

4-H Newsletter

August 2025 Achievement & Special Awards Edition

Hello, 4-H Families:

In This Issue....

New KY Achievement Info.....	2
Guide for Achievement Application.....	3-5
Project Disk.....	6
Special Awards.....	7-9
KY Policies & Regulations.....	10
Clubs.....	11



**Out with the Old,
In with the New:
The new
Kentucky 4-H
Achievement
Application...**



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Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification

Out with the Old, In with the New: **The new Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application...**

This year the Kentucky 4-H Achievement application is new...totally revamped and totally re-made. The point system is gone. So, there are no points to total. The old form will not be accepted. The new will need to be completed to be recognized.

The new form is divided by the 7 core areas of Kentucky 4-H. Which are:

Agriculture & Animal Science
Communication and Expressive Arts
Family and Consumer Sciences
Health and Wellbeing
Leadership
Natural Resources
Science, Engineering and Technology

Under each of these core areas, everything we do in 4-H fits...or can be categorized.

The new form like the old form is a cumulative record of what you have done in your 4-H career whether you are completing your first year in 4-H or finishing your final year in 4-H.

The new 4-H Achievement application covers a 4-H member's involvement and their 4-H story. The application is relevant, age-appropriate, and user-friendly. It also aims to teach youth essential life skills of **organization, record keeping, and communication**.

What are the ages for each level? All ages are based on 4-H age, which is the age of a 4-H member as of January 1, 2025 of the current 4-H Program Year, September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025.

The minimum age requirements are as follows:

Clover Level 1 - a 4-H member should be at least 10 years old
Clover Level 2 - at least 11 years old
Clover Level 3 - at least 12 years old
Bronze level - at least 13 years old
Silver, Gold, and Emerald levels - members should be in high school.

For all levels, a 4-H member should have completed at least one year as a 4-H member before applying.

Friday, October 10, 2025 is the deadline to submit the 4-H Achievement Application. Link to application. Click below.

https://montgomery.ca.uky.edu/sites/montgomery.ca.uky.edu/files/LDR_Achievement_Application_PY2026%20%20NEW...NEW...NEW...in%202026.pdf

Kentucky 4-H Achievement Program

Guide to Programs, Activities, and Events

This document serves as a guide in organizing and categorizing 4-H participation for the Achievement application. This guide is structured to mirror the sections of the Achievement application, providing examples of clubs, contests, projects, and events that fit within each category. This list is not all-inclusive.

Agriculture and Animal Science

Clubs:

- Alpaca
- Companion Animals
- Dairy
- Dog
- Garden
- Horse
- Horticulture
- Livestock
- Model Farm
- Poultry
- Rabbit

Contests:

- Avian Bowl
- Dairy Jeopardy
- Dairy Judging
- Dog Bowl
- Dog Skillathon
- Horse Contest
- Hippology
- Horticulture Contest
- Land Judging
- Livestock Judging
- Livestock Quiz Bowl
- Livestock Skillathon
- Meat Judging
- Poultry Judging
- Poultry Showmanship
- Rabbit Skillathon

Projects:

- Alpaca Show
- Companion Animal Poster Fair Project
- Country Ham Project
- Crops Fair Project
- Dairy Project

- Dairy Show
- Dog Show
- Embryology Project
- Horticulture/Plant Science Fair Project
- Horse Academy
- Horse Project
- Horse Show
- Livestock (Beef, Goat, Sheep, Swine) (Breeding and Market) Project
- Livestock Show (Beef, Goat, Sheep, Swine)
- Tobacco Fair Project
- Trail Riding Project

Special Events or Participation:

- Ag Safety Day
- Career Shadowing in Agriculture/Animal Science Field
- Dare to Dairy
- Dairy Cow Camp
- Dog Camp
- Equine Task Force
- Horse Camp
- Livestock Clinic
- National 4-H Dairy Conference
- Poultry Show
- Rabbit Show
- Southeast Dairy Youth Retreat
- Top 12 Week (Livestock Judging)

Communication and Expressive Arts

Clubs:

- Art
- Dance
- Drama
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Speech
- Visual Arts



Contests:

- Mock Job Interview Contest
- Speech and Demonstration Contest
- Written Communication Contest

Projects:

- Art Fair Project
- Photography Fair Project

Special Events or Participation:

- Career Shadowing in Communication/Expressive Arts Field
- Emcee for 4-H Event (4-Her has major speaking role.)

