

4-H Award System & Rules

The purpose of 4-H awards is to recognize achievement in a 4-H project area. A 4-H project has a piece of specific curriculum or an individual topic expert (e.g. a veterinarian) attached to it and takes place over a long period of time (6 hours or more). It should be designed with sequential learning experiences (over a period of at least a few days or few weeks) exploring a general subject with the guidance of a project leader or mentor.

To receive 4-H project awards 4-H members must:

1. Complete a 4-H Member Record.
2. Complete a 4-H Project Record for each project for which they would like recognition with clear documentation of project work.
3. Fill out the Vermont 4-H Achievement Application.
4. Have leader recommendation and Educator approval.
5. Be a member in good standing. (Attend at least 75% of their club's business meetings, attend at least 75% of applicable project meetings, and keep member and project record books).

Levels of Recognition and Specific Requirements

Certificate of Participation

- Complete 6-8 hours of various, sequential project related activities.

Certificate of Excellence

- Complete more than 8 hours of various, sequential project related activities.
- Developing and conducting a visual or verbal presentation that shares project skills, knowledge, or information with an audience beyond your club level. **Examples of presentations:** speeches/talks, action exhibits, demonstrations, radio shows, fashion review, T.V. shows, power points, websites, posters, table top displays, videos, stage performances. A presentation may only count for recognition once and for only one project area.

Medal (limited to three per youth per year)

- Have previously received a Certificate of Excellence in the project area.
- Meet the requirements for certificate of excellence (again).
- Complete at least 2 years in a 4-H project, -demonstrate successful educational progression, and show project accomplishment.
- Participate in a project area learning experience beyond the club project group meetings and activities. **Examples of learning experiences beyond the club level:** trainings, workshops, classes, clinics, livestock shows, project knowledge or skill contests. A learning experience may only count for recognition for one project area.

Certificate of Continued Achievement: After a 4-H member receives a medal in a project, they may receive a Certificate of Continued Achievement if they choose to continue to participate in that project at a level equal to medal recognition, as listed above.

Recognition Medal Areas

Note: Other project medals may be awarded in projects not listed on this page by special request.

Plants and Animals

Agriculture
Aquaculture
Beef
Poultry
Cats
Dogs
Dairy
Goats
Horse
Rabbits
Sheep
Pets
Swine
Gardening and Horticulture
Cavy
Llama

Communication Arts

Communication Arts (could be signing)
Demonstration
Public Speaking
Reporting Media
Performing Arts (could be dance, singing, drama,)
Visual Arts (crafts)
Photography and Video

Science and Technology

Science and Technology
Biological Sciences
Entomology and Bees
Marine Science
Plant Science
Veterinary Science
Technology and Engineering
Aerospace
Computer Technology
Electricity
Engines, tractors, field equipment
Wood Science
Industrial Arts
Physical Science

Personal Development

Career Exploration
Hobbies & Collections
Leadership
Personal Development

Environmental Stewardship

Earth, Water, Air
Forestry
Wildlife and Fisheries
Outdoor Education/Recreation

Shooting Sports
Waste Management (recycling)

Consumer and Family Sciences

Consumer and Family Sciences
Childcare and Development
Clothing and Textiles
Consumer Education
Home Environment

Healthy Lifestyles

Food and Nutrition
Healthy Lifestyles
Safety
Bicycle

Citizenship

Citizenship and Civic Education
Community Service