



Lapeer County 4-H

Awards Overview

Learning to complete an application and practice interviewing skills are important life skills that can be gained through participation in 4-H awards and recognition programs. Through the experience, members apply skills in communication, organization, and self-motivation. Receiving recognition is a great way to boost youth's self-esteem and build their resume as well as leadership skills.

- Please see the attached list of County awards available, eligibility and application process for each award.
- Application forms are available on the website, in the office or by email request.
- Lapeer County 4-H Awards should reflect 4-H involvement for the past 4-H year (September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025).
- Please read award eligibility criteria carefully. If you have questions about eligibility or are unsure if you or someone you are nominating for an award is eligible, please call the office and we will help determine if criteria have been met.
- Each Youth that is submitting Award Applications must include an Award Cover Sheet. The cover sheet must indicate all the awards that are being applied for. If an award is not indicated on the cover sheet, you will not be considered for that award.
- Some awards require an interview. Interview days and times will be arranged after the application period closes.
- Award Applications are due Wednesday, October 15th, 2025, by 4:30pm. Applications can be e-mailed, mailed, or dropped off to the Lapeer County 4-H office.
 - Email to Sarah at: graversa@msu.edu
 - Mail or drop off at:
1800 Imlay City Road, Lapeer, MI 48446
- Awards will be announced at the Fall Awards Ceremony on November 2nd, 2025.

For Additional Information or Assistance Contact Sarah
at (810)667-0341 or graversa@msu.edu

Cloverbud Awards

County Cloverbud Project Certificate- Recognizes achievement in a specific project area for Cloverbuds

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County 4-H age 5- 7 during program year award was earned and enrolled in the project area A member can win a Cloverbud certificate in the same project area twice during cloverbud member years
Number of Awards Given	Each Cloverbud member may receive up to four different project certificates per year
Application Process	Cloverbud Project Certificate Application; must submit separate application for each project area
Project Areas	Achievement, Aerospace; Agriculture, Alpaca; Animal Husbandry; Aquaculture; Arts and Crafts; Beef; Bicycle; Biological Sciences; Buymanship; Cake Decorating; Cats; Cavy; Child Care; Citizenship; Citizenship and Civic Education; Clothing and Textiles; Coding; Cloverbud; Communication Arts; Community Service; Computer Science; Computer Technology; Consumer and Family Sciences; Consumer Education; Cooking; Cultural Engagement; Dairy; Demonstration; Dogs; Electricity; Engines, Tractors, and Field Equipment; Entomology; Environmental Science; Equine Science; Family Life; Fashion Revue; Fine Arts; Food Nutrition; Food Science; Forestry; Gardening and Horticulture; Genealogy; Geology; Goats; Guide Dog; Healthy Living; Herpetology; Hippology; Horse; History; Hobbies and Collections; Home Environment; Industrial Arts; Judging(Livestock); Leadership; Llama; Mentorship; Money Management; Music; Outdoor Education and Recreation; Performing Arts; Photography & Video; Pets; Physical Science; Plant Science; Personal Development; Poultry; Public Speaking; Rabbits; Reporting Media; Robotics; Rocketry; Safety; Scrapbooking; Sheep; Shooting Sports; STEM; Swine; Tech and Engineering; Veterinary Science; Visual Arts; Waterfowl; Wildlife and Fisheries; Wood Science, Yoga
Type of Award	Certificate

Cloverbud Court

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County 5-7 years old (4-H age, current year)
Number of Awards Given	No limit
Application Process	Cloverbud Court Application and Signed Ambassador Agreement
Expectations	Cloverbud Court members will represent Lapeer County 4-H in the community. They are welcome to participate in local parades with ambassadors and assist with special duties at 4-H events and activities.
Type of Award	T-shirt, Rosette Pin

Outstanding Cloverbud Member - Recognizes Cloverbuds that make a difference above and beyond normal expectations through their actions

