



MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU
4-H Excellence in Agriculture



2017 AWARD NOMINATION PACKET

Nominations are due **June 1** to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

About the Award

The Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award recognizes outstanding achievements of Michigan 4-H volunteers or groups that have exhibited excellence in 4-H youth education and leadership development in the areas of beef cattle; dairy cattle; goats; horses; horticulture, crops and soils; poultry; rabbits; sheep; swine; and veterinary science.

An ideal honoree will have also exhibited excellence in creating learning environments where youth develop positive relationships with adults and peers; are physically and emotionally safe; are engaged in their own development; are participants rather than recipients in the learning process; develop skills that will help them succeed; understand and appreciate society's diversity and become active citizens through service and leadership.

The \$1,000 annual volunteer tribute grant can be used for 4-H volunteer training, to purchase supplies and curriculum materials, or to enhance 4-H agricultural programming locally or statewide. Honorees choose which county or state 4-H program their recognition award will go to advance Michigan 4-H youth development programming in agriculture.

Recognition

Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award honorees will be recognized at the Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and at an appropriate Michigan State University event. Honorees will also receive a personalized recognition memento.

Eligibility

- Applicants need to be registered Michigan 4-H county volunteers or state-level volunteers working to advance learning in one or more of the 12 eligible agricultural program areas.
- Applicants can apply or be nominated by 4-H volunteers, 4-H clubs, county or state 4-H staff members, or county or state Farm Bureau members.
- Applicants can be individual 4-H volunteers or 4-H groups, such as county or state 4-H committees or councils.
- Applicants can only win the award one year. Past winners are not eligible for award consideration.
- Applicants must have completed at least one full program year of 4-H volunteer service.

Nomination Process

The Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award nomination is limited to five pages total – the completed nomination cover sheet and a no more than four page nomination letter. **Nominations are due to the Michigan 4-H Foundation by June 1** and must be endorsed by the county or district MSU Extension educator or the state 4-H supervising program leader or specialist.

The nomination letter should describe excellence in the following areas:

- **Advancing youth knowledge of agriculture practice and productivity**
Describe how the nominee(s) advances youth knowledge of agriculture practice in ways that would develop youth skills and knowledge for pursuing agricultural careers.
- **Excellence in developing youth for the future**
Describe how the nominee(s) exhibits excellence in 4-H volunteer leadership, including how the volunteer advances the 4-H guiding principles for positive youth development, empowers youth participation and ownership of club activities; develops a structured educational learning environment for 4-H members; maintains a 4-H club or group schedule that fully engages young people throughout the year; or any other ways in which you feel the nominee(s) shows excellence in advancing the social, emotional, academic or career development success of youth.
- **Advancing youth service and leadership**
Describe how the nominee(s) advances youth citizenship through youth leadership or community service activity that contributes to the quality of life in their community.
- **4-H club members or group achievement and recognition**
Describe how the nominee(s) fosters youth achievement and excellence in the areas of agriculture (e.g. state 4-H award winners, national award recipients or event participants, or other county, state or national recognition of youth achievement, etc.).

Once the nomination packet has been completed, it should be signed by a county, district or state MSU Extension staff member verifying that the nominated individual(s) are registered 4-H volunteers.

Judging

The Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award nominations will be judged by a committee made up of an agriculture industry representative, a state 4-H program staff member and a county 4-H program staff member using the following point scale: (100 total points possible)

- **Biographical data** (15 points)
- **Advancing youth knowledge of agriculture practice and productivity** (25 points)
- **Excellence in developing youth for the future** (25 points)
- **Advancing youth service and leadership** (25 points)
- **4-H club members or youth group achievement and recognition** (10 points)

All nominations are due June 1, 2017 to:

Michigan 4-H Foundation
535 Chestnut Rd., Room 240
East Lansing, MI 48824

This award is made possible by:

Allegan County Farm Bureau
Barry County Farm Bureau
Bay County Farm Bureau
Benzie-Manistee County Farm Bureau
Berrien County Farm Bureau
Calhoun County Farm Bureau
Charlevoix County Farm Bureau
Clare County Farm Bureau
Clinton County Farm Bureau
Emmet County Farm Bureau
Gladwin County Farm Bureau
Grafton County Farm Bureau
Hiawathaland County Farm Bureau
Hillsdale County Farm Bureau
Huron County Farm Bureau
Ingham County Farm Bureau
Iron Range Farm Bureau
Isabella County Farm Bureau
Jackson County Farm Bureau
Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau
Kent County Farm Bureau
Lapeer County Farm Bureau
Lenawee County Farm Bureau
Livingston County Farm Bureau
Macomb County Farm Bureau
Michigan Farm Bureau & Affiliates
Midland County Farm Bureau
Monroe County Farm Bureau
Montmorency County Farm Bureau
Newaygo County Farm Bureau
NW Michigan Farm Bureau Inc.
Oceana County Farm Bureau
Otsego County Farm Bureau
Ottawa County Farm Bureau
Saginaw County Farm Bureau
Sanilac County Farm Bureau
Shiawassee County Farm Bureau
St. Clair County Farm Bureau
St. Joseph County Farm Bureau
Tuscola County Farm Bureau
Van Buren County Farm Bureau
Washtenaw County Farm Bureau
Wayne County Farm Bureau



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Nomination Cover Page

Applications due June 1, 2017

Nominee name(s): _____

(If nominating group, list the individual adult volunteer names)

Primary contact: _____

Other members: _____

Address: (Individual nominee or group's primary contact address)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of 4-H club or group(s) for which nominee volunteers: _____

County of nominee's service: _____

First year of Michigan 4-H volunteer service: _____

Check all of the 4-H agricultural program areas the nominee represents:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goats | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horses | <input type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plants, Soils and Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Science |

Name of person nominating: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone: _____

Nomination Certification

I certify that the above-named nominee for the Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award is eligible to be considered for this recognition as a fully registered volunteer for Michigan state or county 4-H youth development programs.

Signature of 4-H Program Coordinator/Extension Educator/Program Leader Date _____ County/District _____