Family and Consumer Sciences

Clubs:

- Babysitting
- Cooking/Culinary
- Homemakers
- Sewing

Contests:

- Country Ham Recipe Contest
- Culinary Challenge
- Cupcake Wars
- Egg Chef Challenge
- FCS Bowl
- Lifeskills Contest
- Piggy Bank Contest
- Poultry BBQ Contest

Projects:

- Financial Education Fair Project
- Food Fair Project
- Food Preservation Fair Project
- Home Environment Fair Project
- Needlework Fair Project
- Sewing Fair Project

Special Events or Participation:

- Career Shadowing in Family/Consumer Science Field
- Fashion Leadership Council
- It's Your Reality
- Passport Kitchen

Health and Wellbeing

Clubs:

Contests:

Projects:

- First Aid and CPR
- Health Rocks

Special Events or Participation:

- Blender Bike Programs
- Career Shadowing in Health Field
- Mental Health Events/Programs
- Health Fair Participation

Leadership

Clubs:

- Jr. MANRRS
- Exchange Program/Travel
- Leadership
- Teen Council

Contests:

Projects:

- Civic Engagement/Service Learning Fair Project
- Leadership Fair Project
- Life and Work Readiness Fair Project

Special Events or Participation:

- 4-H Day for History
- 4-H LIFE
- Adelante 4-H
- Capital Experience
- Career Shadowing in Leadership Field (such as CEO, Director, Manager)
- IGNITE 4-H
- National 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus
- National 4-H Conference
- National 4-H Congress
- States' 4-H International Exchange Program

For the Leadership section, please be aware that there are individual category boxes for State Teen Council, 4-H Summit, 4-H Teen Conference, 4-H Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference, and 4-H Issues Conference.



Natural Resources

Clubs:

- Entomology
- Forestry
- Environmental
- Jr. Master Naturalist
- Geology
- Nature
- Outdoor Adventure
- Shooting Sports
- Wildlife
- Woodworking

Contests:

- Forestry Field Day
- Shooting Sports Contest
- Sr. Forestry Judging Contest
- Wildlife Challenge
- Wildlife Habitat Education Program Contest
- Win with Wood Contest

Projects:

- Bee Observation Hive Fair Project
- Forestry Educational Exhibit Fair Project
- Honey Fair Project
- Insect Collection
- Insect Photography Exhibit
- Geology Collection
- Geology Display Fair Project
- Leaf Collection
- Leaf Print Collection
- Woodworking Project

Special Events or Participation:

- Career Shadowing in Natural Resources/Environmental Sciences Field
- Environmental Camp
- Stream Team
- Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRESci) Academy
- NRESci Ambassador Teen Board
- Shooting Sports Teen Ambassador Board

Science, Engineering, and Technology

Clubs:

- Aerospace
- Computer Science
- LEGO
- Minderbenders (Problem Solving)
- Petroleum Power
- Robotics
- SET
- Small Engines
- STEM

Contests:

- Lawn Mower Driving Contest
- Robotics Challenge
- Tractor Driving Contest

Projects:

- Electricity

Special Events or Participation:

- Career Shadowing in SET/STEM Field
- SET Leadership Teen Board
- SET/STEM Camp

NOTE: For clubs that cover multiple disciplines, review the focus of each club meeting throughout the program year to determine the primary focus of the club. For instance, if a homeschool club covers multiple disciplines but focuses on cooking-related activities for 5 out of the 8 meetings, it would be listed in the Family and Consumer Science club section.



Project Recognition: 4-H Record Earns You a 4-H Project Disk

4-H members may submit a project record per project to earn their project disk at the Annual 4-H Achievement Program. A record is a summary of all activities, learning experiences, contests, activities, etc. completed in your project during the program year September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2025.

You can select one of the three following ways to summarize your 4-H project experience:

1. Kentucky 4-H Project /Activity Record Form (4LD-02RA). Contact the Montgomery County Extension Service for this form.
2. Completion of six lessons within the project booklet. Lessons must be completed during the current project year. Submit entire project book and “flag” the lessons and activities completed within the project book.
3. One-page story not less than 100 words discussing your project, the goals you accomplished, the activities you completed; what you learned; the successes or shortcomings you experienced; your future goals...just to a few topics to include in your 4-H Project Story.

Records must be placed in a folder or binder with the your name and their contact information along with the project you are reporting on.



