



NATIONAL 4-H
COUNCIL

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Salute to Excellence 2021

Volunteer RECOGNITION awards Nomination form

The National 4-H Salute to Excellence Volunteer Recognition Award recognizes 4-H volunteers who demonstrate exemplary service to 4-H, while promoting service through volunteerism as both an opportunity and a privilege.

In 2021, eight honorees will be selected. One volunteer will be selected from each Cooperative Extension Region (Northeast, South, North Central, West) in each of two categories. Each region will have its own ***Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer*** and ***Volunteer of the Year***. The eight regional honorees become nominees for the national award, and one candidate in each category will be named the national Honoree.

I. