



*2023-2024 Brazos County Award
Application & Recognition Handbook*



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Important Dates

****All applications must be turned in in person to the
Extension Office**

no later than

Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

All age requirements are as of:

August 31, 2023

Applicants MUST submit a 4-H Record Book for award consideration. However, you can opt out of having the Record Book judged.

Junior Age Category – grades 3, 4, 5

Intermediate Age Category – grades 6, 7, 8

Senior Age Category– grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Award Interviews will be held Friday, **JUNE 28, 2024** with no alternate date. Contact Ashleigh (ashleigh.sugg@ag.tamu.edu) with conflicts ASAP. Upon the deadline of the application, applicants will be contacted to select an interview time.

BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARD PROGRAM

The Brazos County 4-H Awards and Recognition Handbook has been developed to inform 4-H'ers and parents of the awards and recognitions that are available on the county level. The awards program is designed to recognize members for their project work, leadership, personal growth and development. We hope that this handbook will be beneficial to the 4-H members.

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Brazos County

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4-H COMPLETION YEAR PINS



4-H completion year pins are awarded to every 4-H member in the County who completes a 4-H project during the year and turns in a Record Book. The pins are presented by years of completed 4-H projects, not by years of membership. A project is considered complete when a 4-H Record Book is turned into the County Extension Office. Each member should complete at least one 4-H project during the year. Only one completion pin will be given per year to any one 4-H member.

4-H PROJECT PINS

4-H project pins are awarded to every 4-H member in the county who submits a Record Book highlighting their completed project for the year. The pins are present to reflect the project category in which the Record Book was submitted. Only one project pin will be given per year to any one 4-H member.

RECORD BOOK AWARDS

Record Book Awards are made based on what is reported in the 4-H Record Book. Committees judge or evaluate project work and achievement, leadership, personal growth, and development by reading the record books. Awards begin at the county level with ribbons. Juniors and Intermediates continue to the District Level where ribbons and certificates are awarded. Seniors continue through District to State. County awards are presented at the Annual 4-H Awards Banquet to recognize members who have done a good job with their project based on their complete 4-H Record Book. These are the highest awards that can be achieved in the county.

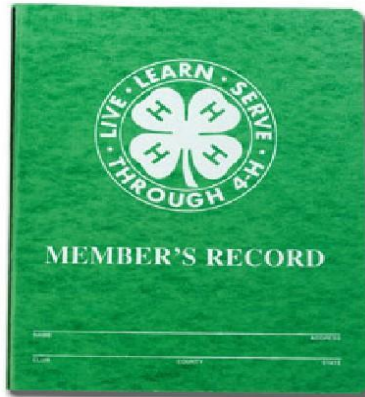




TEXAS 4-H RECORD BOOK PROGRAM

Purpose of Individual 4-H Member Records

1. Allow 4-H members to tell how they have grown, what they have learned, where they came up short and to do it creatively within outlined parameters.
2. Demonstrate the importance of keeping a written document of what has been done.
3. Provides a written platform for goal setting and documentation of the actions required to reach goals.
4. Provide an opportunity for competition at the County, District, and State level.



Requirements for Project Completion

1. Complete at least six learning experiences related to your project
2. Make a set of project goals.
3. Each month you should work toward completing at least one of your project goals.
4. Exhibit your project work in some way.
5. Attending workshops that are available in your community or county on your project.
6. Attend 4-H meetings or project meetings regularly.
7. Complete 4-H project records each year.
8. Develop leadership by teaching others something about your project.
9. Conduct citizenship activities/service projects related to your 4-H project.
10. Find new and fun things to do in your project area.



BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

BRAZOS COUNTY RECOGNITION

The Recognition Awards provide criteria-based standard of achievement for 4-H members. The 4-H member will be able to work toward non-competitive awards that will build their self-confidence.

