

ILLINOIS 4-H AWARD APPLICATION

Before completing this application, please read ALL instructions.
Please type or print.

Please check award area(s) in which applying: (descriptions of award areas are included at the end of this application)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Achievement | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Sciences | <input type="checkbox"/> Plants & Soils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Involvement & Global Awareness | <input type="checkbox"/> Home & Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering & Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Food, Nutrition & Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & Natural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (county level only): _____ | |

Have you attended National 4-H Congress previously? (circle one) Yes No
Have you attended National 4-H Dairy Conference previously? (circle one) Yes No

County/Unit _____ Date Submitted _____

Name _____

Name you want used in publicity _____

Home Address _____ Apt. # _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Date of Birth: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

Name of Parents/Guardians _____

Name of 4-H Club/Group _____

Information below needed for award registration -

Male/Female: M F

Ethnic Origin: White Black Hispanic Asian American Indian/Alaskan Native

Residence: Farm Town Town/City Suburbs Central City
Under 10,000 10-50,000 over 50,000 over 50,000
& open country

STATEMENT BY MEMBER

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

Date

Signature of Member

APPROVAL OF REPORT

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Local 4-H Leader

APPROVAL FOR STATE COMPETITION

Date

Signature of Extension Unit Representative

INSTRUCTIONS FOR 4-H AWARD APPLICATIONS

IMPORTANT NOTE: This application form will be used to select award winners based on the member's accumulative work in the 4-H program area. BE SURE TO READ THE INSTRUCTIONS.

1. This application is all you need to apply for state and/or county awards. No other records will be used in selecting state award winners. Competing for county and state awards is strictly optional and is not required of any 4-H member. The decision is yours.
2. This application is for your entire 4-H career, and plans or goals related to information included in this application.
3. This application may be handwritten, typed or completed on a computer. If you do not type, it is acceptable for someone else to type the form from a handwritten version. We encourage you to make your application as legible as possible – we can't evaluate what you have done if we can't read your application.
4. This application should include 4-H and non-4-H activities and consists of two or more parts; the *Summary of Accomplishments* and **ONE 4-H Story** for **each** award program in which you apply. (Example: If you wish to apply for an award in Food, Nutrition & Health and Animal Sciences, you would have **ONE Summary of Total Accomplishments**, with **TWO stories**, one in each area.)
5. The application may be printed, typed or done on your computer. However, do **NOT** use a type size smaller than 12 pt. Times News Roman. All paper must be white and the standard 8-1/2" x 11" size. Margins should be a minimum of 1" on all four sides. A maximum of four pages (one side only) is allowed for the Summary of Accomplishments; a maximum of two pages (one side only) is allowed for the 4-H Story. Either single or double spacing is appropriate. **NO PERSONAL NAMES, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS, OR NAMES OF COUNTIES** should be included in or on the Summary of Accomplishments. **NO PERSONAL NAMES, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS, NAMES OF COUNTIES, HERD NAMES, OR FAMILY NAMES** should be used in the *4-H Story*.
6. The *Summary of Accomplishments (75 points)* should relate to activities during your 4-H career and should include three sections:
 - 4-H/Extension Accomplishments in the Award Area in which you are applying
 - Additional 4-H/Extension Accomplishments
 - Community/School/Other Accomplishments
7. The *4-H Story* is worth 25 points. Your score will be added to the score of your *Summary of Accomplishments*. Each *4-H Story* should relate to your 4-H activities in the specific award program area. Include specific experiences that you were not able to share in the *Summary of Accomplishments*.
8. The *Summary of Total Accomplishments* and each *4-H Story* should be stapled separately. Staple the pages of each section/story with one staple in the upper left corner and paper clip your application to your award application cover sheet (the front page of this form). Your final application can **only** include:
 - Cover Sheet with Personal Information
 - *Summary of Accomplishments*
 - 4-H/Extension Accomplishments in Award Area
 - Additional 4-H/Extension Accomplishments
 - Community/School/Other Accomplishments
 - *4-H Story(ies)*
9. The 4-H Award Application will be used to select the State 4-H Winners in each program area for trips to National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Dairy Conference. The number of trips awarded in each area may vary from year to year.

