

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM

AWARDS & RECOGNITION - 2020

Nebraska 4-H Achievement Application

The Washington County 4-H Program will utilize the [Nebraska 4-H Achievement Application as our standard application form used for the selection of our county achievement awards](#). The Career Portfolio may still be utilized as a form of record keeping for individual 4-H members however it will no longer be used in the selection of county-level and state-level achievement awards.

In addition, the Nebraska 4-H Achievement Application will be utilized for state-level award winners, including Nebraska delegates to [National 4-H Congress](#) and [National 4-H Conference](#), and Nebraska 4-H Foundation scholarship award recipients.

AGE DIVISIONS | APPLICATIONS

JUNIOR: 8-10 years old on Jan 1, 2020 | Turn 9-11 years old during the 2020 calendar year.

- Eligible for county-level application and awards. **ONLY**
- Junior Achievement Application ([PDF Form](#)) | ([Word Doc](#))

INTERMEDIATE: 11-13 years old on Jan 1, 2020 | Turn 12-14 years old during the 2020 calendar year.

- Eligible for county-level application and awards. **ONLY**
- Junior Achievement Application ([PDF Form](#)) | ([Word Doc](#))

SENIOR*: 14-17 years old on Jan 1, 2020 | Turn 15-18 years old during the 2020 calendar year.

- Eligible for county-level application and awards.
- Eligible for state-level application and awards – National 4-H Conference and National 4-H Congress
- Senior Achievement Application ([PDF Form](#)) | ([Word Doc](#))

SENIOR*: 18 years old on Jan 1, 2020 | Turn 19 years old during the 2020 calendar year.

- Eligible for county-level application and awards.
- Senior Achievement Application ([PDF Form](#)) | ([Word Doc](#))

*For age eligibility regarding Nebraska 4-H Foundation Scholarships, refer to Nebraska State-Level Application – State Opportunities information listed below.

COUNTY AWARDS

Champion, Reserve and Honorable Mention will be awarded for each program area (*Agriculture, STEM, Leadership and Entrepreneurship, Healthy Living, College and Career Preparation for My Future*) per age division - junior, intermediate and senior.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

ALL applications must be completed and submitted electronically.

COUNTY-LEVEL: WashingtonCounty4H@unl.edu by the **DEADLINE – MONDAY, NOV. 2, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

STATE-LEVEL: 4HAchieves@unl.edu by the **DEADLINE – January 15, 2021.**



APPLICATION COMPLETION

- Provide input of your 4-H Accomplishments: 4-H Experiences, Leadership Experiences, Community Involvement/Service Learning Experiences, and Career Spark.
 - Use headings (4-H Experiences, Leadership Experiences, Community Involvement/Service Learning Experiences, and Career Spark) to separate your responses.
- Use a maximum of FOUR pages for Senior Division and THREE pages for Intermediate and Junior Division.
- Senior Division (state level application) - A fifth page is allowed for delegate applicants.
- Use single-spaced with 12-point font.
- Creativity is encouraged, use bullet lists, photos, infographics, etc. to help tell your 4-H story. The items bulleted are suggestions of what might help us understand your involvement and learning.
- Applicants should not send a list of awards received. Youth may include selected awards as part of their "My Experiences" section of the application.
- Only one application is required and permitted even if (senior | state-level) youth are applying for multiple awards and recognition.

APPLICATION CONTENTS

APPLICATION PAGE 1

- **DESIGNATION OF AWARDS** – Senior Division ONLY (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)
 - State Level Awards and Scholarships
 - National 4-H Conference
 - National 4-H Congress PLUS identify ONE program area below
- **SELECT PROGRAM AREA** (SELECT ONE)
 - Agriculture
 - STEM
 - Leadership and Entrepreneurship
 - Healthy Living
 - College and Career Preparation for My Future
- **ABOUT ME INFORMATION** (Demographics)

ADDITIONAL PAGES

Use a maximum of FOUR pages for Senior Division and THREE pages for Intermediate and Junior Division.

- **4-H ACCOMPLISHMENTS**
 - 4-H Experiences
 - Leadership Experiences
 - Community Involvement/Service Learning Experiences
 - Career Spark



4-H Experiences

Part 1: Describe your collective 4-H experience.

- Indicate the depth and breadth of your 4-H experience.
- Identify the number of years in the program.
- Identify program experiences in which you engaged.
- What skills have you learned as a result of being a part of the 4-H program?
- What have you learned about yourself as a result of being a part of 4-H?

Part 2: Describe your 4-H experience within the last 4-H year.

- What was your level of involvement?
- Identify TWO (Junior and Intermediate Divisions) or THREE (Senior Division) program experiences that you would consider a “highlight” of your year.
 - Describe these experiences. What did you do? What was involved? Who was a part of this experience? Why did you want to participate? What was accomplished through this experience? What was your favorite part of the experience? What did you learn?
- How will this past year influence your future (i.e., 4-H experience, classroom experience, career, etc.)?