- ROOKIE** Available to any 4-H member, regardless of age, who is in his/her first year of membership.
- 4-H HONOR ROLL** Available to junior members, grades 3rd – 5th. May be received as many years as criteria are completed or criteria may be accumulated over the years as a junior member. Once received, the member continues to be known as a 4-H Honor Roll member during junior age.
- 4-H ALL STAR** Available to intermediate members, grades 6th, 7th, & 8th. May be received as many years as criteria are completed or criteria may be accumulated over the years as an intermediate member. Once received, the member continues to be known as a 4-H All Star member during intermediate age.
- 4-H LETTERMAN** Available to senior members, grades 9th -12th. May be received as many years as criteria are completed or criteria may be accumulated over the years as a senior member. Once received, the member continues to be known as a 4-H Letterman during senior age.
- BRONZE STAR** Presented to three outstanding 4-H junior members (grades 3rd – 5th). May be received one time only.
- SILVER STAR** Presented to three outstanding 4-H intermediate members grades 6th – 8th. May be received one time only.
- GOLD STAR** Awarded each year to 3 youth (based on the number of senior 4-H members enrolled in the Brazos County 4-H program) outstanding senior 4-H members in Brazos County based on their total 4-H career. A member may receive the Gold Star Award only one time.
- Danforth Award** Awarded each year to 2 outstanding 4-H members who offered excellence in character and well-balanced personal development as well as demonstrated leadership.

Special County Awards- These awards are made available for Intermediate & Senior 4-H members to encourage excellence in 4-H project areas. A 4-H member is eligible for any award if the project is included in the 4-H Record Book. A member may apply for all awards but is only eligible to win once in each project area.



BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

SUGGESTION: 4-H clubs should hold their own awards banquet. At the club award banquets, 4-H clubs recognize their Rookie, Honor Roll, All Star and Letterman winners.

PLEASE NOTE: Club managers will be notified of youth applying from their club.

Families are welcome to use a computer at the Brazos County Extension Office to complete application or contact Matt Pfeifer at matthew.pfeifer@ag.tamu.edu or call 979-823-0129 if you need assistance with completing the application online or need alternate arrangements.

REQUIRED

Bronze Star, Silver Star, Gold Star, Danforth, & Special County Awards

All applications for Bronze Star, Silver Star, Gold Star, Danforth, and Special County Awards are required to turn in a biography. The biography will be read at the 4-H Awards and Recognition Banquet if the member receives one of these awards. The biography should be 200 words or less, written in third person, and describe their 4-H career. Highlights of major projects, life skills learned, or special notes that the member would like to share with the audience should be included. County Extension Agents will edit as needed to fit the format of the banquet.

Name: _____ 4-H Club: _____

Email: _____

Applications submitted (check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rookie 4-H Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Star (Int) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4-H Honor Roll (Jr) | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Star (Sr) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4-H All Star (Int) | <input type="checkbox"/> Danforth I Dare You (Sr) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4-H Letterman (Sr) | <input type="checkbox"/> Special County Awards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Star (Jr) | |

Biography:



COUNTY 4-H ROOKIE AWARD

Available to any 4-H member, regardless of age, who is in his/her first year of membership.

NAME: _____

CLUB: _____ AGE: _____

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET FOR A 4-H ROOKIE AWARD:

- Completed at least one project
- Turned in a project record form and/or record book
- Gave a report to 4-H leader on the project
- Gave a demonstration, talk or prepared an exhibit on the project

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Name



BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

4-H Honor Roll Member Award

Available to junior members, grades 3rd – 5th. May be received as many years as criteria are completed or criteria may be accumulated over the years as a junior member. Once received, the member continues to be known as a 4-H Honor Roll member during junior age.

NAME _____

4-H CLUB _____

Complete 9 of 10	1st Yr.	2nd Yr.	3rd Yr.
Completed at least one project			
Gave a report to leader on project			
Gave a demonstration, talk, or exhibit project			
Attended 2/3 of regular club meetings			
Brought parents to 50% of regular club meetings			
Served on committee or as an Elected Officer			
Helped with a Community Service project			
Participated in a County Round-Up event (Method Demonstrations, Judging, etc.)			
Turned in Complete Awards Program Record Book			
Participated in a County-wide activity			

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Name



BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

4-H All-Star Member Award

Available to intermediate members, grades 6th – 8th. May be received as many years as criteria are completed or criteria may be accumulated over the years as an intermediate. Once received, the member continues to be known as a 4-H All Star member during intermediate age.

