



## RECOGNIZING YOUR 4-H LEADERSHIP

# Minnesota 4-H Key Award

**You should be proud...  
of your leadership and service through 4-H.**

4-H is proud of you, too and wants to recognize your participation through the Minnesota 4-H Key Award. It recognizes your contributions to your club and the community, and encourages you to grow as an outstanding citizen.

For young women, the gold key is mounted on an attractive necklace. For young men, it is on a tie tack. The key, along with a certificate, will be presented to you at a countywide event.

To apply for the Key Award, go to the 4-H Key Award website:

[www.extension.umn.edu/youth/scholarships/key-award.html](http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/scholarships/key-award.html) or contact your local Extension office: [www.extension.umn.edu/offices](http://www.extension.umn.edu/offices)

### Eligibility

**First, you must meet these basic requirements:**

- Must have completed your sophomore year in high school.
- Be a 4-H member for at least five years.
- Have at least three years of active 4-H youth leadership, as defined below.

**Your leadership experience must meet seven of these nine requirements:**

1. During the past three years, you must have attended at least nine meetings for youth and/or adult leaders and shared the information with your club. They can be county leader federation or council meetings, cluster or district youth leader meetings, demonstration workshops, etc. You cannot count a county fair, Share-the-Fun, or demonstration contest.
2. You must have been a leader in your local club in at least three of these four ways:
  - a. Worked closely with at least two younger 4-H members.
  - b. Led six or more 4-H-related activities such as club tours, picnics, or Share-the-Fun.
  - c. Served as youth project leader in all or part of a 4-H project.
  - d. Led a community service project on conservation of natural resources, self-protection issues, etc.

3. You must have held two club or county 4-H offices (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, or reporter.)
4. You must have served on countywide committees or helped at countywide events at least six times during the past three years.
5. You must have completed work in at least three project areas other than youth leadership.
6. You must have entered exhibits in 4-H competition for at least four years, showing evidence of quality work by earning some blue ribbons. You must show evidence of exhibits in youth leadership.
7. You must have served as a county and/or state 4-H Ambassador for two years.
8. You must have participated for a total of two years in three special 4-H learning experiences, such as judging contests, Share-the-Fun, communications programs, 4-H camps, Leadership Conferences, Project Focus, or Community Pride.
9. You must have acquainted others with 4-H by giving talks to non-4-H groups, appearing on radio or TV programs, writing news articles, or recruiting new members or leaders.

**Good luck with your application, and thanks for your contributions to 4-H and the community!**