. **4-H New Year/4-H Week** – Clubs who participate in activities to promote the 4-H New Year or National 4-H Week in their local communities are eligible for cash awards. Ask the Program Coordinator or watch monthly 4-H newsletter for details.
12. **Member Recruitment and Club Attendance** – Sponsored by Unit 23. Clubs who report member recruitment numbers and attendance rates according to guidelines shared by the Program Coordinator and/or Unit Educator are eligible for club prizes. Past awards have included laser tag passes, pool parties, etc.
13. **Community Impact** – Sponsored by Unit 23. Clubs submitting an application for this award should be actively engaged in helping to solve community issues, forming partnership with other agencies, and contributing to the solution of a known problem within the community. Ask the Program Coordinator for details. Past awards have included laser tag passes, pool parties, etc.

State Award Opportunities

Illinois 4-H Excel Award – Due in early January. Members who are 15-18 years of age on September 1 of the current 4-H year should complete the [Illinois 4-H Award Application](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards) for review. The award application itself can be found on the State 4-H Website at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>. Sample applications can be seen by contacting the Program Coordinator. Awards include \$1000 Scholarship OR National 4-H Congress Trip OR other National 4-H Travel Opportunity. Areas include:

- **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 4-H Clover or as a county-offered project (i.e. Llamas, Reading, etc.). 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, Meat and Other Proteins, and Food Preservation OR a Woodworking Project Mastery application could include information from Woodworking Levels I, II and III.)

4-H Key Award – Due in early January. Members who are 16-18 years of age as of September 1 should complete an application found on the State 4-H Website at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>. Members may receive this award only once and a maximum of three applications per county may be submitted. The 4-H Key Award focus is on *Leadership, Community Service, and Mentoring*.

4-H Premier LCP Award – Due in early January. Members who are at least 17 years of age as of December 1 should complete an application by contacting the Program Coordinator. Recipients of this award are eligible to attend the Premier 20 Leadership Conference. Members may only attend the conference once as a winner and a maximum of two applications per county may be submitted. This award focuses on Leadership, Citizenship, Cooperation, and Professionalism.

4-H Veterinary Science Award – Due in early January. Members who are 15-18 years of age as of September 1 should complete an application found on the State 4-H Website at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>. Members must be currently enrolled in the Veterinary Science project and have must have been enrolled in the Veterinary Science project for at least three years (current year included).

Illinois 4-H Legacy of Leadership Scholarship - This merit-based scholarship is awarded to eight Illinois 4-H members annually. Scholarships are \$1,000 and can be used to pay for any college-related costs. Scholarships are paid directly to the educational institution of the member’s choice. Members must be seniors in high school or freshman in college, be currently enrolled in the Illinois 4-H program, and must have been a 4-H member for a minimum of five years. Applications must be submitted to the State 4-H Office postmarked by March 1. Application can be found on the State 4-H Website <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/scholarships>.

Illinois 4-H Livestock Scholarship - This merit-based scholarship is awarded to one Illinois 4-H member annually. The scholarship is for \$1,000 and is paid directly to the college of the winner’s choice. Members must be seniors in high school or freshman in college, be currently enrolled in the Illinois 4-H program, must have been a 4-H member for a minimum of five years, must have participated in Illinois 4-H livestock projects, and must be seeking a degree in a livestock-related field. Applications must be submitted to the State 4-H Office postmarked by March 1. Application can be found on the State 4-H Website <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/scholarships>.

State Fair Jr. Horse Show Scholarship Program - This scholarship is sponsored by the volunteers and supporters of the Illinois State Fair Jr. Horse Show. Funds are raised from the sale of t-shirts at each year's show. The amount and number of scholarships will vary from year to year depending upon income for t-shirt sales and the number of applicants. The scholarship opportunity is open to currently enrolled 4-H and FFA members. Members must be seniors in high school or freshman in college, be currently enrolled in the Illinois 4-H or FFA program, and must have exhibited at the State Fair Jr. Horse Show within the past three years. Applications must be submitted to the State 4-H Office postmarked by September 15. Application can be found on the State 4-H Website <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/scholarships>.

