



4-H Achievement Certificates



Goals & Definitions

GOALS:

1. Provide clear and consistent guidelines regarding 4-H member recognition;
2. Provide recognition to all deserving members;
3. Recognize overall 4-H participation;
4. Allow for non-competitive recognition for Cloverbud 4-H members.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. 4-H age is the member's age on January 1 of the Project Year (e.g. January 1, 2010 for the 2009-2010 4-H Club Year).
2. List each 4-H experience only once (e.g. Project, Community Service or Leadership). Members do, however, have the option of "splitting" selected 4-H experiences into different sections. For example, if a member organizes and leads a flower planting project at their town hall he/she could:
 - Count the effort to raise the flowers from seeds and for their care prior to their planting as a Floriculture Project, and
 - Count the leadership component of this experience as a 4-H Club Project Leader under the 4-H Leadership section, and
 - Count the number of hours that he/she helped plant the flowers and care for them as a Community Service project.
3. Members should contact the 4-H Office if they feel credit should be granted for a Project, Educational Event, or Leadership Project not currently listed.

DEFINITIONS:

4-H Project: A unit of work, which is the basis of "learn by doing". Each project consists of a series of learning experiences to help shape the character of 4-H youth and teach life long skills. To be considered a project it must:

- a. Be listed on the Ontario County 4-H Project list;
- b. Have project materials available through the Cooperative Extension Office (or work with the 4-H Office to develop your own);
- c. Be a long-term learning experience (approximately 6 hours in length or longer). Examples to consider are:
 - Johnny is involved in the 4-H Horse Program. He has spent 6 hours learning about horse feeds, 8 hours building a tack box, 20+ hours learning how to ride English, 8 hours learning how to ride Gymkhana, and 3 hours learning anatomy. Johnny should list that he has completed a 4-H Horse Nutrition Project, a 4-H Woodworking Project, a 4-H English Riding Project, and a Gymkhana Riding Project.
 - Susie is involved in the 4-H Textiles Program. She has spent 2 hours knitting a scarf, 1 hour sewing a fleece pillow, and 3 hours sewing a teddy bear. Susie should list that she has completed one 4-H Textiles Project.

OVER

4-H Cloverbud Project: Similar to a 4-H Project except for being a shorter-term experience that emphasizes socialization and interaction which is developmentally appropriate. A Cloverbud Project is usually 30-45 minutes in length.

4-H Educational Event: Complementing 4-H Club project offerings, 4-H Educational Events provide an added and unique educational experience. Members must actively participate in, not just attend, an Educational Event to receive credit. Events that are counted towards the criteria are:

4-H Camp Bristol Hills	Harvest Food Fest
4-H Expo	Hippology
Achievement Day (attendance required)	March Dog Madness
Animal Crackers	New York State Fair
Award Trips	Public Presentations
Dairy/Horse Bowl	Ontario County Fair
Dairy/Horse/Livestock/Poultry Judging	Textile Revue/Evaluation
Fundraiser (e.g. Cookie/Cheese Sale, Pizza/Dessert Sale)	

CONTACT THE 4-H PROGRAM TO SEE IF CREDIT FOR AN EDUCATIONAL EVENT WILL BE GRANTED FOR EXPERIENCES NOT INCLUDED ON THIS LIST.

4-H Community Service: Providing assistance that benefits someone outside of the member's family. Examples are marching in a parade as part of a 4-H Club, holding a can drive for a local food bank, providing food baskets to shut-ins, raising money for a local charity, planting and caring for a flower garden at a local park, or sewing lap-quilts for a nursing home. COMMUNITY SERVICE MUST RELATE TO THE 4-H PROGRAM TO RECEIVE CREDIT TOWARDS A 4-H ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATE. If money is being donated as a Community Service Project members need to explain how they determined the number of hours claimed (e.g. A member spent 5 hours raising \$65 which was donated to the American Red Cross.)

4-H Leadership Project: Providing guidance and direction to others. Credit is given for the following 4-H Leadership Projects:

Assisted with a Club Project	Education Event 4-H Teen Evaluator (may count only once each year)
Camp Bristol Hills Counselor	Educational Event 4-H Teen Leader
Club Officer	Teen Ambassador
Club Project Leader	Teen Leader Training (attended)

REMEMBER THAT:

The Cooperative Extension staff will work with members, parents, and leaders to individualize requirements to take into consideration a member's financial, physical, geographic and intellectual limitations; religious beliefs; the time requirement associated with certain projects, etc. A member, or when appropriate their parent or leader, must explain why they wish to vary any Achievement Award requirement and receive approval from an Extension Educator before hand.