Example: 4-H Experiences

- I have been a part of 4-H since before I was even born! My parent's met at a 4-H center, so you can say 4-H is in my DNA. I have been an active member of my county 4-H program since I was 5 years old. I can still remember how excited I was to finally compete and earn purple ribbons at the fair!
- When I first began in 4-H, I only wanted to try one project area: baking. I loved to mix ingredients and make yummy treats. I soon learned 4-H is filled with so many more ways I can grow and learn. I now participate in 4 county competitions and enter static exhibits in 4 different project areas.
- Here is a chart of all the ribbons I have earned in the contests in which I have competed:

Contest	Ribbon
Speech Contest	1 Red, 2 Blue, 1 Purple
PSA Contest	1 Red, 3 Purple
Presentation Contest	3 Blue, 3 Purple
Cat Show	2 Blue, 4 Purple,
Table Toppers Contest	2 Blue



Leadership Experiences

Part 1: 4-H Leadership Experiences Describe your 4-H leadership experiences that have helped build your leadership skills.

- What type of leadership was it?
 - For example: Roles (Club President), Activities (4-H Lend a Hand Day), Experiences (Being a Junior Ambassador for my county).
- When did these experiences occur?
- Identify your part in the experiences:
 - Duties you completed
 - Responsibilities you fulfilled
 - Skills you utilized
- What did you learn about leadership through these experiences?

Part 2: Non 4-H Leadership Experiences Describe your Non 4-H leadership experiences that have helped build your leadership skills.

- What type of leadership was it?
 - For example: Roles (Youth Choir Jr. Director), Activities (Warrior Football Camp), and Experiences (Student Council Member).
- When did these experiences occur?
- Identify your part in the experiences:
 - Duties you completed
 - Responsibilities you fulfilled
 - Skills you utilized
- What did you learn about leadership through these experiences?

Example: Leadership Experiences

One the most influential experiences that has helped me build my leadership skills has been being a part of the Worship Committee at my church.

As the only youth on the committee, I am responsible for sharing what music or scripture would be meaningful for youth to hear as they participate in worship. In order to be success, I have really worked on developing my assertiveness and my listening skills. I meet monthly with the Worship Committee.

I have learned the following things about leadership:

- Not being afraid to say your opinion, even if you are the youngest in the room
- Asking my friends for their opinions before I attend meetings so I can represent them
- Public speaking skills as I read scripture and welcome people to church

Leading worship services at my church



Community Involvement/Service Learning Experiences

Describe two times you were involved in volunteer service to others and/or the community through 4-H or other opportunities.

- List the type of involvement
- When did the experiences occur?
- What were duties, responsibilities, and skills you used to be successful?
- What did you learn in each of your experiences?

Example: Community Involvement



My 4-H club cleaning up the Old Market

Picking up trash may not seem like a fun way to spend Saturdays, but the members of 4-H club love getting together every other month for trash clean up day in the Old Market. We have been doing this for the last year.

We compete to see who can fill up the most bags and what is the most unusual piece of trash we can find. I have learned to enjoy serving my community and that when we work together, jobs that may be boring become a lot more exciting. I have also learned that littering is the worst. If I ever did litter when I was younger, I never litter now!



Career Spark

Describe how your 4-H experiences have sparked your interest in a future career field.

- At present, what has 4-H “sparked” in you that you are curious to explore (both academically and in extra-curricular activities) in middle school, junior high, high school, or beyond?
- How do you see yourself contributing professionally to your community in the future? How has 4-H influenced how you see yourself in this future role?
- Explain any experiences you have pursued in connection with your career spark.

Some examples:

- Has 4-H sparked your curiosity about what it would be like to work in a certain career and you have interviewed someone in that career?
- Identify any influence your 4-H experience has had on your academic course selection.
- Identify any junior leader/job shadow/internship/volunteer experience in which you engaged in an effort to explore your sparked interest.
- Have you been a part of any formal or informal mentorships related to potential career interests?

Example: Career Spark



My first summer mixing it up with baking!

My love for baking began in the 5th grade as I was working on mastering different cookie making techniques with 4-H. I have continued to learn new skills in baking, and have taken 10 projects to the state fair, earning all purple ribbons. As a result, I want to become a professional baker. Here is a list of things I am doing to follow my spark:

- Enrolled in French at my school. I am learning the language because I want to study at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, France after I earn a degree at UNL. Go Big Red!
- Volunteer as a teen leader for food science camp at Metro Community College.
- Plan on majoring in business at UNL because I want to be confident in my skills as an entrepreneur when I open my bakery.



NEBRASKA STATE-LEVEL APPLICATION – STATE OPPORTUNITIES

STATE-LEVEL SELECTION PROCESS

- A selection committee will screen applications.
- Significant accomplishments in 4-H experience, leadership, community involvement, and career spark are given more consideration than the number of 4-H projects completed.
- Applicants who have not been awarded a National 4-H leadership opportunity previously will be given preference.
- Applicants may be contacted for further information or to complete additional application or selection requirements, such as interviews.