NAME _____ **4-H CLUB** _____

Complete 14 of 15	1st Yr.	2nd Yr.	3rd Yr.
Completed two different projects			
Gave a demonstration, talk or exhibit on 2 projects			
Attended 2/3 of regular club meetings			
Brought parents to 50% of regular club meetings			
Served on committee or as an elected officer			
Participated in a Community Service project			
Participated in a Promote 4-H activity			
Recruited one or more new members			
Participated in a County Round-Up event (Method Demonstrations, Judging, etc.)			
Participated in two other county-wide 4-H activities			
Assisted with County-wide activity			
Turned in Complete Awards Program record book			
Represented county at district or state event or activity			
Participated in school or community activity			
Assisted leaders with TWO project group or club activities			

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Name



BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

4-H LETTERMAN AWARD

Available to senior members, grades 9th-12th. May be received as many years as criteria are completed or criteria may be accumulated over the years as a senior member. Once received, the member continues to be known as a 4-H Letterman during the senior age.

NAME _____ **4-H CLUB** _____

Complete 16 of 19	1st Yr.	2nd Yr.	3rd Yr.
Completed 3 or more projects			
Attended 2/3 of regular club meetings			
Junior Leader or Teen Leader			
Chairman of committee or elected officer			
Served on County 4-H Committee			
Assisted in conducting a county activity or program			
Training or presentation to a project group			
Organized a community service project			
Participated in a District or State Leadership Training			
Provided county level program or training			
Wrote a news article or be on radio or TV about 4-H			
Participated in a County Round-Up event			
Provided district or state program or trainings			
Competed in district or state level 4-H competition			
Participated in a National event or activity			
Promoted 4-H to other groups			
Served in Leadership position in group other than 4-H			
Researched career opportunities			
Turned in a complete Awards Program Record Book			

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Name



RECOGNITION FOR 4-H JUNIOR MEMBERS

BRONZE STAR AWARD

Criteria for selection:

1. The Bronze Star Award will be presented each year to up to three (3) outstanding 4-H Junior Members at the County Awards Banquet. Age requirements are 3rd grade to 5th grade at the time of application.
2. Must have been in 4-H for at least one year.
3. The Bronze Star Award will be presented to the most deserving junior member without regard to gender.
4. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record Book in the year he or she is to be considered for the Bronze Star Award.
5. The 4-H member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
6. The 4-H member must have completed two different project areas during their 4-H career.
7. Must have participated in various 4-H activities, community service and leadership experiences.
8. A member may receive the Bronze Star Award only once.

Judging process:

- A check of award eligibility and required application materials.
- Judging of the awards application.
- An interview with a panel of judges.
- Review of 4-H Record Book and achievements.



BRONZE STAR APPLICATION

(must be no longer than 3 pages)

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

CLUB: _____

1. Number of years in 4-H: _____
2. Projects completed:

3. Honors or Awards received in 4-H:

4. What projects have you enjoyed the most:

5. List Leadership activities other than in 4-H:

6. List other honors or awards.

7. Future plans for 4-H.

8. In 100 words or less, what has 4-H meant to you:

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Name



RECOGNITION FOR 4-H INTERMEDIATE MEMBERS

SILVER STAR AWARD

Criteria for selection:

1. The Silver Star Award will be presented each year to up to three (3) outstanding 4-H Intermediate Members at the County Awards Banquet. Age requirements are grades 6th – 8th at the time of application.
2. The member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
3. Must have been in 4-H for at least two years.
4. The Silver Star Award will be presented to the most deserving intermediate member without regard to gender.
5. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record Book in the year he or she is to be considered for the Silver Star Award.
6. The 4-H member must have completed three different project areas during their 4-H career.
7. Must have participated in various 4-H activities, community service and leadership experiences.
8. A member may receive the Silver Star Award only once.

Judging process:

- A check of award eligibility and required application materials.
- Judging of the awards application.
- An interview with a panel of judges.
- Review of 4-H record book and achievements.



