



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 4-H Family online Nomination**
- **"My Family 4-H Story"**, a maximum of 1200 words (max two pages) sharing how 4-H impacted your family and how your family has supported 4-H.
- **A Family Tree.** – see list of items to include.
- 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 2025 Illinois State Fair, August 8-10.
- 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

*Required

- Family Name * – Family Name should be name of most senior family members. Please list as you would want it listed on the award.
- Family Contact Name for Nomination *
 - Address *
 - Phone Number *
 - Email *
- Family Photo - Upload a family photo, if available. If selected, a family photo will be required.
- 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 1200 words, max 2 pages) - Reflecting on how 4-H impacted your family and how your family has supported 4-H

Family Tree

List all family members.

Include the following for each family member:

- Full Name
- Relationship to Main Family member
- Address
- Email
- Date of Birth
- Living or Deceased?
- # years in 4-H
- Home County/State

Questions, please contact:

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