

Toole County 4-H Awards Recognition Policy

The Toole County Recognition Program has been developed to provide well rounded opportunities for the growth and development of our 4-H Members. Recognition and awards always have been an important part of the 4-H Program. Recognition helps motivate youth to achieve individual and club objectives. Recognition encourages young people, increases their interest and helps members learn which helps members become capable and competent adults.

General Policies:

- ✿ All members and leaders will receive a copy of the policy upon enrolling in 4-H.
- ✿ Awards Committee and 4-H Council will review the policy on annual bases.
- ✿ Award selection will be based on the merits of individual, outside influences should not be taken into consideration.
- ✿ Achievement Day will be held in the fall of each year. Clubs will host Achievement Day on a rotation bases.

Award Categories:

- ✿ Participation Recognition
- ✿ Clover Awards
- ✿ Medal of Excellence
- ✿ Memorial Awards
- ✿ Club of Excellence Recognition
- ✿ 4-H Service Recognition

1. PARTICIPATION AWARDS

a. Gold Seal of Excellence:

Members who have turned in completed record books to the office will receive a Gold Seal of Excellence. If a member does not complete their records, they may re-enroll in 4-H, but will not be eligible for year-end awards and will not get credit for the past 4-H year. Record book completion will be determined by club organizational leaders.

Organizational leaders will submit a list of members who have completed their record books by the day the record books are due to the Extension Office.

Definition of a Completed record book- All sections of “My 4-H Year” record as well as all project and financial journals for all projects taken must be completed.

b. Membership Recognition

1.) Members completing their 1st year of 4-H will be recognized by a pin

2.) Cloverbud Awards:

1st year of Completion –Cloverbud Medallion

2nd year of Completion- Rosette

3rd year of Completion-Rosette

2. **CLOVER AWARDS-**Recognize excellence and active involvement in at the club, county and regional level.

Eligibility: Any Junior, Intermediate, or Senior 4-H Club member is eligible to apply for the Clover Achievement Awards.
(At-Large and Special Interest members are not eligible.)

Deadline: Applications are due at the same time as record books.

Information: A member is not required to earn a recognition award every year, however, requirements for recognition must be met during the current year in which the member wants to be recognized. Only one award can be applied for each year. A member is not required to earn previous levels of recognition in order to apply for the next level award except where noted.

Awards:

Clover Award:	Rosette
Emerald Award:	Rosette
Bronze Award:	Rosette
Silver Award:	Rosette
Gold Award:	\$50 Cash award

Criteria:

1. Clover Level

- a. Attend 50% or more of your 4-H Club meetings
- b. Attend one county-wide event (other than the fair).
- c. Complete your record book for the year

2. Emerald Level

- a. Attend 50% or more of your 4-H Club meetings
- b. Complete your record book for the year
- c. Give a demonstration or talk at a 4-H Club Meeting
- d. Participate in two county wide events. (other than the fair)

3. Bronze Level

- a. Attend 50% or more of your 4-H Club meetings
- b. Complete at least 1 years of 4-H
- c. Complete your record book for the year.
- d. Give a demonstration or talk at a 4-h Club Meeting
- e. Assume a leadership role in your club or county.
i.e.: club officer, committee member, etc
- f. Participate in three county wide events(other than Fair)
- g. Participate in three county or region wide competitions or leadership opportunities

4. Silver Level

- a. Attend 50% or more of your 4-H Club meetings
- b. Complete at least 2 years of 4-H
- c. Completed the Bronze level requirements previous to current year
- d. Complete your record book for the year.
- e. Give a demonstration or talk at a 4-h Club Meeting
- f. Participate in four county wide events(other than Fair)
- g. Participate in four county or region wide competitions or leadership opportunities
- h. Assume a leadership role in your club or county.
i.e.: club officer, committee member, etc

- i. Be involved in the planning and/or presenting a 4-H or community service, activity or event (i.e.: *ambassador program, project day, 4-H week, bike fair, etc*) or help younger members in your project area.