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County 4-H age 5- 7 during program year award was earned A member may only receive this award once
Number of Awards Given	1 member per club
Application Process	Nomination by club leader, based on the member's character (responsibility, trustworthiness, citizenship, fairness, caring, and respect)
Type of Award	Certificate

Youth Member Awards

County Project Pin - Recognizes achievement in a specific project area for youth members ages 9-19

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County 4-H age 8-19 during program year award was earned and enrolled in the project area Minimum of 2 years experience in the project area (not counting Cloverbud years) A member can earn a pin in the same project area twice during 4-H career but with at least 3 years between awards
Number of Awards Given	Each member may receive up to four different project pins per year
Application Process	Complete Project Pin Application; must submit a separate application for each project area
Project Areas	Achievement, Aerospace; Agriculture, Alpaca; Animal Husbandry; Aquaculture; Arts and Crafts; Beef; Bicycle; Biological Sciences; Buymanship; Cake Decorating; Cats; Cavy; Child Care; Citizenship; Citizenship and Civic Education; Clothing and Textiles; Coding; Cloverbud; Communication Arts; Community Service; Computer Science; Computer Technology; Consumer and Family Sciences; Consumer Education; Cooking; Cultural Engagement; Dairy; Demonstration; Dogs; Electricity; Engines, Tractors, and Field Equipment; Entomology; Environmental Science; Equine Science; Family Life; Fashion Revue; Fine Arts; Food Nutrition; Food Science; Forestry; Gardening and Horticulture; Genealogy; Geology; Goats; Guide Dog; Healthy Living; Herpetology; Hippology; Horse; History; Hobbies and Collections; Home Environment; Industrial Arts; Judging(Livestock); Leadership; Llama; Mentorship; Money Management; Music; Outdoor Education and Recreation; Performing Arts; Photography & Video; Pets; Physical Science; Plant Science; Personal Development; Poultry; Public Speaking; Rabbits; Reporting Media; Robotics; Rocketry; Safety; Scrapbooking; Sheep; Shooting Sports; STEM; Swine; Tech and Engineering; Veterinary Science; Visual Arts; Waterfowl; Wildlife and Fisheries; Wood Science, Yoga
Type of Award	Certificate, Pin

Outstanding Young Member – Recognizes youth members ages 9-12 that make a difference above and beyond normal expectations through their actions

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County 4-H age 8-12 during program year award was earned A member may only receive this award once
Number of Awards Given	1 member per club
Application Process	Nomination by club leader based on the young member's character (responsibility, trustworthiness, citizenship, fairness, caring, and respect)
Type of Award	Certificate

Outstanding Teen Member – Recognizes youth members ages 13-19 that make a difference above and beyond normal expectations through their actions

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County 4-H age 13-19 during program year award was earned A member may only receive this award once
Number of Awards Given	1 member per Club
Application Process	Nomination by club leader based on the young member's character (responsibility, trustworthiness, citizenship, fairness, caring, and respect)
Type of Award	Certificate

All-Around Medal- Recognizes knowledge, progress, and action in accomplishing goals across multiple project areas