SILVER STAR APPLICATION

(must be no longer than 4 pages)

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

CLUB: _____

Number of years in 4-H: _____

1. Projects completed:

2. Honors or Awards received in 4-H:

3. What projects have you enjoyed the most:

4. List Leadership activities other than in 4-H:

5. List other honors or awards.

6. Future plans for 4-H.

7. In 100 words or less, what has 4-H meant to you:

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Nam



RECOGNITION FOR 4-H SENIOR MEMBERS

Gold Star & Danforth Awards

The Gold Star Award

The Gold Star is the most sought after 4-H awards at the county and state level. It is awarded each year to outstanding senior 4-H members in Brazos County. Any 4-H member not meeting the minimum criteria will not be considered for the award.

Each county 4-H Program is provided with a quota annually of the number of Gold Star Awards that can be awarded. These quotas are determined based on the total number of youth in 4-H Clubs in grades 10th to Post High School who have participated in the county program during the previous (2022-2023) 4-H year. Based on last year's Senior membership Brazos County will award up to **3 Gold Star Awards**.

Danforth - I Dare you Award:

William H. Danforth's *I Dare You* was first published in 1931. It is still considered one of the most influential books in the general area of personal motivation. The award is offered in recognition of excellence in character and well-balanced personal development as well as demonstrated leadership. A copy of the book and a personalized certificate suitable for framing comprise the tangible parts of the award. Brazos County will give two (2) awards to deserving Senior age 4-H Members (15 and up as of current 4-H year).

Guidelines for Awarding the Gold Star and Danforth - I Dare You Awards.

Criteria for Selection:

1. The 4-H member must be at least 15 years old at the time of application.
2. The 4-H member must have completed at least 3 years in 4-H including the current year.
3. The member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
4. The 4-H member must submit an awards program **Record Book** in the year he or she is to be considered for the Gold Star or Danforth - I Dare You awards.
5. The Gold Star is presented to the most deserving young people without regard to race, sex, religion, handicap, creed or national origin.
6. A member may receive the Gold Star Award or Danforth - I Dare You Award only one time.

Projects and Activities

During his/her years in 4-H, the 4-H member must have:

- A. Completed projects in three (3) different project areas including submission of appropriate record forms and/or Record Book.
- B. Participated in one or more activities in at least three (3) of the following areas:
 - * Method Demonstration/4-H Presentation
 - * Contests
 - * Project Exhibits
 - * Camps
 - * Leadership Lab
 - * Citizenship Activities
 - * Public Relations (For Example: Demonstrations, Speeches, Poster Displays, Club Exhibits, Project Shows, Radio, TV, Newspaper, Special Projects)
 - * Other May Include: Exchange Programs, Fund Raising, State and National Congress, etc.

During his or her years in 4-H, the 4-H member must have exhibited leadership skills in one or more of the following areas:

- A. Must have served as an officer or committee chairman at some level of 4-H organization (club, county, district, state)
- B. Must have served as a Junior or Teen Leader in an activity or project with, or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader.

Community Service - The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities. For example:

- A. Working or counseling with Junior 4-H members.
- B. Community service projects, either individual, group or club-type projects.
- C. Must have motivated other 4-H members through participation in demonstrations, projects, and/or exhibits.

Gold Star Selection Procedure:

- * Interviews will be held by a team of 2-3 judges with location and times to be announced.
- * Selection of winners will be based on interview and application.

There will be no makeup interviews, however arrangements can be made in advance to address known and communicated conflict



BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

4-H Gold Star/ "I Dare You" Awards Application Form

(must be no longer than 4 pages)

Applicant _____
Last Name First Name Middle

Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Parents Name _____

County _____ Number of Years in 4-H Club work _____

Name of your 4-H Club _____

Age (as of Jan. 1) _____ Birth Date _____

Applying for (check all that apply) Gold Star Danforth "I Dare You"

1. What project/s do you consider to be your primary area/s of involvement over the past one to four years?

2. What **life skills** (i.e., record keeping, public speaking, etc.) have you learned through this/these project/s? What did you enjoy most about the project/s?

7. How have others gained from your leadership experiences?

8. What suggestion/s would you make to change your county's 4-H program and what would you be willing to do to help make this change?

