

## Indiana 4-H Volunteer Awards of Excellence Nominations

The Indiana 4-H Volunteer Awards of Excellence recognize Youth and Adult 4-H Volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary service to 4-H within certain award categories. Any Youth or Adult 4-H Volunteer who is currently active in the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program may be nominated for these awards.

### Award Categories

In 2019, Indiana 4-H will recognize a Youth and an Adult 4-H Volunteer in each of five award categories. These five categories include Excellence in 4-H: (1) Club Programming; (2) Science Programming; (3) Healthy Living Programming; (4) Civic Engagement/Leadership Programming; and (5) Animal Science Programming. Additionally, a team award will be presented to a group of Youth and Adult 4-H Volunteers who have demonstrated "Excellence in Youth and Adult Partnerships."

### Description of Award Categories

Excellence in each of the award categories may be defined to include items such as: diversifying the audience, creating innovative programs, finding new resources, serving the community, etc.

1. **Excellence in 4-H Club Programming** – recipients of this award will have demonstrated excellence within a 4-H club setting, including efforts in a community club, project club, after-school club, special interest club, and/or SPARK club.
2. **Excellence in 4-H Science Programming** – recipients of this award will have shown evidence of outstanding work in the 4-H Science mission area, including science, technology, engineering, and/or math.
3. **Excellence in 4-H Healthy Living Programming** – award recipients in this category will have displayed outstanding efforts in the 4-H Healthy Living mission area, including nutrition, physical activity, and/or social/emotional health.
4. **Excellence in 4-H Civic Engagement/Leadership Programming** – these award recipients will have demonstrated excellence in the 4-H Civic Engagement/Leadership mission area, including topics such as personal and group leadership, teamwork, service to others, and/or civic engagement.
5. **Excellence in 4-H Animal Science Programming** – recipients of this award will have shown outstanding work in programming related to 4-H Animal Science, including production livestock and/or companion animals.
6. **Excellence in Youth and Adult Partnerships** – the purpose of this award is to recognize a team of youth and adults who have demonstrated the ability to successfully partner to positively influence the 4-H Youth Development Program in their areas of interest or responsibility.

### Nomination/Selection Procedures

1. Individuals or teams may be nominated by any member of the Purdue Extension Staff, by any active participant in the Indiana 4-H Youth Development program, or by self-nomination.
2. The same nomination form is used for each of the six award categories. If an individual is nominated in more than one category, separate nomination forms will be submitted for each category. A single individual may win an award in only one category.
3. Completed nominations include the nomination form and one (1) letter of support written by an individual who can best describe the nominee's contributions to the 4-H Program (e.g., Extension staff, 4-H Volunteers, 4-H Families – unrelated to the nominee).
4. Nomination packets missing any of these components (nomination form and a letter of support) will not be considered.

5. The letter of support should address the following criteria:
  - a. Brief overview of why the nominee deserves this award
  - b. Evidence of positive impact on the lives of 4-H youth (promotes youth empowerment, problem-solving, mastery, etc.)
  - c. Evidence of positive impact on the 4-H program (innovative approaches, recruiting and engaging new audiences, enhancing diversity, fostering a sense of belonging)
  - d. Personal attributes (attitude, character, morals, personal growth)
6. The letter of support is limited to two pages, using 12-point font and 1-inch margins.
7. The attached Judging Rubric will be used to evaluate each nomination packet on a 100-point scale.
8. Completed nominations must be uploaded to 4HOnline by April 30, 2019. Combine the nomination form and one letter of support into ONE (1) PDF file before uploading the document in 4HOnline. See the attached file, "Submitting State and National 4-H Event Applications by the 4-H Member" for instructions on how to upload a nomination form in 4HOnline.
9. Each completed application will be reviewed by a selection committee of Extension staff.
10. State award winners will be announced by September 15, 2019.
11. State award winners will be recognized at the Indiana 4-H Leadership Summit on Saturday, November 16, 2019.
12. Awards for the five youth categories will be in the amount of \$250 each. Award recipients may choose to apply the \$250 to their post-secondary education or they may designate a 4-H group to receive the \$250 for their use.
13. Awards for the five adult categories will be in the amount of \$250 each. Award recipients will designate a 4-H group to which the \$250 will be given for use by that group.
14. The team award in the Youth and Adult Partnership category will be \$500 and will be awarded to a 4-H group of the team's choice.

Thank you for your participation in the Indiana 4-H Volunteer Awards of Excellence!