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County for 2022-2023 program year 4-H age 13-19 during program year award was earned Minimum of 2 years 4-H Membership Member must demonstrate knowledge, progress, and action in accomplishing goals across multiple project areas A member can earn a medal in the same project area twice during 4-H career but with at least 3 years between awards
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of applications received
Application Process	Complete County Medal Application, Participate in Interview Process
Project Areas	<u>Achievement:</u> This is awarded for accomplishing meaningful and worthwhile goals within 4-H through personal effort and hard work. The member should demonstrate achievement across different project areas that take place over time. It includes winning an award such as a state award, a blue ribbon, a grand champion or best of show, but it also includes achieving personal goals such as developing your own breeding stock, exceling at all parts of a project, i.e., going from a beginning sewer to sewing a complicated garment that has expert craftsmanship, fits well, and is appropriate for the member. <u>Agriculture:</u> This is awarded for demonstrated accomplishments in agriculture, which includes farm management, cultivating the soil, producing crops, raising livestock and the preparation and marketing of the resulting products. <u>Citizenship:</u> This is awarded for demonstrating citizenship by being a responsible, contributing member of your community at the club, neighborhood, county, state, national, and international levels. To receive this award, a member should demonstrate a strong character; a concern for the rights and welfare of others; an appreciation of diversity; an understanding of the way government and community organizations work; service to their communities to address problems and help others; the skills, knowledge, and commitment to influence decision making and public policy; an awareness and understanding of public issues, how they are connected across local, national, and global levels, and how one affects and is affected by them. Examples: be a teen member on the county 4-H Council, attend Capitol Experience, Citizenship Washington Focus, national 4-H Congress and develop projects that put their knowledge into action. <u>Leadership:</u> This is awarded for demonstrating leadership by learning about leadership; taking responsibility to guide a group from one point to another; to help others meet their goals; to work with others to reach shared goals; and to teach leadership skills to others. Examples: plan and deliver educational programs for clubs or the county 4-H Program; mentor younger members; be a camp counselor; be a club officer; take charge of planning, organizing, doing, and evaluating a community service project, a field trip, a social outing, or other events. It involves taking responsibility for an event or program, getting others to help and following through with it.
Type of Award	Certificate, Medal

Michigan 4-H Key Club Award – One of the highest honors a member can earn in 4-H. This prestigious award recognizes outstanding overall achievement in 4-H. Only ½ of one percent of the total county 4-H membership receive this award.

Requirement to Apply	Reach 15 years of age by September 1 st of current year Completed 3 calendar years of 4-H work by January 1 current year Completed 4-H work in at least two project areas Completed a Teen Leadership project Participated in 3 Regional, State, or National Level 4-H events Leader Recommendation
Number of Awards Given	The top ½ of one percent of the total county delegation
Application Process	Complete the Michigan Key Club Application, Participate in Interview Process
Type of Award	Certificate, Key Club Pin

Lamp of Knowledge Award – Recognizes those who excel in knowledge of a specific project area and who share their knowledge, skills, and love of learning with their fellow 4-H members.

Requirement to Apply	Registered as 4-H Member in Lapeer County 4-H age 13-19 during program year award was earned Completed 2 years of 4-H work in Project Area Previously Received Project Pin in Project Area Participated in 2 Regional, State, or National Level Knowledge Contests in Project Area Leader Recommendation Member may only receive this award once
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of applications received
Application Process	Lamp of Knowledge Application, submit 2 years of project area records (may use Livestock Record Book, Member's Personal Portfolio, or any other equivalent record), Participate in Interview Process
Type of Award	Certificate and Pin

Cover Design

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H Member
Number of Awards Given	Two
Application Process	Submit a Cover Design for the Awards Ceremony Program
Type of Award	1 st Place - Certificate and \$20 2 nd Place – Certificate and \$10

Yearbook Photo Contest

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H Member
Number of Awards Given	3
Application Process	Submit a photo of a 4-H Club Meeting, Event, Activity or Member to be used in the 4-H Program Yearbook
Type of Award	Certificate and Special Gift for top 3 photos submitted, Photos will be judged by selected volunteers.

Record Book

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H Member Enter Project Record Book in the Eastern Michigan State Fair during the program year
Number of Awards Given	Two per Animal Project Area
Application Process	Enter Project Record Book in the Eastern Michigan State Fair
Type of Award	Certificate and \$25 gift card for Top Two Over-All Record Books in each Animal Area

Citizenship and Leadership Development Awards

4-H Capitol Experience – Typically 4-day conference held in March, that helps prepare youth for active citizenship by focusing on civic engagement and public policy. Teen 4-H Members from around the state converge in Lansing, Michigan to experience state government in action and learn how they can influence policy issues. Participants interact with legislators, state agency staff, lobbyists, and other resource people to learn how policy is made.

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H member In Grades 9-12 in the Spring of 2026
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of applications received and funds available
Application Process	Complete Citizenship and Leadership Development Award Application, Participate in Interview Process, submit \$50 deposit with Application (Deposit Check will be returned to applicants not receiving the award.)
Type of Award	Scholarship award toward registration fee for event. The cost for the trip is typically \$300, which includes meals, lodging, and material fees. Applicants will be applying for a full scholarship less \$50 deposit. \$50 deposit is required with application.

