



2026
McLennan County
4-H Awards Packet

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Important Dates.....	3
McLennan County 4-H Award Program.....	4
Record Book Awards.....	4
County and District Participation.....	4
Texas 4-H Record Book Program.....	5
McLennan County Recognition Program.....	6
4-H Rookie Award	
4- H Honor Roll Award	
4-H All Star Award	
4-H Letterman Award	
4-H Bronze Star Award	
4-H Silver Star Award	
4-H Gold Star Award	
Special County Awards	
Required Biography and Cover Sheet.....	7
4-H Rookie Award Application.....	8
4-H Honor Roll Award Application.....	9
4-H All Star Award Application.....	10
4-H Letterman Award Application.....	11
Bronze Star Award Application.....	12
Silver Star Award Application.....	15
Gold Star Award Application.....	18
Special County Awards Application.....	22
Example Interview Questions.....	24

Important Dates

All applications are due to the County Extension Office or emailed to madeline.makovy@ag.tamu.edu on:

Monday, June 8th, 2026.

All age requirements are as of:

August 31, 2025

Junior Age Category – grades 3, 4, 5

Intermediate Age Category – grades 6, 7, 8

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

**Award Interviews are set for
June 17th and times will be set at
a later date.**



MCLENNAN COUNTY 4-H AWARD PROGRAM



The McLennan County 4-H Awards and Recognition Handbook has been developed to inform 4-Hers and parents of the awards and recognitions that are available on the County Level. The Awards Program is designed to recognize boys and girls for their project work, leadership and personal growth and development. We hope that this handbook will be beneficial to the 4-H member.

Madeline Makovy

CEA 4-H & Youth Development
 McLennan County

Jerod Meurer

CEA ANR
 McLennan County

Dr. Shane McLellan

CEA AG
 McLennan County

Rachel Esquivel

CEA FCH
 McLennan County

Chisa Brigham

PV 4-H Agent
 McLennan County

Dana Gerick

Office Manager
 McLennan County

Nicole Kosier

Secretary
 McLennan County

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.

COUNTY, DISTRICT & STATE PARTICIPATION

County and District participation will be recognized at the annual McLennan County 4-H Awards Banquet.



TEXAS 4-H RECORD BOOK PROGRAM

Purpose of Individual 4-H Member Records

1. To help youth learn record keeping skills.
2. To document 4-H learning experiences.
3. To teach youth how to set personal goals and to monitor progress toward those goals.
4. To help youth reflect on and understand the value of their learning experiences.
5. To help Extension faculty and volunteers monitor the growth and development of 4-H members.
6. To provide information for awards and recognition programs.
7. To provide documentation concerning the value of the 4-H & Youth Development Program.

The Five Objectives of All Texas 4-H Record Books

The 4-H member will:

1. Attain a broad knowledge of 4-H projects and activities and the way they improve family and community life.
2. Acquire life skills essential for becoming an active, skilled, productive, and responsible citizen.
3. Adopt and apply the latest practices and research findings to everyday living.
4. Use all 4-H training and experiences in choosing and preparing for a job.
5. Identify and understand roles, attitudes, and tasks necessary for effective leadership.
6. Develop leadership skills that promote positive youth development.

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 complete at least one of your project goals.
4. Exhibit your project work.
5. Attend 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 record book.
8. Develop leadership by teaching others something about your project.
9. Conduct citizenship activities related to your 4-H project.
10. Find new and fun things to do in your project area.

MCLENNAN 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.
- 4-H ALL STAR** 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 member.
- 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.
- BRONZE STAR** Presented to two outstanding 4-H junior members (grades 3rd – 5th). May be received one time only. ****RECORD BOOK REQUIRED****
- SILVER STAR** Presented to two outstanding 4-H intermediate members (grades 6th – 8th). May be received one time only. ****RECORD BOOK REQUIRED****
- GOLD STAR** Awarded each year to 2 youth (based on the number of senior 4-H members enrolled in the McLennan County 4-H program) outstanding senior 4-H members in McLennan County based on their total 4-H career. A member may receive the Gold Star Award only one time. ****RECORD BOOK REQUIRED****
- 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 4-H Record book must be submitted at least on the county level to be eligible for this award. *****RECORD BOOK REQUIRED****

REQUIRED

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

All applications for Bronze Star, Silver Star, Gold Star, 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: _____

Applications submitted (check all that apply)

- Rookie 4-H Member
- 4-H Honor Roll
- 4-H All Star
- 4-H Letterman
- Bronze Star

- Silver Star
- Gold Star
- Special County Awards

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 :

- Selected one project.
- Turned in a record book. **optional*
- Gave a report to 4-H leader on the project.
- Gave a demonstration or exhibit the project.

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

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.

