



## 4-H Family Spirit Award Overview

Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association

*Illinois 4-H Family Spirit Award annually recognizes one Illinois family that has substantially benefited from and who has been advocates for the Illinois 4-H program over multiple generations.*

The award was established by the Illinois 4-H Foundation in 2002 and continued with the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association in 2023. View all past award winners online: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/awards/4-h-family-spirit>

### Guidelines for Nomination:

Any family eligible to receive the award which has the following:

- A minimum of three generations of the family are represented.  
A minimum of 15 different family members (including in-laws) have either been 4-H members, leaders, or volunteers
- Have a minimum of 100 cumulative years of 4-H membership or volunteerism represented by the family.

### Families will submit the following:

- Completed Family Nomination Cover Sheet and Overview
- A one-page "My Family 4-H Story."
- A family biography form **per member** of the family, submitted separately.
  - <https://go.illinois.edu/4-HFamilySpiritBiography>
  - *You can share this link with each family member to complete or enter each family member individually. Family members can download biography forms at the end of the submission.*
  - All materials must be submitted by the deadline.

### Selection Process:

- A committee will review the nominations.
- One family will be selected statewide each year.
- Family contact will be notified following selection.
- Winners will be recognized one day at the 2023 Illinois State Fair, August 11-13.
- The 4-H Family Spirit award may only be received once per family.

All nominations will be kept on file for three years to be reviewed; however, nominators are encouraged to update forms if they are re-considered after the initial year of application.

### Family Nomination

- Family Name – Family Name should be name of most senior family members.
- Family Contact Name for Nomination
  - Address
  - Phone Number
  - Email
- 4-H Family Overview – List total number of family members per area.
  - Total Number of Generations Represented
  - Total Number of Family Members
  - # of 4-H Members in family
  - Total number of Year of 4-H Membership
  - Total number of Years as Club Leaders
  - Total Number of Years as 4-H Volunteers
  - Total Number of Years as 4-H Professionals
- Family Involvement - List total number of family members that participated and include total number of years:
  - National 4-H Club Congress
  - State Judging Team
  - National 4-H Leadership Conference
  - Attended 4-H Camp
  - National 4-H Dairy Conference
  - IFYE Exchange

- Showed at State Fair
- My Family 4-H Story – (max 500 words)

**Family Biography Pages - <https://go.illinois.edu/4-HFamilySpiritBiography>**

As part of the Family Spirit nomination packet, each family is asked to provide a biography of each family member. To better execute this, we have created a link that can be shared for each person to submit their biography.

- Family Name – Family Name should be name of most senior family members.
- Name
- Is this family member living or deceased?
- Relationship to main family member
- Address
- Phone Number
- Email
- Present Occupation – Company Name and Job Title
- Education (Degrees Earned and Colleges Attended)
- Are you a current 4-H member or 4-H Alumni? How many total years in 4-H? Where did you grow up in 4-H and what was your club name? If not in 4-H, please leave blank.
- As a 4-H member, did you attend any of the following events? Please list project area, specific team, camp, etc. in description area and number of years, as appropriate.
  - National 4-H Club Congress (Project Area/Year)
  - State 4-H Leadership Team (Team/Years)
  - State Judging Team (Team/Years)
  - National 4-H Leadership Conference (Year)
  - Attended 4-H Camp (List camp/Year(s))
  - National 4-H Dairy Conference (Year)
  - IFYE Exchange (Country/Year)
  - Showed at the Illinois State Fair (Projects/Years)
- **Volunteer Experience**
  - 4-H Leader Experience - Has this family member volunteered as a 4-H Leader? If so, how many years? Location?
  - 4-H Volunteer Experience
    - Does this family member serve as a 4-H volunteer in another capacity?
    - Number of years as a 4-H Volunteer
    - List, Volunteer roles
- **4-H Professional Experience**
  - Did this family member serve as a 4-H Professional?
  - Number of Years as a 4-H Professional
  - Responsibilities as a 4-H Professional/Location
- **Other:**
  - Any other special 4-H Highlights/Experiences

**Questions, please contact:**

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