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Name



SPECIAL COUNTY AWARDS

A 4-H member is eligible for any award if the project is included in the 4-H Record Book. A member may apply for all awards. Awards for Outstanding Achievement are awarded based on that year’s available Record Book categories, with the addition of a Community Service Award & the separation of the Shooting Sports disciplines into Archery & Shotgun. The following project areas will have a Special County Award opportunity:

Animal Agriculture	Food & Nutrition	Poultry
Archery	Gardening & Horticulture	Public Speaking
Beef	Goat	Rabbit
Citizenship*	Health & Personal Safety	Robotics (STEM)
Community Service*	Horse	Sheep
Consumer Education	Leadership*	Shotgun
Dog	Natural Resources	Swine
Entomology	Photography	Vet Science
Fashion and Interior Design	Plant & Soil Science	Visual & Performance Arts

*Judged on overall 4-H performance, not necessarily as a project.

Requirements:

- * **Must be in the 6th through 12th grade as of the current 4-H year.**
- * Must have completed 3 years of 4-H membership.
- * **Must be active in that special project during the current year and the previous year.**
 - Projects do not have to be the subject of members’ Record Books, but they **MUST** be listed in Section I or IV of the Record Book.
- * Each of these awards may be received only one time. A member may receive only one Special County Award in one year.
- * Must complete the appropriate award application and biography.
- * Some awards may not be given every year.
- * 4-H members may apply for more than one special award in the same year.

Judging and Evaluation Procedure

1. Record Books will be judged by a special panel of judges.
2. Judging will be based on the Texas 4-H Report Forms and 4-H Photo & Story.
3. Evaluation will include:
 - * total number of years in project
 - * achievements in the project - shows, fashion revenues, demonstrations, judging, records and fairs.
 - * learning experiences in the project - clinics, tours, meeting, workshops, etc.
 - * leadership in the project - number of people taught/assisted, planning project activities for club, county, district, state, etc., results of leadership.
 - * diversity of projects.
4. The evaluation criteria will be included in each Record Book eligible for Special Awards for the information of the judges.



BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

BRAZOS COUNTY SPECIAL 4-H AWARDS APPLICATION

Name: _____ Age: _____ Club: _____

Years in 4-H: _____ Record Book Category Entered: _____

Each Special Award can only be received once. Knowing this, I would like to be considered for the following Special Awards. If you have already received any of the awards, please indicate the year the award was won.

Special Awards	APPLYING FOR	YEAR RECEIVED
Animal Agriculture		
Archery		
Beef		
Citizenship		
Community Service		
Dog		
Entomology		
Fashion and Interior Design		
Food & Nutrition		
Gardening & Horticulture		
Goat		
Health & Personal Safety		
Horse		
Leadership		
Natural Resources		
Photography		
Plant & Soil Science		
Poultry		
Public Speaking		
Rabbit		
Robotics (STEM)		
Sheep		
Shotgun		
Swine		
Vet Science		
Visual & Performance Arts		

I have read and understand the rules for applying for a Special County Award and met all requirements.

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Club Manager/Managers Name

Sample Interview Questions

1. Introduce and tell us about yourself.
2. What is 4-H, and why is it important to you?
3. What do the four H's in 4-H stand for?
4. Tell us about your main project area. What made you pick this as your main project?
5. How has 4-H helped you to be successful in these activities?
6. What is something you have learned from 4-H?
7. What leadership opportunity has meant the most to you this year?
8. Have you held any offices this year? If so, what were they?
9. How have you been an influence on younger 4-H'ers in your county?
10. Have you helped other people through 4-H (community service)? Tell us about it. Why do you think community service is such an important part of 4-H?
11. Talk about some of the community service projects that you participated in or helped to coordinate?
12. What activities are you involved with or enjoy outside of 4-H?

Others:

- If you could change something about 4-H what would it be?
- Tell us a funny/most unforgettable/disappointing moment in 4-H.
- What is a goal that you have? How can 4-H help you reach it?
- What leadership roles have you been in with 4-H?
- Have you helped other people because of 4-H (community service)? Tell us about it.
- What is something that you are most proud of?

Judges may also ask an off the wall, left field question like:

- What would the color 4-H green taste like to you?
- If you could be any position on the baseball field, what would it be and why?