2025 Montgomery County 4-H Camp

4-H Special Awards

The following **SPECIAL AWARDS** are easy to apply for. The **deadline is October 10th, 2025**. All you have to do is complete a **Kentucky 4H Achievement Application**. The form is available at the Montgomery County Extension Office or you can get a copy online—go to the Montgomery County 4-H webpage at <http://montgomery.ca.uky.edu/>. Read the requirements of each award and be sure to list activities related to the award in the **Kentucky 4H Achievement Application**. **There is a new form that came out last year but it will need to be used this year. We have the new forms if you want to request one.**

► **TAMMY WATKINS 4-H AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:** For 1 Junior & 1 Senior 4-H Member—

Sponsored by the Montgomery County 4-H Council. This Award was established *In Memory of Tammy Lynn Watkins*, a 4H member who exemplified outstanding personal development through 4-H and other youth organizations. Winners will be selected in each age division.

The following criteria should be met before applying for this award:

1. Must have excelled and participated in community service and leadership activities.
2. Must have completed the Kentucky 4H Achievement (Honors) Application.

► **FLOYD MCDANIEL AWARD:** For one Junior OR one Senior 4-H Member—

This agriculture-related award was established *In Honor & Memory of Floyd McDaniel*, a former Montgomery County Extension Agent for Agriculture.

The following criteria should be met before applying for this award:

- A. Completed the Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application.
- B. Complete a small/large animal science project such as: dog, sheep, country ham, beef, lamb, swine, goat project, rabbit or an embryology project, etc.
- C. Complete a horticulture/4-H Field Science project. Examples include: a garden project, landscape, beautification project, tobacco, forages (hay), corn, soybeans, or windowsill.
- D. Complete a 4-H communication, marketing or leadership activities such as a presentation before a civic organization, participating in the 4-H Clover sales, appearing on radio, public service announcement, newsletter articles, newspaper articles promoting your projects, etc.

► **ROBERTA S. HUNT AWARD:** For one Junior OR one Senior 4-H Member

This Family & Consumer Sciences/Arts and Crafts related award was established *In Honor and Memory of Roberta S. Hunt*, a former Montgomery County Extension Service office secretary and community leader. The Award is sponsored by the family of Mrs. Roberta S. Hunt & was established in 1989 upon her retirement from the UK Cooperative Extension Service.

The following criteria should be met before applying for this award:

- A. Complete a family and consumer science related project activities such as food, nutrition, breads, dairy foods, clothing, home management, home environment, consumer education, or arts and crafts.
- B. Complete a 4-H, Family & Consumer Sciences or arts and crafts related presentation before a civic organization, other than 4-H Club, homemaker club, or community organization or appeared on radio, public service announcement, newsletter articles, news articles promoting your projects, etc.

► **FINNELL FIELDS 4-H COUNCIL AWARD:** For one Senior 4-H Member

This award recognizes the growth & development of a Senior 4-H member who shows achievement in leadership & citizenship activities. This award is sponsored by the Family of Mrs. Maxine Ricketts *In Honor and Memory of Finnell L. Fields*, a former Montgomery County Extension Agent for 4-H. The following criteria should be met before applying for this award & must be indicated on the Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application:

- A). Hold an office or leadership role within your club or community organization.
- B). Give a presentation to your 4-H club, to another 4-H Club, the Montgomery County 4-H Council or to a community organization such as the Mount Sterling Rotary Club or the Kiwanis Club of Mt. Sterling.
- C). Has completed 4-H citizenship activities such as learning about government, our culture history), or the legal process (law).

► **TAKE AIM AWARD:** For one Junior OR one Senior 4-H Member

This award is sponsored by Risner's Tax Service. It recognizes the outstanding achievements of a 4-H Shooting Sports club member who excels in leadership positions and participates in a 4-H Shooting Sports project. A senior member will be given priority if all else is equal. This award is *In Honor & Memory of Mr. Anthony Bellamy*, a 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator and Coach who passed away in 2011. He instilled in club members a sense of responsibility and respect for firearms. He was an advocate of gun safety and demanded all youth/adults in the range, whether practice or competition to abide by safe firearm handling practices.

The following criteria should be met before applying for this award and must be indicated on the Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application:

- A). Be an active member of the Montgomery County 4-H Shooting Sports Club and have shown leadership in the club and community.
- B). Must have shown a respect for fellow 4-H members and leaders on and off the practice field. As in helping the volunteer coaches, leaders and other members of the club.

► **SPIRIT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY AWARD IN ARTS & SCIENCES:** For one Junior OR Senior 4-H Member

This award is sponsored by Len & Kelley Beverley and is given to a 4-H'er who has completed exemplary project (s) in Science, Engineering, Electric, Robotics, Speech and Demonstration, Computers, Soil Science, Dairy Science or Creative and Performing Arts.

The following criteria should be met before applying for this award:

- A). Presented a speech or demonstration at the Montgomery Co. 4-H Speech and Demo Event in their project area.
- B). Achieves success in the community service category of the Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application.