5. Gold Level

- a. Attend 50% or more of your 4-H Club meetings
- b. Complete at least 3 years of 4-H
- c. Completed the Silver level requirements previous to current year
- d. Complete your record book for the year.
- e. Give a demonstration or talk at a 4-h Club Meeting
- f. Participate in five county wide events(other than Fair)
- g. Participate in five county or region wide competitions or leadership opportunities
- h. Assume a leadership role in your club or county.
i.e.: club officer, committee member, etc
- i. Be involved in the planning and/or presenting a 4-H or community service, activity or event (i.e.: *ambassador program, project day, 4-H week, bike fair, etc*) or help younger members in one of your project areas.

All requirements must be completed in the year in which the award is applied for.

3. MEDAL OF EXCELLANCE IN PROJECT WORK, LEADERSHIP, OR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Nomination Process for

- a. Recipients will be selected through a process of nominations and then an Awards Selection Committee. Nominations for awards may be made by family members, leaders, community members, and other members. Nomination forms are available at the Extension Office or from an Organizational Leader. Nominations can be made in the 4-H Project Areas as well as community service, and leadership. If a member has shown excellence in all three categories they may also be nominated for the 4-H Achievement Award.
- b. Nominations for awards are due at the extension office at the same time as record books.

- c. Members will be notified if they are nominated for an award. Members may choose to accept or decline the award. If they accept choose to accept a nomination they must have a completed record book submitted to the office. Members whom accept a nomination will have their record books reviewed by the Selection Committee to determine awards?
- d. The Awards Selection Committee will meet to determine the award recipients in the month of October each year. The committee will be selected by the 4-H Council and Extension Agent.
- e. Selected Award Recipients will receive a Medallion of Excellence and \$10 cash at Achievement Day.

4. MEMORIAL AWARDS

a. Ben Sisk Memorial Award

The Ben Sisk Memorial Award is awarded to the most inspirational Toole County Livestock 4-H member based on the following criteria:

- Member completed their livestock project
- Member shared their knowledge and assistance with others
- Member is cooperative with 4-H members, leaders and community members

Bob and Geneva Sisk select the award recipient. The Recipient receives an engraved belt buckle form the Montana Silversmith's donated by the Kountry Kids 4-H Club

b. Toole County 4-H Member of the Year

The Toole County 4-H Member of the Year is awarded to a 4-H member based on the following criteria:

- A member who displays leadership within their club and county.
- A member who is involved in multiple projects
- A member who is involved in community service

Award Selection Committee will select the recipient of this award based on the member's essay.

5. CLUB AWARDS

a. Club of Excellence Award

Criteria:

1. Submit 80% of all members record books for completion by September 30th.
2. Submit all required treasurer and secretary reports for the year by September 30th.

3. Participated in at least one community service activity during the 4-H year.

Award: Every club that meets the criteria will receive a \$50 cash award at Achievement Day.

6. 4-H SERVICE AWARDS

a. Volunteers Pins

Leaders are awarded pins in the 1st, 5th, 10th, and 15th of service

b. 4-H Leader of the Year Award

This award is given to a leader who has positively impacted the lives of Toole County 4-H Members at the club and/or county level. Recipients are selected through a nomination process determined by the 4-H Council.

c. Alumni Award

This award is given to a past 4-H member. The recipient is selected based on their service and commitments to the community, where they practice the ideals developed through active participation in 4-H. Recipients are selected through a nomination process determined by the 4-H Council.

d. Meritorious Service

The Meritorious Service Award goes to a person(s) or organization(s) that shows evidence of adherence to ideals of 4-H. They have supported 4-h for many years and provide a foundation for the continuation of the 4-H Program and its goal to promote youth. Recipients are selected through a nomination process determined by the 4-H Council.

e. Distinguished Service

This award goes to an outstanding individual that has provided many years of dedicated service to the 4-H program. They have helped build 4-H to what it is today and assisted many youth to become solid community members. Recipients are selected through a nomination process determined by the 4-H Council.