

# Orange County 4-H Awards



## Handbook

All Award applications are due by June 15<sup>th</sup>

Scholarship applications are due the last day of May

The Orange County 4-H Awards Program is designed to recognize the accomplishments of 4-H members for their project work, leadership skills, personal growth and development, and participation in various 4-H sponsored activities. The Orange County 4-H Awards Program is coordinated in conjunction with the Texas 4-H Awards Program. All three groups (county, district, and state) provide donors or funds for various scholarships, trips, medals, and other awards. The Orange County 4-H Program and the Orange County 4-H Awards Committee oversee the awards and reserve the right to solicit nominations for any award in which there is a lack of nominations on the due date.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

1. The Texas 4-H year is defined as September 1 through August 31.
2. Age requirements: Youth are eligible to participate in the 4-H year if they are in the third grade as of September 1 of the current year through the completion of the twelfth grade with a maximum age of 18 (as of August 31.) Youth who are between the ages of 5 and 8 but are not yet in the third grade are also eligible to participate in the 4-H year at the club and county level. They are known as Clover kids.

## **4-H AGE DIVISIONS**

Juniors - School grades 3, 4, and 5; Intermediates - School grades 6, 7, and 8; Seniors - School grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

## **CLUB MANAGERS**

1. Club managers will present the pins and club awards to their members during the yearly awards program.
2. All Club managers and/or Assistant Managers must be part of the Adult Leaders Association. This ensures that they are up to date on all things happening with the awards.
3. Managers **must** submit the application for the year pin for their members. Members will only receive their pins if the application is submitted.
4. Managers must turn in the documentation to the 4-H office for the community service events to count towards the 4-H Club Community Service Award.

## **4-H CLUB ACHIEVEMENT EVENTS**

Each 4-H club is encouraged to plan and implement their own 4-H achievement events throughout the year. A publication entitled "The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program Management Guide" contains a section regarding 4-H recognition that provides excellent guidelines and ideas.

The National 4-H Supply Service catalog or 4-H Mall online has numerous items available for awards and recognition for 4-H club members. Certificates for members are available by request at the 4-H Office. Each club will be given time during the county awards program to recognize their members. Each 4-H club is responsible for the expenses incurred for special awards not listed in handbook.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

- The Orange County 4-H Scholarship will be awarded each spring to two (2) Orange County 4-H graduating seniors.
- Must be an active enrolled member of the Orange County 4-H Program for the current year and at least two of the three previous years and must be in good standing with the Orange County 4-H Program.
- Applicants must submit a 4-H Project Record Book.
- 4-H Scholarships will be awarded 40% on 4-H work, 40% on general leadership and community service, and 20% on scholastic achievement. An official high school transcript must accompany the application.
- The application must include two letters of recommendations: one (1) from a 4-H/FFA leader and one (1) from a teacher/principal/counselor; and a brief letter about yourself, your family, and the reasons for applying for the scholarship and your intended career plans.
- Scholarships will be distributed upon proof of enrollment into an educational institution.

## HOW TO ACCESS APPLICATIONS

All applications can be accessed on the Orange County AgriLife website:

**<http://orange.agrilife.org>**

### COMPUTER/LAPTOP:

1. Go to orange.agrilife.org
2. Move your mouse on top of the 4-H & Youth Tab (but do not click). It will drop down to give you more options.
3. Click on 4-H Awards.
4. You can view the handbook here and access the applications for the awards.

### SMARTPHONE:

1. Go to orange.agrilife.org
2. At the top right of the page that comes up there is a menu button. It is sometimes hard to see when there is a banner that might be under it. Touch the menu button.
3. You will then see some links. You will then touch to follow the 4-H & Youth link.
4. Then you will follow the 4-H Awards link.
5. You can view the handbook here and access the applications for the awards.









**If you would like, you can come to the office and use the computers to fill out your applications during office hours.**



## ORANGE COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

A County 4-H Awards Program, usually a banquet, is held yearly to honor 4-H members and leaders for their accomplishments and leadership and supporters for their contributions. The awards listed below are presented during the County Awards Program:


Project Pin	Unsung Hero	Club Secretary 
Year Pin	Council Officer Recognition	Club Treasurer 
Gold Star 	Contest Recognition *	Club Scrapbook
Danforth "I Dare You" 	Paper Clover Campaign	Club Community Service
Silver Star 	Outstanding 4-H Adult Leader (1 male and 1 female)	Letterman Award
Bronze Star 	Friend of 4-H	

\*County, district, state, and national 4-H competitions.