Ignite! - For four days, March 25-29, 2026, teens from all over the country come to D.C. to collaborate, connect, and cultivate a passion for expanding their minds and their world. Teens will immerse themselves in hands-on workshops, experiences, and activities in their key programming track.

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H member 13-19 years old on September 1, 2025 Members may only receive this award once
Number of Awards Given	One
Application Process	Complete Citizenship and Leadership Development Award Application Participate in Interview Process, submit \$50 deposit with Application (Deposit Check will be returned to applicants not receiving the award.)
Type of Award	Scholarship award toward registration fee for event. The cost for the trip is typically \$2,000, which includes transportation, lodging, and most meals. Applicants will be applying for a full scholarship, less \$250 cost to the delegate. A \$50 deposit is required with the county award form and will be applied towards the \$250 delegate's cost. The additional \$200 of the delegate cost will be due before the trip.

Ambassador Court

4-H Junior Ambassador

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H member 8-13 years old (4-H age, current year)
Number of Awards Given	2
Application Process	Junior Ambassador Application and Signed Ambassador Agreement, Participate in Interview Process
Expectations	Leadership Development, 4-H promotion, community service See Ambassador Agreement
Type of Award	4-H Ambassador shirt, pin, and sash

4-H Senior Ambassador

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H member 14-19 years old (4-H age, current year)
Number of Awards Given	4
Application Process	4-H Senior Ambassador Application and Signed Ambassador Agreement, Participate in Interview Process
Expectations	Leadership Development, 4-H promotion, community service See Ambassador Agreement
Type of Award	4-H Ambassador shirt, pin, and sash

4-H Council – Youth Representatives

Lapeer County 4-H Council Youth Representative

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H member 13-18 years old at the time of Election
Number of Awards Given	4
Application Process	4-H Council Interest Form, Elected by ballot during Fall Awards Ceremony
Expectations	Attend monthly 4-H Council Meetings, hold Office for one year from time of election, provide guidance, solicit support, and assist in carrying out programs and activities in the interest of the 4-H youth development program and act in the overall best interest of all young people
Type of Award	Certificate, Pin

Leader/Volunteer Awards by Nomination

4-H Leader of the Year- This award recognizes 4-H leaders that make a difference above and beyond normal expectations through their actions

Requirement to Apply	Enrolled and Active 4-H Leader in Lapeer County Nominated by Anyone A leader may receive this award only once every five years
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of nominations received
Application Process	Leader of The Year Nomination Form
Type of Award	Certificate and Padfolio

4-H Meritorious Service Award- recognizes Lapeer County 4-H Leaders who have shown outstanding involvement and support for the Lapeer County 4-H program. Nominees should have made a wide range of contributions to 4-H and serve as a positive influence on youth members and other 4-H volunteers, strive to promote and expand 4-H.

Requirement to Apply	Nominated by Anyone Enrolled and Active 4-H Leader in Lapeer County Has served between one and five years as a 4-H Leader Participated in County Committee or State or Regional 4-H Event A leader may receive this award only once
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of nominations received
Application Process	Nomination Form
Type of Award	Certificate and \$50

4-H Outstanding Lifetime Leader Award- recognizes Lapeer County 4-H Leaders who have shown outstanding involvement and support for the Lapeer County 4-H program. Nominees should have made a wide range of contributions to 4-H and serve as a positive influence on youth members and other 4-H volunteers, strive to promote and expand 4-H.

