

Helpful Info for IL 4-H Award Application

NOTE: This does **NOT** pertain to the Top 1st Year 4-H award application, only the IL 4-H Award Application.

I just wanted to pass on some information about the IL 4-H Award Application samples that are on our website (<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/jsw/stephenson4h/2279.html>).

The following is from the State 4-H Office:

The first 3 sections of the application are not necessarily specific to the award category – they can cover any/all of the member’s activities within the past 3 years. And if a person applies in more than one category, these 3 sections ARE ONLY SUBMITTED ONCE for multiple categories, so they will include areas of information “outside” of the award category. The two essay questions are the items that are to be specific to the award category. **See my notes below for the sample questions.**

- IL 4-H Award Application Sample 1 is for Project Mastery in Food & Nutrition; however, it includes Teens as Teachers and Public Presentations as well in the Project/Program summary. **Note that the Teens as Teachers is focused on 4-H Food Smart Families, so it is still Food/Nutrition related. Public Presentations is also an area in which the member is strong; even though they may not be submitted an award application in that area, to help fill up the space AND illustrate that they are active in other areas, it was included.**
- IL 4-H Award Application Sample 2 is for Project Mastery in Public Presentations; however, it includes YLT and photography in the Project/Program summary. **This member was applying in MULTIPLE areas – Communications and Project Mastery. Letting their public presentations do “double duty” for them. Youth Leadership Team is included because if you read what they did, it includes speaking and teaching – both which involve public presentations and communication skills; Photography is another method of “communicating” via photos – it’s also a project that they enjoy. So why not include that information in this area?**
- IL 4-H Award Application Sample 3 is for Project Mastery in Beef; however, it includes swine, Ambassadors and Leadership in the Project/Program summary. **Much the same as above – this is a MULTIPLE application – for both Leadership and Project Mastery. Ambassadors “promote” (1 of the six teen leadership roles), so it was important to include. And again, they are applying in Leadership as well as Beef, so the Leadership project inclusion makes sense. Why the swine? Again, they can include anything they wish, so they included another project area that is important to them.**

The instructions say “list your top projects or programs” in Section 1...it **does not** limit it to only the project or program area that they are applying in. A member may have more than one project area that they are strong in – this is the space that they can highlight work in that other area also ***if they wish to do so***. They don’t HAVE to, but they can. Since this section is used for multiple applications, the member will want to highlight all the strengths that they can in the limited space that they have.

I hope this helps everyone. If you still have questions, please call the Extension Office at 815-235-4125.

Thanks

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