**A Record Book must be completed for a 4-H member to be eligible for the awards denoted with a .**



**A Club book for the specified position must be completed for a 4-H member to be eligible for the awards denoted with a .**

### AWARDS BY AGE DIVISION

Junior	Intermediate	Senior
Project Pin	Project Pin	Project Pin
Year Pin	Year Pin	Year Pin
Bronze Star	Silver Star	Gold Star
Unsung Hero Award	Unsung Hero Award	Danforth "I Dare You"
Council Officer	Council Officer	Unsung Hero Award
Contest Recognition	Contest Recognition	Council Officer
Paper Clover Campaign	Paper Clover Campaign	Contest Recognition
Club Secretary	Club Secretary	Paper Clover Campaign
Club Treasurer	Club Treasurer	Club Secretary
Rookie of the Year	Rookie of the Year	Club Treasurer
		Rookie of the Year

### PROJECT COMPLETION PIN

Project pins will be awarded to 4-H members who complete and submit a 4-H project for Orange County 4-H. A project has 4 components that must be met:

- 1. Learning Experiences:** Have **6 or more** learning experiences of 20-60 minutes in length totaling 2 hours or more per project.
- 2. Community Service**
- 3. Leadership**
- 4. Exhibition of Project work.**

Project pins will be presented at the annual Orange County 4-H Awards Program. Project pins are provided by The Orange County 4-H Adult Leaders Association.

## LETTERMAN AWARD

All 4-H members grade 11 & 12 (as of August 31 of the current 4-H year) are eligible to receive this award. Requirements must be completed during the current 4-H year.

1. Attended 2/3rds of the regular club meeting.
2. Completed 3 projects.
3. Participated in 2 Community Service Projects
4. Complete 8 of the 9 items which are listed on the application.

## YEAR PIN

Each 4-H member will receive their yearly year pin for each year of membership if they complete the following two requirements. Year pins will be presented at the annual Orange County 4-H Awards Program.

1. Actively participates in a 4-H Community Service Project
2. The Application for Year Pin is completed and approved by club manager. Name must be submitted on the 4-H year pin request form.

## 4-H GOLD STAR AWARD GUIDELINES

The Gold Star Award is the highest County 4-H Achievement Award and intended to be received only once in a member's 4-H career. The following criterion is based upon the state guidelines as stated in the current Texas 4-H Opportunities Handbook. Any 4-H member not meeting criteria will not be considered for this award. Counties have award quotas based on the number of senior 4-H members. This award will be presented to the most deserving young people without regard to sex. The following requirements must be met:

### Criteria for selection:

1. The member must be at least 15 years of age as of the date of the application (per State guidelines) of the current 4-H year.
2. The 4-H member must have completed at least three years in 4-H, including the current year.
3. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the award.
4. The 4-H member must have completed projects in three different project areas, have submitted appropriate record forms on those projects and have participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:

Educational Presentations, Citizenship activities, projects, project exhibits, camps, leadership labs, public relations (speeches, poster displays, radio, TV, newspapers), other (including exchange programs, fund raising, State and National Congress, etc.)

*Note: It is not expected that the requirements for projects and activities all be completed in the current year. They may have been accomplished over the entire period the 4-H'er has been in the program.*

During his or her years in 4-H, the member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as a 4-H officer or committee chairman (club, county, district, or state,) and/or Junior or Teen leader in an activity or project with, or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader. The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities. Examples are working or counseling with junior 4-H members; participating in community service projects (individual, group, or club-type); and motivating other 4-H members through participation in demonstrations, projects and/or exhibits.

County Gold Star allotments are determined by the State 4-H Office. These allotments are sent to the District Office for approval.

## **DANFORTH - "I DARE YOU" AWARD GUIDELINES**

The Danforth - "I Dare You" Award is the second highest award given on the county level. The award guidelines are the same as those for the Texas 4-H Gold Star Award. There will be a maximum of two Danforth - I Dare You Awards given each year in Orange County 4-H. The actual number of Danforth awards given will be decided by the selection committee, based on the merits of the applicants. This award may be received only once.

### **HISTORY OF THE DANFORTH - "I DARE YOU" AWARD**

Mr. William H. Danforth's book, "I Dare You," was first published in 1931. It is still considered one of the most influential books in the

area of personal motivation. The book is published and distributed by the American Youth Foundation through its I Dare You Committee. The award is offered as recognition of excellence in character and well-balanced development, as well as demonstrated leadership.

## **SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE GOLD STAR AND DANFORTH - "I DARE YOU" AWARDS**

1. An application form for the award must be completed and submitted by the due date. The current 4-H Record Book must accompany the form.
2. All qualified applicants will be considered. A non-biased panel of judges will review the form and Record Book and conduct a personal interview with the applicant. All applicants' interviews will be conducted on the same date unless there is an unexpected situation and the applicant cannot make the interview, a phone interview will take place.
3. The same person may not receive both the Gold Star Award and the Danforth Award in the same year.
4. Once awarded the Gold Star Award, a 4-H member is ineligible to receive the Danforth Award. However, after receiving the Danforth Award, a 4-H member may apply the following year for the Gold Star Award.
5. The decision of the judges will be final.

The awards given for Gold Star and Danforth - "I Dare You" are as follows:

DANFORTH AWARD - Engraved plaque and "I Dare You" book  
GOLD STAR AWARD – Certificate and a Gold Star Pin

## **SILVER STAR AWARD**

The Silver Star Award will be presented each year to a maximum of three outstanding intermediate members. The actual number of Silver Star Awards given will be decided by the judges and based on the merits of the applicants.

