**RECORD BOOK AND AWARD GUIDELINES – 2025**

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| **All Record Books and award applications are due October 5, 2025** |

These recommendations were adopted by the 4-H Council in 2019

Nebraska **4-H Achievement Application** is a standard application form used for the selection of county and state award winners, including Nebraska delegates to National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Conference as well as Nebraska 4-H Foundation scholarship awards.

The requirement for a 4-H’er that is applying for a State award is now the new **Achievement Application**. This can be found at <https://4h.unl.edu/achievement-application>. Seniors ages 15 to 19 are required to utilize this if applying for state awards. This will also be accepted at the county level when applying for local awards. Each Clay County 4-Her is highly encouraged to complete a **4-H Achievement Application*.*** Two age divisions of the application available: Junior (ages 8 – 14) and Senior (ages 15-18). The application is available as a PDF, Word Doc, or Google Doc. For county awards, print your application and return to the office by Oct. 2nd. Complete information is available on the 4H website. ***\*\*County Achievement Applications can be up to 8 pages long.\*\****

Seniors applying for **State level awards** must email the application by January 15 to [4HAchieves@unl.edu](mailto:4HAchieves@unl.edu). **NEW** – you do not need to qualify at county level to be eligible to submit your application for state awards. Seniors applying for county only or medal awards, will need to submit to county (Oct 1) and email a separate submission to the address above. (Jan. 15)

Diamond Clover Awards are due Oct. 2. Complete information and applications is on the 4-H website.

**To qualify for awards, all projects must be completed.** *A completed project does not necessarily mean it was an exhibit at the fair.* It does mean you have worked with the project and learned from it. **You must complete two years of a 4-H project to be eligible to apply for an award in that area.** As you complete the Application, be sure to emphasize the award(s) areas you are applying for.

**COUNTY MEDAL AWARDS** –This is Section 1 on the first page of the Awards Entry Sheet. A 4-H’er may win the county medal award *once*.

***SECTION 1*** (on award sheet)

To apply for county medal awards assemble books in this order:

1) green 4-H cover (available at office for $2.50)

2) complete *front page* of the Clay County Awards Entry Sheet

3) complete the**4-H Achievement Application**

**CLAY COUNTY ONLY AWARDS AVAILABLE TO 4-H'ERS AS DESCRIBED BELOW.**

***SECTION 2*** (on back side of award sheet) Assemble record book in this order:

1) green 4-H cover: (available at office for $2.50)

2) award sheet (complete with signatures and award choices marked)

3) award stories - label each story so it is not overlooked (example: 2020 4-H Sheep Story)

4) Achievement Application

**BEST RECORD BOOK AWARD** - (this award may be won annually**. All 4-H’ers are eligible for this)**

Age groups are: 8-9 yrs , 10-11 yrs, 12-14 yrs, 15 and up. Cash awards will be presented.

1) Complete the **4-H Achievement Application** and check ( x ) the correct age division on the awards sheet.

**LIVESTOCK AWARDS** - (may be won annually)

Additional award money is available to all livestock members that apply and meet the following requirements:

1) complete the 4-H Achievement Application.

2) complete thesingle sheet livestock record; **NE 4-H Animal Project Record NE4H9020 or Companion Animal NE4H9030 (forms are available in the office or on-line).**

**4-H CAMP SCHOLARSHIP:** (may win once)

Apply by deadline of current year. You may apply the scholarship of $75 towards a 4-H sponsored camp of your choice.

1) Apply by completing the 4-H Achievement Application

2) write a story "*Why I want to go to 4-H Camp"*

**OUTSTANDING 4-H'ER** (\*\*the top two scoring individuals will be the winners). The purpose is to recognize outstanding 4-Hers and have those 4-Her's promote 4-H throughout the county by taking part in pre-fair and fair activities, Achievement night, 4-H Council meetings, etc. The winners will each receive $100 cash award at Achievement Program. This award may be received one time. You may apply at the beginning of your 9th grade year through beginning of 12th grade. The records will be scored and ranked by another county. Candidates will participate in an interview for the final score. 50% will be judged on the interview and 50% on Records - stressing promotion and leadership. Application is by completing the **4-H Achievement Application** and marking the Awards Sheet.

**$500 SCHOLARSHIP** - (\*\*top two individuals will be selected by another county)

Ages 16 and up (4-H age). Criteria stipulates that you must attend a school of further education.

1) 50% will be judged on the 4-H Achievement Application

2) 50% will be an Essay on "How 4-H has Benefitted Me" (2 pg maximum)

Apply by deadline of current year. The winner will be announced at the Achievement program. The award will be granted upon completion of 6 weeks college. Selection will be made by another county.

**TRIBLAND AWARD** - Two County nominations will be made by another county, based 100% on 4-H Achievement Application information. The Tribune will furnish guidelines and determine the winner from the candidates information submitted. May be a candidate more than once but can only win one time. Eligibility is 9th -12th grade of current school year at time of application.

**CLAY COUNTY ONLY MEMORIAL AWARDS**

**HORSE - LYLE HULTMAN AWARD** - given to the most improved second year horse member. Write a story telling "*What I feel I improved upon most with my horse project".* Complete the4-H Achievement Application. (may win once)

**HORSE - F.W.STAHNKE AWARD**- 8-11 year horse member. Write an essay on *"Why I enrolled in the horse project and what it means to me"*. Complete the 4-H Achievement Application. (may win once)

**HORSE - D.P. POST AWARD** - 12 yrs old and over, year horse members. Write an essay on *"Goals and Achievements through my 4-H Horse Project@.* Complete the 4-H Achievement Application. (may win once)

**\*\*HAROLD TRAUDT MEMORIAL – SARONVILLE STOCKMEN AWARD** - This $50 award is granted to a 12 year and older member of the Saronville Stockmen 4-H Club. Application is the 4-H Achievement Application. (may win once)

**FIELD CROPS AWARD** - sponsored by the Vernon Yost Family. This award will offer a cash award. Requirements are:

1) enrollment in 4-H Crops project and

2) write a minimum of 1 page story describing your 4H experience. Pictures are optional. Tell what you accomplished or learned with this years project, whether it be success or hard luck.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS -** 4-H Achievement Application is a standard application form used for the selection of county and state award winners, including Nebraska delegates to National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Conference as well as Nebraska 4-H Foundation scholarship awards.

A complete application includes:

* Designation of Awards and Program Area of Submission
* About Me page
* My Experiences pages - limit to a maximum of four pages, single-spaced, 12 pt font.

Creativity is encouraged. Applications may include bulleted lists, photos, infographics, to help tell the 4-H member’ story.

**State Award:**

* Delegate applicants only-a fifth page is for applying for National 4-H Congress or Conference
* Scholarship applicants – include additional section, current transcripts, and ACT/SAT score

**Clay County Awards Entry sheets** - should be completed and signedifapplying for awards.

**What are curriculum areas?** - Curriculum areas are categories that include several related projects. There are 8 curriculum areas with a multitude of projects within the curriculum areas. An example would be the curriculum area of *communications* includes public speaking, photography and theater arts projects. You may apply for county project awards within a curriculum area.

**What is the difference between County Medal Awards and County only?** County Medal Awards show growth in a specific project area within the curriculum (example: the horse project within the Animal Science Curriculum area). County only awards are specific to Clay County. They have been created as extra opportunity for 4-H’ers to show success and be rewarded (usually cash awards). These are funded from donations received and 4-H Council funds.