

Project Areas for Dean's Awards:

- ✿ Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- ✿ Civic Engagement
- ✿ Communications and the Arts
- ✿ Family and Consumer Sciences
- ✿ Leadership
- ✿ STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Objectives:

- 1) Encourage participation and achievement by 4-H youth in areas fundamental to the mission of 4-H, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.
- 2) Recognize youth who have participated in and excelled at a broad spectrum of activities and experiences over a sustained period of time.
- 3) Improve the participant's resume preparation and interview skills.
- 4) Recognize youth for achievement and experience in agricultural and environmental sciences, civic engagement, leadership, family and consumer sciences, and STEM.
- 5) Provide an opportunity for youth who have already won state in project achievement to continue their 4-H competition.
- 6) Provide positive learning experiences and awards for older 4-H youth.
- 7) Develop leadership skills, communications skills, build character, and foster the development of good citizenship values.
- 8) Develop an appreciation and understanding of agriculture, the environment, family and consumer sciences, citizenship, civic engagement, and/or leadership.

Eligibility:

- Participant must be an active ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grader during the current year.
- No previous Dean's Award winner is eligible to compete, even if in a different Dean's Award project area. Previous state winners in other 4-H projects and events are eligible for competition in the Dean's Awards projects.
- Each county may submit as many applicants and entries in the Dean's Awards projects competition as they wish.
- A 4-H'er is eligible to enter only one project area of Dean's Awards competition in one year.

Project Procedure:

- Carry out project work in one of six areas: Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Civic Engagement, Communication and the Arts, Family and Consumer Sciences, Leadership, or STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).



- Submit a cumulative (covering your entire 4-H career) portfolio in one of the six project areas listed above. The portfolio may be handwritten or typed in black ink. The original work must be done by the 4-H member.
 - Portfolio should contain a one-page cover letter, two pages of accomplishments, two pages of supporting material, and two letters of reference. The Dean’s Awards cover sheet must be printed, properly signed, and included as the first page of the portfolio. All pages should contain information on one side only of 8.5 x 11-inch paper. The back side of all pages must be blank. Font size should be no smaller than 10 points throughout the portfolio. The completed portfolio should be uploaded as a single PDF file.
 - The cover letter and two accomplishment pages should maintain a minimum of one-half-inch margins on all four sides.
 - Paper should be white with black ink or type. Color ink is not permitted.
 - No artwork, pictures, or clip art are allowed on these pages.
 - Computer generated bullets may be used to highlight information.
 - The cover letter is a tool of introduction. There are no rules as to its content. The letter should be addressed “Dear Project Judge” and signed by the 4-H’er. The cover letter can address any information or time. It may also address future goals.
 - The two-page outline of accomplishments is a presentation of the 4-H’ers cumulative work over their 4-H career.
 - Supporting material can be placed on one side of the page only. Paper should be white 8.5 x 11-inch paper with no shingling. This means that all items must adhere to the page.
 - The two reference letters should be affirmation of the 4-H’ers cumulative project work.

- If selected as a finalist, participate in an interview session with experts, scientists, educators, etc., during State 4-H Council.
 - The interview process is limited to ten minutes:
 - Three to five minutes are allotted for the 4-H member to present/discuss their accomplishments verbally. No visuals are allowed, and the 4-H member must remain seated.
 - Interviewers will ask the 4-H’er questions during the remaining time.
 - 4-H member should be dressed in professional attire for the interview.

Awards and Recognition:

First Place winners in each category will receive:

- Master 4-H'er Status
- A \$500 scholarship
- Recognition on 4-H Day at the Capitol

First, second, and third place in each area will receive a medallion to commemorate their achievement.

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