The selection is based on quality of project work, involvement in club programs and activities, and future goals for the member's 4-H career.

1. An application form for the award must be completed and submitted by the due date.
2. A non-biased panel of judges will review the application and record book. Interviews will be conducted with each applicant. The decision by the judges will be final.
3. A 4-H member may receive the Silver Star Award only one time.
4. The recipient of this award will receive an engraved plaque.

## **BRONZE STAR AWARD**

The Bronze Star Award will be presented each year to a maximum of three outstanding junior members. The actual number of Bronze Star Awards given will be decided by the judges and based on the merits of the applicants.

The selection is based on quality of project work, involvement in club programs and activities, and future goals for the member's 4-H career.

1. An application form for the award must be completed and submitted by the due date.
2. A non-biased panel of judges will review the application and record book. Interviews will be conducted with each applicant. The decision by the judges will be final.
3. A 4-H member may receive the Bronze Star Award only one time.
4. The recipient of this award will receive an engraved plaque.

## **4-H UNSUNG HERO AWARD**

The 4-H Unsung Hero Award will be given to one 4-H member in each age division (junior, intermediate, senior) who has worked hard, particularly in helping others, but has received little recognition on the county level.

1. **A club manager or project leader may submit a nomination on one 4-H member in each age division.** The nomination form is available online.
2. The nominations will be judged by a panel of judges selected by County Extension Agents. Judges decisions will be final.
3. This award can be received only once per age division.
4. The recipient of this award will be presented with a plaque.

## **ORANGE COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL OFFICERS AWARD**

The Orange County 4-H Council Officers completing the year in the office in which they held will be awarded an officer's pin.

## **COUNTY, DISTRICT, STATE AND NATIONAL CONTEST RECOGNITION**

The 4-H members who have participated in 4-H contests at county, district, state, and/or national level contests will receive an award to recognize their participation.

## **PAPER CLOVER CAMPAIGN AWARD**

Any 4-H member that sold paper clovers for two hours or more at the Orange Tractor Supply store, and whose name is on the documentation form, will receive a Clover Pin. The form must be turned in by the club manager.

## **OUTSTANDING 4-H ADULT LEADER AWARD**

The Outstanding 4-H Adult Leader Awards will be presented to **two leaders (one male and one female)** each year. The recipients must be enrolled in 4-H and actively providing leadership in some capacity with the Orange County 4-H Program. Applications must be submitted online.

1. Any adult may nominate adult leaders. Nominations should be based on leadership involvement in county, district, and/or state 4-H activities.
2. The award will be given to two individuals (one male and one female) or one husband and wife team and another individual. A husband/wife team will be considered as one nomination.
3. Applications will be reviewed by a panel of judges.
4. This award may be received only once.
5. The recipients will be presented with a gift award.

## **FRIENDS OF 4-H**

A business that has been a supporter of 4-H throughout the year will receive recognition at the awards program. The award will be a plaque and may be received more than once.

## **4-H CLUB SECRETARY AND TREASURER AWARDS**

All 4-H club secretaries and treasurers are encouraged to submit their 4-H club Secretary Book and Treasurer Book for competition for this award. The book is due in the 4-H Office by the due date.

1. Entries will be judged on completion and neatness by a panel of judges selected by County Extension Agents.
2. The recipient of the Club Secretary Award and The Club Treasurer Award will be presented with a writing pen, engraved with the 4-H'ers name.
3. For resources and help: visit the Texas 4-H Website at <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/>

## **4-H CLUB SCRAPBOOK AWARD**

The 4-H Club Scrapbook Award will be given to one club which has submitted a 4-H club scrapbook to the 4-H Office by the due date. The scrapbook will be judged on completion, neatness, attractiveness, and creativity.

1. The scrapbook must include a list of names of those who completed the scrapbook.
2. The County Extension Agents are responsible for obtaining judges.
3. The winning club will receive an engraved name plate of the club to be displayed at the Orange County Extension Office.



### **4-H CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

The 4-H Club Community Service Award will be given to the top 4-H club who has completed the most community service. The application will be judged on the amount and quality of community service and the percentage of members, leaders, and/or parents involved. The Adult Leaders have added a \$100 incentive to the 1st place club. Community service is service you do for organizations outside of 4-H.

1. The County Extension Agents will be responsible for obtaining non-biased judges.
2. Complete the form.
3. The winning club will receive a pizza party at their next club meeting.

### **4-H CLUB ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Rookie-Of-The-Year Award is given to first year 4-H members enrolled for each club in each age division.

1. A 4-H parent, club manager, project leader, or senior 4-H member may submit a nomination on one 4-H'er in each age division. The nomination form is available online. A one paragraph statement should be provided about why special recognition is deserved. The nominations are to be completed and submitted by the due date.
2. The nominations will be judged by a panel of judges selected by County Extension Agents. Judges decisions will be final.
3. This award can be received only once per age division.
4. Winners will be presented with a plaque.