PREPARING THE ILLINOIS 4-H AWARD APPLICATION

1. **Review the Award Application Scorecard** on the back page of this leaflet before you prepare your *Summary of Accomplishments* and *4-H Story*. It provides the number of award points for each area of the application. You will want to include information that relates to the criteria listed.
2. The **design format** that you use in your *Summary* is up to you (listing information, using charts, bullets or numbering, etc.). However, you will want to make sure that your information is pertinent to the criteria given, easy to read, and well-organized. Think about helping the reader find information in your application quickly.
3. **Be selective** in the information you include; too much information may cause the reader to miss special details.
4. Mark the **level of participation** in all sections with the appropriate designation as to the level of participation: L (local community); C (county); M (multi-county); R (regional); S (state); N (national); and/or I (international). Use brief statements, action verbs and indicate specific numbers of people reached, touched or served at each level.
5. **What is important** in the *Summary of Accomplishments*? The growth within the project – how many animals did you start with and how many do you have now; how many rockets did you make your first year and how have you increased that number now. What you learned (specific skills and knowledge) and how have you used those skills to help others (leadership, community service)? Did you participate in any special events or workshops (4-H or Extension-related)?
6. **What is NOT important** in the *Summary of Accomplishments*? Remember that we are interested in what you have learned and what you have done with those skills. Lists of ribbons and awards received are not important in the Summary. Listings of specific shows or exhibits that you have participated in are not as important – indicate that you participated in “(number) of extra exhibit opportunities” instead. Use this extra space to indicate leadership demonstrated or growth of the project.
7. **What is important** in the *4-H Story*? The Story is where you will want to add a much more personal style to your writing. The *4-H Story* should include information on how 4-H and the projects in the award area in which you are applying have helped you personally. How has your participation affected your family? Has your 4-H participation affected your career choice? Include details on how you use the information that you have learned in school, in other organizations, in your job, in everyday life.
8. **Make your 4-H Story personable** – the reader should be able to describe YOU when they are finished. It may be a “straight facts” story, or may demonstrate some of your creativity – as long as the facts are correct and your point gets across. If you wish to include information about a special accomplishment, include those details in your *4-H Story* along with what it took for you to reach that successful moment (skills learned, family time together, challenges overcome, etc.).
9. Again, you will need **one 4-H Story for EVERY award area** in which you are applying. If you are applying in Plants & Soils AND Mechanics & Technology, you will need information in ONE *Summary of Accomplishments* and TWO *4-H Stories*. You will have one story for Plants which will include different information than your second Mechanics & Technology story.
10. Remember to **follow the instructions** in relationship to the type of paper, number of pages, size of type, margins, spacing, etc. Applications that do not follow those instructions are disqualified on the state level. **DO NOT PUT YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ON THE SUMMARY OR 4-H STORY!**
11. **Check with your local Extension Office as to deadline dates** for county and state award application submission. Your local applications may be due in August, September, or even October. State level applications are generally due in January or February – it may vary from year to year. The state selection process may differ than your local unit process; you can obtain details from your local Extension office.
12. Once state judging is completed, semi-finalists in each award category will be required to participate in a **4-H Award Interview**. Members will receive special instructions and guidelines regarding these interviews at that time. Interviews will be completed at regional locations; however a member may attend any of the scheduled locations.