STATE-LEVEL APPLICATION

- Senior Division 4-H members ages are eligible to participate in the state-level awards application process regardless of the delivery mode (camps, club/independent, school enrichment, and afterschool) in which they participate.
- Senior Division 4-H members are not required to submit their Achievement Application on a county-level. They may submit directly to state without county-level review.
- If submitting for county-level review and awards selection, senior division 4-H members have the opportunity to make revisions as needed before submitting for state-level review.
- To apply for state-level, 4-H members must submit their completed Nebraska 4-H Achievement Applications via email to 4HAchieves@unl.edu by the **DEADLINE – January 15, 2021**. Files are to be labeled with the applicant's last name, first name, and county. For example: "Walker Robin Douglas-Sarpy.pdf".

STATE-LEVEL SENIOR DIVISION (14-17 years old on Jan 1, 2020)

DELEGATE APPLICANTS ONLY:

Representing Nebraska 4-H (National Application) page - A fifth page is allowed for youth applying as delegates to National 4-H Conference or National 4-H Congress.

NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE & NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS

- Nebraska 4-H utilizes the Achievement Application to select delegates for National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Conference.
- To apply as a delegate to either national experience, youth must make that designation on their Achievement Application, as well as complete the additional section titled "Representing Nebraska 4-H."
- Delegate applicants must follow the state-level completion and submission procedures.
 - Generally, delegate applicants should:
 - ✓ Be age 15-19 during the calendar year in which the trip occurs in order to be considered.
 - ✓ Not have been a delegate to the program in which they are applying.
 - ✓ Be able to miss one full week of school and/or work to attend the program.
 - ✓ Be a participant in any Nebraska 4-H program or delivery mode, including clubs, camps, school enrichment, or afterschool programs.
 - ✓ Be dependable and punctual.



- If selected, delegates will be expected to:
 - ✓ Participate in an orientation and complete pre-program assignments
 - ✓ Check and respond to email and other online information regularly in preparation for the leadership experience
 - ✓ Participate fully in the program
 - ✓ Carry out follow-up responsibilities designated by the 4-H program
 - ✓ Make public appearances for 4-H
- Notes for delegate applicants only:
 - ✓ A fifth page is allowed for delegate applicants.
- As you complete the application, remember that while participation in 4-H programs, leadership, and community are important, the information you can share when you return from the leadership experience is equally important.
- Delegates may be required to travel to an airport that is not the closest to them due to chaperone location and cost restrictions.
- For more information regarding eligibility, expenses, and selection processes, please visit the National 4-H Conference page (<https://4h.unl.edu/conference>) and National 4-H Congress page (<https://4h.unl.edu/congress>).

ADDITIONAL PAGE – DELEGATE APPLICATION ONLY

Representing Nebraska 4-H

- Share why you would like to represent NE 4-H at a national event.
- Applicants should
 - Write about their motivation for participating in a national opportunity
 - Write about how they will share their experiences
- This is about understanding the why you are applying for this opportunity
- This should reflect your own experiences and voice

As a Nebraska 4-H youth leader, when I look at my state:

- This is the second header for the Representing NE 4-H section of the Senior Achievement Application
- Complete the following prompts:
 - As a Nebraska 4-H youth leader, when I look at my state, I am proud of....
 - As a Nebraska 4-H youth leader, when I look at my state, I am concerned about...
 - As a Nebraska 4-H youth leader, when I look at my state, I want to start... in Nebraska.



STATE-LEVEL SENIOR DIVISION*

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS ONLY:

To apply for scholarships, 4-H'ers must submit the [Nebraska 4-H Achievement Application](#) for state-level review by January 15th.

NEBRASKA 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

<https://www.ne4hfoundation.org/scholarships/>

Nebraska 4-H Foundation Scholarship page - Youth applying for the State Scholarships must complete this additional section and attach the following items with their application:

- Copy of current transcripts
- ACT/SAT score

*For age eligibility regarding Nebraska 4-H Foundation Scholarships, refer to Nebraska State-Level Application – State Opportunities information listed below.

General Eligibility for Applicants

The following requirements apply to all scholarships awarded by the Nebraska 4-H Foundation unless otherwise noted. Additional scholarship-specific eligibility requirements may apply. Please see Available Scholarships below for more details.

1. Must be a current high school senior, graduating in Spring of the current year and attending college in the Fall of the current year or a current Freshman at an accredited university (see specific scholarship school regulations). ***Exception: Grand Island Horse Scholarship applicants may apply after their sophomore year in high school.
2. Must have completed one (1) year of 4-H and be current 4-H member **unless otherwise stated in the scholarship-specific eligibility requirements listed**. Please see Available Scholarships at <https://www.ne4hfoundation.org/scholarships/> for more information.

Selection Process

Selection will be based on the following factors:

- 4-H background
- Leadership abilities
- Interest and desire for further education
- Scholastic achievements

Scholarships will be awarded to the candidates whose applications earn the highest overall scores from the judges.

Awarding Process

1. In order for scholarship money to be awarded, the recipient must be in good scholastic standing in college (minimum of C average =2.0). Scholarship money will be awarded after the successful completion of the first college semester or semester following the application review process.
2. The recipient must provide a copy of first semester grades to the Nebraska 4-H Foundation before scholarship money is issued.

