

# Member Recognition

This section provides answers to some basic questions about the various levels of member recognition provided for project work, club work, leadership, citizenship, and community service.

## Level 1: Member Participation

*So, members can be recognized simply for being active in their project and club?*

Yes, they can. Members who regularly attend club meetings, take part in club and project events, provide project demonstrations, community service and the like, typically receive a *4-H Certificate of Achievement*. Advisors can order copies of these certificates through the county Extension office. Member year pins are available through the National 4-H Supply Catalog.

## Level 2: Achievement of Goals

*What incentives are there for members to complete the personal and group goals set for their 4-H projects?*

Members who complete their projects as planned can receive one of Ohio's *4-H Project Achievement Certificates*. These are awarded based upon the level of difficulty of the project (beginning, intermediate, advanced) as specified in the *Ohio 4-H Family Guide*. A special certificate for members who plan and complete a self-determined project is also available.

*How do members qualify for an Ohio 4-H Project Achievement Certificate?*

Members are encouraged to take part in a project evaluation. This may be done with a parent, adult helper, or project helper. This review is designed to assess achievement of goals rather than "how well" a project is completed. If all is satisfactory, the club advisor then orders the appropriate level *Project Achievement Certificate* from the county Extension office.

*Are there other types of achievement awards beyond completion of projects?*

Yes. Your county may offer a special award for active and cooperating 4-H members. This "honor member" award includes recognition of member involvement in leadership, citizenship, and community service activities. Consideration for such an award may be done as part of the project review or at a time agreed upon by the club. This also may be the time when a "final grade" is assigned to each member.

*When would members receive these types of achievement awards?*

Awards like these deserve special recognition. Typically, membership and project achievement type awards are presented at a special time agreed upon by the club.

## Level 3: Achievement of Standards

*How should members prepare themselves if they plan to take part in county-level judging?*

County-level judging assesses the "quality" of each individual's project performance. For example, a member who plans and completes four of seven project Interest Areas extremely well receive a higher evaluation than a member who plans and completes seven of the seven areas poorly. Typically, grade level ribbons are awarded to reflect member achievements at this level.

Check with your county Extension office for specific items to bring to county-level judging. This should include the project book with completed project planning section as well as a project exhibit, such as a poster or item you made or produced. You may even be asked to demonstrate a particular skill. This evidence guides the judge in assessing "how well" you completed what you planned.

## Level 4: Competing with Others

*What is Level 4?*

This level focuses on comparing individual performances. This means being assessed against standards of excellence while compared with the achievements of others. For example, completing five of seven project areas extremely well may not be enough. Additional evidence may be needed for consideration as "project winner" including mastery of project knowledge and skills, and significant accomplishments in citizenship, leadership, and community service. Maintaining project records is also an essential qualification for achievement at this level. Typically, trophies, rosettes, and state fair participant honors are awarded to "winners" at this level.

*Where does this level of recognition occur?*

This level of recognition is an extension of county-level judging. It usually takes place once all members have been interviewed for a particular project and grade ribbons have been assigned. It is also provided through the state and county fair, state and county contests, and other events. Additional opportunities for recognition at this level are provided through county, state, and national level award programs. This includes local, state, and national 4-H scholarships, events, and award trips. Refer to the following summary of opportunities and awards for details.

# 2010 Opportunities and Awards for Members

## 1. Participation in State Events

Activity	Sponsor	Description
<b>4-H Leadership Camp</b>	Nationwide Foundation Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.	Leadership and citizenship training at the state 4-H camp; 88 counties participating.
<b>Ohio 4-H Teen Conference</b>	Ohio 4-H Foundation local county sponsors	This one-day event brings together Ohio's older 4-H youth in a spirit of celebration, exploration, and personal development; 88 counties participating.
<b>Shooting Education Camp</b>	4-H Shooting Sports Committee Federal Cartridge Company Michigan Ammo National Rifle Association National Wild Turkey Federation Ohio Department of Natural Resources Safariland Smith & Wesson	Gun and bow safety education, marksmanship, and personal development for youth of all ages. Held at Canter's Cave 4-H Camp in Jackson, OH. Senior Shooting Education Camp is available for youth ages 12-18. Junior Shooting Education Camp is available for youth ages 9-12.
<b>Buckeye Leadership Workshop</b> <a href="http://www.buckeyeleadership.com">http://www.buckeyeleadership.com</a>	Local county sponsors and/or individual member	"Education through recreation." Leadership training for youth and adults held in a hands-on, multi-generational setting. Recommended for ages fifteen to one hundred and fifteen.

