

STATE 4-H ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Background and Purpose

Ohio 4-H Achievement awards were established in 1991 to highlight overall 4-H achievement in a particular program area. There are currently 24 program areas which include: Beef, CARTEENS, Citizenship & Community Service, Clothing & Textiles, Companion Animals, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Environmental Sciences, Family Life & Child Development, Foods & Nutrition, Gardening & Horticulture, Health & Safety, Horse, Leadership, Meat Goat, Mechanical & Engineering Science, Personal Development, Photography, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, Shooting Sports, Swine and Veterinary Science.

Selection Procedures and Criteria

All 4-H members are eligible who: 1) have at least reached their 14th birthday, but did not reach their 19th birthday, before **January 1, 2010** (Note: 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year in which an individual attains the age of 19); 2) are currently enrolled as an Ohio 4-H member; 3) must have completed a minimum of one year participation in program area for which the achievement record is submitted; and 4) have not previously won a state achievement award or attended National 4-H Congress representing one of the achievement areas.

NOTE: A former State Achievement Award winner in one program area is not eligible to apply for an achievement award in another program area. However, State Achievement award winners may reapply for recognition in non-achievement award categories; i.e. State 4-H Scholarships, National Dairy Conference, Ohio Township Association Local Government Award, John T. Mount Award, etc.

To apply for this award, members need to complete a State 4-H Achievement Record (according to the directions in the form) and submit it to the County Extension Office before the county deadline. County nominations must be submitted to the State 4-H Office no later than **February 1, 2010**. **Applications postmarked on February 1, will be late and therefore ineligible for consideration.**

4-H'ers must submit one (1) typed application for each award for which they wish to apply. For example, if Chris Clover applies for Sheep and Leadership awards, (s)he will submit two (2) applications. Photocopies are acceptable if the applications are identical.

Criteria for evaluation of State Achievement Award winners will include: 5% personal 4-H story, 5% activity and project photos, 20% 4-H work, 20% 4-H participation, 10% 4-H honors, 10% 4-H community service/citizenship, 15% 4-H leadership, 10% offices and committee leadership, and 5% non 4-H experiences.

One State Achievement Award winner will be selected at the state level in each program area by a State 4-H Awards Selection Committee.

The Award and its Presentation

A State 4-H "Award Announcement Letter" will be sent to County OSU Extension Offices the first week of March so that educators can notify winners personally. Individual follow-up letters and commitment forms will be sent directly to winners after **March 20**.

State Achievement Award winners will be publicly recognized at the Ohio 4-H Member Recognition Banquet. Each winner will receive an award plaque honoring their achievements. In addition, award recipients will receive a free trip to National 4-H Congress that is scheduled to be held in Atlanta, Georgia in late November.