Superior Young Producer Scholarship Program - While not sponsored by the Illinois 4-H program, this scholarship program is open to 4-H and FFA members who are enrolled in beef, sheep, swine, dairy, or horses. The program is sponsored by the Illinois State Fair. Three \$1,000 scholarships are awarded each year in horses and dairy; nine scholarships are distributed among beef, sheep and swine project members. Contests are held during the Illinois State Fair show for each species. Members must compete in 3 to 4 individual segments that vary according to species: management test, skill-a-thon, judging contest, and/or meat identification or testing. Contestants must be 14 - 18 years of age to compete. LEARN MORE HERE. Application can be found on the State 4-H Website <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/scholarships>

Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Team Scholarship Program - Open to any past or present Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team member who has served at least one 2-year term and who is enrolled/accepted at a post-high school program. The number and amount of the scholarships are determined by available funds from the Illinois 4-H Foundation. Applications must be submitted to the State 4-H Office postmarked by June 1. Application can be found on the State 4-H Website <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/scholarships>.

Leader/Volunteer/Community Awards

Please contact the Program Coordinator for more information regarding recognition for the leaders, volunteers, and community support in your local communities. Potential nominations for awards include:

Friend of 4-H

4-H Hall of Fame

4-H Alumni Award

Janet Windler Memorial 4-H Leader of the Year Award

Salute to Excellence

Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

Illinoisan of the Day

Illinois 4-H Larry Fischer Leadership and Spirit Award

Illinois 4-H Family Spirit Award

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4-H Member Performance Standards of Excellence

In order for 4-H members to be eligible for awards and recognition, they must complete all of the performance standards for their age group and submit a Washington County 4-H Permanent Member Record. Members submitting their records for review, but not achieving performance standards status, will be presented with a participation certificate only.

Level 1 Achievement (Ages 8-11)

Standards to Achieve:

1. Establish plans for member's project and make report to leader and Extension Office by completing project goal sheets upon project enrollment. *(effective beginning fall 2017)*
2. Attend at least 50% of club meetings after enrolling.
3. Share project/activity experiences by giving a presentation, talk or demonstration at the club level.
4. Exhibit a project at the 4-H show or other approved 4-H culminating event. (Contact the Extension Office for special/unique culminating event approval.)
5. Participate in at least two 4-H club activities.

Level 2 Achievement (Ages 12-14)

Standards to Achieve:

1. Establish plans for member's project and make report to leader and Extension Office by completing project goal sheets upon project enrollment. *(effective beginning fall 2017)*
2. Attend at least 50% of club meetings after enrolling.
3. Share project/activity experiences by giving a presentation, talk or demonstration at the club level.
4. Exhibit a project at the 4-H show or other approved 4-H culminating event. (Contact the Extension Office for special/unique culminating event approval.)
5. Participate in at least three 4-H club activities.
6. Hold an office in your 4-H club, serve as a Jr. Leader or 4-H Buddy or serve on a committee.
(Committees are appointed to gather information, decide on the details, develop a plan, set a budget, and then report to the club for approval and/or make recommended changes. Showing up strictly to help work an event or for example, to put gift baskets or a scarecrow together = participation and should NOT be counted as committee work.)
7. Participate in at least one 4-H activity at the county, unit, multi-county, state, national or international level.
(County fair and State Fair do NOT count for this requirement.)

Level 3 Achievement (Ages 15-18)

Standards to Achieve:

1. Establish plans for member's project and make report to leader and Extension Office by completing project goal sheets upon project enrollment. *(effective beginning fall 2017)*
2. Attend at least 50% of club meetings after enrolling.
3. Share project/activity experiences by giving a presentation, talk or demonstration at the club level.
4. Exhibit a project at the 4-H show or other approved 4-H culminating event. (Contact the Extension Office for special/unique culminating event approval.)
5. Participate in at least three 4-H club activities.
6. Hold an office in your 4-H club, serve as a Jr. Leader or 4-H Buddy or serve on a committee.
(Committees are appointed to gather information, decide on the details, develop a plan, set a budget, and then report to the club for approval and/or make recommended changes. Showing up strictly to help work an event or for example, to put gift baskets or a scarecrow together = participation and should NOT be counted as committee work.)
7. Participate in at least two 4-H activities at the county, unit, multi-county, state, national or international level.
(County fair and State Fair do NOT count for this requirement.)
8. Assist in planning/conducting 4-H programs at the county level or beyond.
(These programs can include assisting the county 4-H Federation group and/or 4-H Program Coordinator OR helping your local club plan/provide a 4-H opportunity that is open to others outside of your club. You should have a direct hand by either serving on the committee or chairing the planning group, supervising the events of the day, or working at a particular task at the event for a duration of the time. This is above and beyond just participation.)