STATE 4-H AWARD POLICIES

Any boy or girl, regardless of race, creed, marital status, national origin, color, sex, or handicap may compete for state recognition in the Illinois 4-H Award programs providing the member meets the eligibility requirements. These requirements are located on the web at <http://www.4-H.uiuc.edu/opps/recog11.html>

SCORING THE ILLINOIS 4-H AWARD APPLICATIONS

Illinois 4-H Award Applications will be scored in the following manner:

1. The *Summary of Accomplishments* and *4-H Story* will be scored. The maximum score possible is 100 points (75 points for the Summary; 25 points for the Story). See the scorecard below for point divisions by criteria.
2. Scores will be tallied. A minimum of the top 10% applicant scores in each award program category will be named as semi-finalists. (More than 10% may be named depending upon the number of trips available in each category and the number of applications received in that category.)
3. Semi-finalists will be contacted regarding **mandatory 4-H Award Interviews (25 points)**. Interviews will be conducted on a REGIONAL level on one day only. Semi-finalists who cannot attend the Regional Interview will be required to travel to Champaign/Urbana for a one-day “make-up” interview. Semi-finalists who do not complete the interview process on one of these two days will not be eligible to be named as a State 4-H Award Winner. Semi-finalists who complete the interview process but who are not selected as State 4-H Award Winners will be named as State 4-H Blue Award Winners.
4. Semi-finalists will be ranked according to their overall final scores from the *Summary of Accomplishments*, *4-H Story*, and *4-H Award Interview*. Members with the top scores in each 4-H Award area will be named State 4-H Award Winners and receive trips to National 4-H Congress or National 4-H Dairy Conference, depending upon their award application.

Sample Award Application Scorecard

| CRITERIA | POINTS |
|---|------------|
| 4-H/Extension Accomplishments in Award Area Size/Growth of Project – 7 points Knowledge & Skills Gained – 7 points Participation in Activities – 7 points Leadership Exhibited – 7 points Community Service – 2 points | 30 |
| Additional 4-H/Extension Accomplishments Size/Growth of Project – 4 points Knowledge & Skills Gained – 4 points Participation in Activities – 4 points Leadership Exhibited – 4 points Community Service – 4 points | 20 |
| Community/School/Other Accomplishments Participation in Activities – 9 points Leadership Exhibited – 10 points Community Service/Citizenship – 6 points | 25 |
| 4-H Story Knowledge gained in award area – 4 points Uses of knowledge gained in award area – 6 points Impact of 4-H on family & personal life – 6 points Ability to communicate ideas effectively – 4 points Impact of 4-H on future plans – 2 points Organization, neatness, spelling, punctuation – 3 points | 25 |
| TOTAL SCORE | 100 |

4-H Award Application and Assigned Project Areas

The list below includes Illinois 4-H projects and the curriculum/award area to which they are assigned. All of these areas **EXCEPT Dairy**, are used for selection of State 4-H Award Winners to attend National 4-H Congress. *Dairy* is used for selection of State 4-H Award Winners to attend National 4-H Dairy Conference.

Achievement – Includes all 4-H projects, leadership, community involvement over the course of the 4-H member's "career" in the 4-H program

Animal Sciences – Includes Beef, Cat, Dairy, Dog, Goat, Horse & Pony, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Small Pets, Swine, Veterinary Science and any related county projects.

Community Involvement & Global Awareness – Includes Citizenship, Intercultural, and any related county projects

Dairy – Includes Dairy Cows & Heifers, Dairy Goats, and Dairy Foods (also includes dairy food safety). This award area is **ONLY** used for selection for members to attend National 4-H Dairy Conference.

Environment & Natural Resources – Includes Camping & Outdoor Living, Conservation, Entomology, Forestry, Geology, Natural Resources, Sportsfishing, and any related county projects

Food, Nutrition & Health – Includes all Foods & Nutrition projects (and food safety), Health, and any related county projects

Home & Family – Includes Child Development (including safety), Intergenerational, Family Relations, Clothing & Textiles, Consumer Education, Interior Design, and any related county projects

Engineering & Technology – Includes Aerospace, Bicycle, Computer Science, Electricity, Geospatial (GIS/GPS), Robotics, Safety (mechanical-oriented safety), Small Engines, Tractor, Woodworking, and any related county projects

Personal Development – Includes Communication (public presentations, newswriting), Photography, Visual Arts, Recreation, Theater Arts and any related county projects

Plants & Soils – Includes Plant & Soil Science, Crops & Soils, Horticulture, and any related county projects.



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