

COUNTY AWARDS PROGRAM

4-H Member Awards

★Gold Star

★I Dare You

★Silver Star

★Rookie of the Year

The requirements for each award are as follows:

Gold Star: This is the highest county achievement award and is received only once in a 4-Her's career.

1. Complete and submit an application for the award.
2. The member must be at least 15 years of age as of August 31 of the current 4-H year and must have completed at least 3 years in 4-H including the current year.
3. The 4-H member must submit an awards program record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the award.
4. The 4-H member must have completed projects in three different project areas, including submission of appropriate record forms and have participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:
 - Method Demonstrations/4-H Presentations
 - Contests
 - Leadership Labs
 - Citizenship Activities
 - Public Relations (demonstrations, speeches, posters displays, newspapers, etc.)
 - Project Exhibits
 - Camps
 - Others (includes exchange programs, fund-raising, etc.)
5. During years in 4-H, the member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as an officer or committee chairperson (club, county, district or state) and/or as a junior or teen leader in an activity/project.

I Dare You Award

1. Must be 14 and/or older as of August 31 of current 4-H year.
2. Same rules as Gold Star, with this exception: age 14 years as of August 31st of current year.

Silver Star: This is the highest county achievement award received by a Junior 4-H'er. It is received only once in a 4-Her's career.

1. Complete and submit an application for the award.
2. The member must have been a competitive 4-H'er for at least 2 years and be between the ages of 9 and 13 as of August 31 of the current 4-H year. Must be active 4-H member.
3. The 4-H member must submit an awards program record book in the year he or she is to be considered by the award.
4. The 4-H member must have completed projects in three different project areas, including submission of appropriate record forms and have participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:
 - Method Demonstrations/4-H Presentations
 - Contests
 - Leadership Labs
 - Citizenship Activities
 - Public Relations (demonstrations, speeches, posters displays, newspapers, etc.)
 - Project Exhibits
 - Camps
 - Others (includes exchange programs, fund-raising, etc.)
5. During the years in 4-H, the member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as an officer or committee chairperson (club, county, district or state) and/or as a junior leader in an activity/project.

Rookie of the Year: Is awarded to a first year 4-H member who has tried to experience 4-H by project involvement, club involvement, leadership, community service and club attendance.

1. The person will have joined 4-H sometime during the calendar year, September 1 - August 31 of the current 4-H year.
2. Must be 8 to 19 and in at least the 3rd grade.
3. Club managers nominate candidates in May by completing the Rookie of the Year Nomination Form.

Interviews for County Awards will be scheduled after applications are filed. A Biographical Sketch Form (included) must be submitted to the County Extension Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on the same date that County record books are due. A head and shoulder photograph must be submitted at the time of application submission. (Photographs will be used for publicity purposes.)

A 4-H Record Book consists of:

1. Personal Information Page
2. A Texas Report Form
3. 4-H Story & Photo Portfolio (up to six pages maximum)
4. 4-H Resume (for Seniors)

4-H Leader Awards

Leader Recognition pins will be given for 5 year intervals of service.

Distinguished Service Award:

1. Two individuals recognized.
2. Must have 5 years of service, nominated by club managers.
3. Individuals complete application, by deadline and applicants are evaluated by a panel of judges.
4. Award recipients will be recognized at the County and District level. Applicants can also be nominated for State Salute to Excellence.

NOTE: Beginning in 2005, the Awards Committee made these changes:

1. Year Pins will not be awarded at the annual County Awards Night.
2. Project Participation Certificates will not be awarded at the annual County Awards Night.

The Awards Committee recommends that the year pins and project certificates be awarded on the club level. Year pins are available for sale at the county Extension Office and from National 4-H. The county Extension office (with adequate notice) can also provide project certificates for the clubs.