Requirement to Apply	Nominated by Anyone Enrolled and Active 4-H Leader in Lapeer County Has served six or more years as a 4-H Leader Participated in County Committee or State or Regional 4-H Event A leader may receive this award only once
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of nominations received
Application Process	Nomination Form
Type of Award	Certificate and \$50

4-H Volunteer of the Year - This award recognizes 4-H volunteers that make a difference above and beyond normal expectations through their actions

Requirement to Apply	Nominated by Anyone Enrolled and Active 4-H Volunteer in Lapeer County Not serving in a Club Leader Role A volunteer may receive this award only once
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of nominations received
Application Process	Nomination Form
Type of Award	Certificate and Gift

Community Awards by Nomination

Friend of 4-H - This award recognizes a 4-H supporter, community member, organization, or other individual who goes above and beyond to help the Lapeer County 4-H program.

Requirement to Apply	Nominated by Anyone An individual may receive this award only once
Number of Awards Given	To be determined based on number of nominations received
Application Process	Nomination Form
Type of Award	Plaque

4-H Club/Group Awards

Fun and Social Club/Group Award

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H Club, Project Group or Committee
Number of Awards Given	One
Application Process	Club Fun and Social Award Application
Type of Award	Certificate and \$50

Educational Club/Group Award

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H Club, Project Group or Committee
Number of Awards Given	One
Application Process	Club Educational Award Application
Type of Award	Certificate and \$50

Community Service Club/Group Award

Requirement to Apply	Current Lapeer County 4-H Club, Project Group or Committee
Number of Awards Given	One
Application Process	Club Community Service Award Application
Type of Award	Certificate and \$50

Award Application and Process will be available in the Spring 2024 for the following awards:

**4-H Council Scholarship,
Tina Novotney Scholarship**

AWARD APPLICATION CRITERIA AND TIPS

- Applications may be typed or handwritten. Please use Times New Roman 12pt Black Font.
- You may use additional sheets of paper if necessary, use 8 ½ " x 11" size paper
- You must answer all the questions in complete sentences. Do not leave anything blank. If you do not have experiences to discuss in a section, please state this.
- Applicants must complete a "PROJECT PIN APPLICATION" for **EACH** project area they are applying for. Please focus on only the project area for which you are applying when answering questions.
- Do not change the format of the application.
- Applications must have cover sheet and required signatures before submitting. (Member, Parent/Guardian, Administrative Leader)
- All required materials must be submitted with application (Deposits, Record Books, etc.)
- Do not put your name or other identifiers on any pages other than the application cover sheet
- Grammar, spelling and neatness will be taken into consideration during scoring.
- Application Answers **MUST BE WRITTEN IN MEMBER'S OWN WORDS.**
 - Assistance with printing or typing is allowed but the wording must be composed by the applicant.

Be clear and specific:

"I learned a lot" doesn't say as much as "I learned to read and follow a recipe, measure liquid and dry ingredients, different mixing methods, and how to test for doneness."

"4-H is great" doesn't say as much as "Being in 4-H has helped me be confident, meet new people, and learn responsibility."

The following outline may help you develop your 4-H Story. It is divided in parts simply to help you outline what you might want to say about yourself; do not identify these parts when you write your Story.

PART 1 - tell when and why you got involved in 4-H

PART 2 - tell about the project area that you were most involved in; what have you learned or done in the project area

PART 3 - describe how being in 4-H has helped you

Lapeer County 4-H
Award Application Cover Sheet

4-H Member's Name: _____

4-H Club(s) Member is Enrolled in: _____

Member's Age on January 1, 2026: _____

Number of years completed in 4-H as of August 31, 2025: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Awards Member is applying for (Circle all that Apply):

Cloverbud Project Certificate

Junior Ambassador

Cloverbud Court

Senior Ambassador

Project Pin

4-H Council Representative

All-Around Medal

Capitol Experience

Michigan 4-H Key Club

Ignite!

Lamp of Knowledge

I have completed the application and supporting documents for the award(s) selected above and believe it to be a true reflection of my 4-H work.

(Member's Signature)

(Date)

I support this member's participation in the awards selected if s/he is selected as a recipient.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)

This cover sheet is to be completed by members applying for individual awards (see list above). Attach all the forms that are required for each award that you are applying for. Nominations for Club, Leader, Volunteer and Community Awards do not need to include a cover sheet.