NAME _____

4-H CLUB _____

Complete 6 of 10	1st Yr.	2nd Yr.	3rd Yr.
Select one project			
Give a report to leader on project			
Give a demonstration or exhibit project			
Attend 2/3 of regular club meetings			
Bring parents to 50% of regular club meetings			
Serve on committee or as an Elected Officer			
Help with a Community Service project			
Participate in a County Round-Up event (Method Demonstrations, Judging, etc.)			
Turn in Record Book <i>*optional</i>			
Participate in a County-wide activity			

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

4-H ALL STAR 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.

NAME _____

4-H CLUB _____

Complete 9 of 15	1st Yr.	2nd Yr.	3rd Yr.
Select two different projects			
Give a demonstration or exhibit on 2 projects			
Attend 2/3 of regular club meetings			
Bring parents to 50% of regular club meetings			
Serve on committee or as an elected officer			
Participate in a Community Service project			
Participate in a Promote 4-H activity			
Recruit one or more new members			
Participate in a County Round-Up event (Method Demonstrations, Judging, etc.)			
Participate in two other county-wide 4-H activities			
Assist with County-wide activity			
Turn in record book <i>*optional</i>			
Represent county at district or state event or activity			
Participate in school or community activity			
Assist leaders with TWO project group or club activities			

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

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 10 of 19	1st Yr.	2nd Yr.	3rd Yr.
Complete 3 or more projects			
Attend 2/3 of regular club meetings			
Junior Leader or Teen Leader of a group or project			
Chairman of committee or elected officer			
Serve on County 4-H Committee or Council			
Assist in conducting a county activity or program			
Training or presentation to a project group			
Organize a community service project			
Participate in a District or State Leadership Training			
Provide/participate in county level program or training			
Write a news article or be on radio or TV about 4-H			
Participate in a County Round-Up event			
Provide district or state program or trainings			
Compete in district or state level 4-H competition			
Participate in a National event or activity			
Promote 4-H to other groups			
Serve in Leadership position in group other than 4-H			
Research career opportunities			
Turn in a complete Record Book <i>*optional</i>			

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

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 two (2) 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 one time.

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)

5. List leadership & community service activities:

6. Other Activities & Involvement

7. Future plans in 4-H.

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

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

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 two (2) 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 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.
5. The 4-H member must have completed 2 or 3 different project areas during their 4-H career.
6. Must have participated in various 4-H activities, community service and leadership experiences.
7. A member may receive the Silver Star Award only one time.

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?

SILVER STAR APPLICATION

(must be no longer than 3 pages)

4. List leadership & community service activities:

5. Other activities and involvement (Not 4-H).

6. Future plans in 4H.

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

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

RECOGNITION FOR 4-H SENIOR MEMBERS

GOLD STAR AWARD

The Gold Star Award is one of the most sought after 4-H awards at the county level. It is awarded each year to (2-3 youth, based on the number of senior 4-H members enrolled in the McLennan County 4-H program) outstanding senior 4-H members in McLennan County based on their total 4-H career. Any 4-H member not meeting the minimum criteria will not be considered for the award.

Guidelines for Awarding the Gold Star

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 a **Record Book** in the year he or she is to be considered for the Gold Star award.
5. A member may receive the Gold Star Award only one time.

6. 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 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/SURGE
 - * Citizenship Activities/Community Service
 - * 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.

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 of the 4-Her has been in the program.

TEXAS 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

7. 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.

8. 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 off interview, and application.

No makeup interviews! The date is June 17th!

3. What leadership positions have you held, and community service projects have you participated in?

4. What do you consider to be your most meaningful 4-H experience?

5. Has 4-H helped you in making future plans and goals. If so, what are your plans and goals at this time? (Example: School, career, family, project goals)

SPECIAL COUNTY AWARDS

The following awards are made available on a county-wide basis to encourage excellence in 4-H projects. 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 in the following project areas:

Beef	Food & Nutrition	Natural Resources	Sheep
Citizenship & Civic Ed.	Goat	(Fishing & Shooting	STEM
Consumer Education	Health & Personal Safety	Sports)	Swine
Fashion & Clothing	Horse	Photography	
Design	Leadership	Poultry	
	Judging	Public Speaking	
	(Livestock/Horse/Meat)	Rabbit	

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

Requirements:

- * **Must be in the 6th thru 12th grade as of the current 4-H year. See important dates page.**
- * Must have completed 2 years of 4-H membership.
- * **Must be active in that special project during the current year and/or the previous year.**
- * Must complete the appropriate award application and biography.
- * Some awards may not be given every year.
- * 4-H members may not receive more than one special award in the same year.
- * 4-H members cannot receive the same award for **two consecutive years.**
- * **Must complete and turn in a record book.**

Judging and Evaluation Procedure

- * total number of years in project
- * achievements in the project - shows, fashion revues, 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.

MCLENNAN COUNTY SPECIAL 4-H AWARDS APPLICATION

Name: _____ Age: _____ Club: _____

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

Please list all awards you would like to be considered for and a short description about why you should be selected for that award.

1.

2.

3.

Other applicable awards:

Previous awards received and year:

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

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 to younger 4-Hers 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?