



WILLIAMSON COUNTY SENIOR 4-H AWARDS GUIDELINES

These guidelines contain information about applying for the **County 4-H Gold Star Awards**, and the **“I Dare You” Awards**.

GOLD STAR AWARD - The Gold Star Award is the highest County 4-H achievement award. The following criteria are based upon the state guidelines as stated in the current Texas 4-H Clover. Any 4-H member not meeting these criteria will not be considered for the award. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record book and complete a Williamson County Star application. This award will be presented annually, and a 4-H member may only receive this award once.

Criteria for Selection:

1. The member must have at least completed, or be completing their 9th grade school year 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 Gold Star Award will be presented to the most deserving young person 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 Gold Star Award.
5. Projects and Activities: During his or her years in 4-H, member must have:
 - A. Completed projects in three different project areas including submission of appropriate record forms.
 - B. Participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:
 - ◆ Method Demonstration/4-H Presentations
 - ◆ Contests
 - ◆ Project Exhibits
 - ◆ Camps
 - ◆ Leadership Lab or Surge (Leadership Camp)
 - ◆ Citizenship Activities
 - ◆ Public Relations (for example, demonstrations, speeches, poster displays, club exhibits, project shows, radio, TV, newspapers, special projects)
 - ◆ Other (may include exchange programs, fund raising, State and National 4-H Congress, etc.)

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

6. Leadership Skills: During his or her years in 4-H, the 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 junior or teen leader in an activity or project with or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader.
7. Community Service: The 4-Her must have participated in one or more community service activity, either individual, group, or club-type projects.
8. Judging Process:
 - A. Complete and submit Senior Award Application.
All Gold Star Applicants must also submit via email a high quality photo (headshot preferred) at the time of application
 - B. Complete a personal interview with a panel of 4-H Awards Judges.
 - C. Judging of the awards application.
 - D. Review of recordbook and achievements.

DANFORTH “I DARE YOU” AWARD - The Danforth Award is awarded each year to Senior 4-H members in recognition of excellence of character and well-balanced personal development, as well as demonstrated leadership. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record book and complete an application. This award will be presented annually, and a 4-H member may only receive this award once.

- Same requirements as for Gold Star Award.
- Must not have received “I Dare You” Award from any other source (school, community group, etc.)

JUDGING PROCEDURES

Judging for Senior Awards consists of:

- 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

WILLIAMSON COUNTY SENIOR AWARDS APPLICATION

Please check award for which you are applying: _____ **GOLD STAR**
_____ **DANFORTH**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AGE: _____ CLUB: _____

NUMBER OF YEARS IN 4-H _____ GRADE: _____

HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED THE GOLD STAR AWARD BEFORE? _____ YES _____ NO

HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED THE DANFORTH AWARD BEFORE? _____ YES _____ NO

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

_____ Completed a record book this year.

_____ Completed three different projects during my 4-H career.

List up to 6 projects you have been in:

ACTIVITIES: (Please check)

_____ Method Demonstrations/4-H Presentations

_____ Contests

_____ Project Exhibits

_____ Camps

_____ Leadership Lab

_____ Citizenship Activities

_____ Public Relations

_____ Other (list)

6. Why are these awards and honors important to you?

7. List your career plans and why you have chosen this field.

8. What is the funniest/most unusual experience you have had in 4-H?

9. What have you learned in 4-H (25 words or less)?

If more space is needed, please add a sheet of paper to the back of this Application.

I have personally prepared this report and believe it to be correct:

Applicant's signature

Date

Parent or guardian signature

Date

Short statement by current club manager (or other 4-H leader if club manager is parent of applicant) describing involvement of applicant

Club Manager's signature

Date

This application is due to County Extension Office on May 28, 2026