## 2. Participation in National Event

<b>Citizenship-Washington Focus</b> <i>(15 years and older)</i>	Local county sponsors and/or individual member	Citizenship and leadership training at National 4-H Center, Washington, DC. Any 4-H member may participate.
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## 3. Opportunities and Awards for Individuals

<b>Ohio 4-H Ambassador</b>	Ohio 4-H Foundation	Teens become eligible to be a state 4-H ambassador and serve as Ohio's 4-H youth spokespersons based on their documented accomplishments in 4-H, leadership, public speaking, and community service activities.
<b>Ohio 4-H Teen Council</b>	Jim and Marlene Helt Ohio 4-H Foundation	4-H teens ages 15 and older are selected based on leadership and service to the Ohio 4-H program to serve on the Ohio 4-H Teen Council, the youth advisory group that provides input in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of Ohio 4-H programming.
<b>Local Government Award</b>	Ohio Township Association	Two \$1,500 awards are available to any 4-H high school senior who has completed a local government-type activity with significant impact on the applicant's community, township, or county.
<b>Ohio Dairy Goat Conference</b>	Ohio Dairy Goat Association	Two delegates selected to attend the Ohio dairy goat conference held in Columbus. Available to current dairy goat project participants.
<b>National 4-H Dairy Conference</b>	COBA/Select Sires, Inc. Dairy Farmers of America	Four delegates selected to attend National 4-H dairy conference held in Madison, WI.
<b>Health and Safety Speaking Award</b>	Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc.	Junior and senior members compete at public speaking events; top 4 winners receive special recognition and a possible trip to a national event.

### 3. Opportunities and Awards for Individuals *(continued)*

Activity	Sponsor	Description
National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest/ State Dairy Judging Team	Various state sponsors	Trip to national 4-H dairy judging event in Madison, WI.
National Livestock Judging Contest/ State Livestock Judging Team	Various sponsors	Trip to national judging contest in Louisville, KY held in November.
4-H National Engineering, Science and Leadership Event	Ohio-Michigan Equipment Dealers Association, John Deere, and Lincoln Electric Co.	The top individual, age 14+, in the following state contests wins an expense paid trip to compete at the national event held each September in Lafayette, IN: bicycle, computer, electric, small engines, tractor, lawn tractor, aerospace (rockets), and welding. For details see <a href="http://www.4hengineering.osu.edu">www.4hengineering.osu.edu</a> .
National Poultry Conference/State Poultry Judging Team/Avian Bowl Team/Chicken BBQ, Turkey BBQ & Egg Demonstration Contests	Ohio Poultry Association	Trip to Louisville, KY, to participate in 4-H poultry events.
Eastern National 4-H Horse Round-Up/State 4-H Horse Bowl Team, Judging Team, Safety Speaking Contestants and Horse Demonstration	State 4-H Horse Committee	Partial support to participate in 4-H horse bowl event in Louisville, KY.

*Contact your local OSU Extension Office for the application deadline for these opportunities and awards.*

## Ohio 4-H Scholarship Opportunities

Approximately 31 scholarships totaling more than \$46,000 will be awarded through the Ohio 4-H Foundation in 2010.

The donors who have made these scholarships possible believe in 4-H and want to assist you in your pursuit of higher education. For a listing of scholarships available through the Ohio 4-H Foundation and the 4-H scholarship application forms, please visit <http://ohio4h.org/youth/awards/index.html>.

Ohio 4-H Scholarship applications must be completed and submitted to your county OSU Extension office. Contact your county OSU Extension office for the deadline.



## Additional Scholarship Opportunities

Please visit <http://cfaes.osu.edu/scholarships> for a listing of scholarships available through the College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University. Many scholarships are also available at the county level. Contact your local county Extension office for a list of county 4-H scholarships, their corresponding eligibility requirements, and the necessary application forms.

### Saying Thank You

Many 4-H members receive medals, certificates, scholarships, bonds, trips, and other awards in recognition of efforts put forth in the 4-H program. One among many lessons to be learned from receiving awards is the importance of saying "thank you."

Without thank you's from the award winners, many of the donors would decide 4-H Members are not grateful. If we don't have donors, we won't have awards. Please be sure to thank your sponsor or donor.