Spirit of Montgomery County Award Continued:

and performing Arts.

The following criteria should be met before applying for this award:

- A). Presented a speech or demonstration at the Montgomery County 4-H Speech & Demo Event in their project area.
- B). Achieve success in the community service category of the Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application.
- C). Has participated in events in their project area on the district or state levels such as STEM day at the Kentucky State Fair, at State or District Speech and Demonstration event, or performed as part of the State Creative and Performing Arts Troupe.
- D). Attend at least two Montgomery County 4-H Council Meetings and provide updates on their project.
- E). Include a personal profile and resume on their Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application.

► **CONNIE J. RISNER 110% AWARD:** For Senior 4-H Members

This award, created in 2023 in honor and appreciation to Connie J. Risner, a Montgomery County Extension Staff Assistant for her hard work and dedication to the Montgomery County 4-H Program is awarded to a Senior 4-H Member who has shown outstanding leadership this past year by assisting the 4-H Agent, 4-H Program Assistant or Volunteer Club Leader. This award will be chosen from information taken from the 4-Her's Achievement Application on Leadership. Sponsored by Mary E. Garrett

► **KENTUCKY PETROLEUM SUPPLY AWARD:** For Senior 4-H Members

This award recognizes the most outstanding senior 4-H'ers in Montgomery County and is given to 4-Her's who have not previously received the award. The award is sponsored by the Garland Family.

The following should be met before applying for this award:

- A). The 4-H'er must have completed activities in leadership, citizenship, communication/marketing, community service and participation (project work and completion).
- B). Each of the above requirements must be indicated on the Kentucky 4-H Achievement Application.

WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H is America's largest youth development organization---empowering nearly six million young people with the skills to lead for a lifetime. Kentucky 4-H reaches on average 200,000 young people each year.

4-H is a community of young people across Kentucky who are learning communication, civic engagement, and leadership skills.

In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. We see that every child has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us.

We believe in:

- All young people's potential;
- Developing young people who are empowered, confident, hard-working, determined, responsible and compassionate — seeing a world beyond themselves so that they have the life-long skills to succeed in college and career,
- Ensuring access and equity for all,
- The power of being a part of America's leading public universities,
- The practice of positive youth development (PYD) by creating positive learning experiences,
- Caring and trusted adult mentors who cultivate positive relationships with youth,
- Create safe, diverse and inclusive environments, and meeting young people wherever they are.



Cooperative
Extension Service

Fact Sheet: Kentucky 4-H Polices and Regulations

Definition of a 4-H Member:

"A 4-H member is a youth who participates in any educational program or activity delivered by Cooperative Extension and/or receives Cooperative Extension-based curriculum. A 4-H member includes a youth who is 'individually enrolled' or 'group enrolled,' regardless of the type of 4-H engagement/delivery method in which they are participating" (NIFA, 2022).

Membership Policy:

Any young person ages 9 through 18 may be involved in Kentucky 4-H in the county in which they live or go to school. Some counties offer Cloverbud activities for youth ages 5-8 based on the need of the county.

4-H Age:

The age of a young person participating in 4-H is the age they are on January 1 of the current program year.

Categories:

5-8 years old: Cloverbud

9-13 years old: Junior

14-18 years old: Senior

Program Year:

The 4-H Program Year in Kentucky is September 1 through August 31. The 4-H program year may include a few culminating events that occur after September 1.

Grade:

Participation in some educational events is based on grade rather than (or along with) age. Follow the specific requirements of the event or opportunity in those cases.

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Lexington, KY 40506



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with prior notification.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON THE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
4-H PROGRAM**

CONTACT:
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MONTGOMERY CO. EXTENSION AGENT
FOR 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
106 E. LOCUST ST.
MT. STERLING, KY 40353-1404
859-498-8741
ccomer@uky.edu

**4-H
TEEN
COUNCIL**

Meets on
1st Thursday
@ 6:00 PM

**4-H
SADDLE CLUB**

Meets on
3rd Mondays
@ 6:30 PM

**4-H
LIVESTOCK
CLUB**

Meets on
3rd Tuesdays
@ 6:30 PM

**4-H
SHOOTING
SPORTS CLUB**

Meets on
4th Tuesdays
@ 6:30 PM

C1-C4 AREA

**4-H Teen
Council**

Meets 1 time
EACH MONTH
@ 5:30 PM



PEACE • LOVE • 4-H



PEACE • LOVE • 4-H

Sincerely,

Charles M. Comer,
Montgomery County
Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



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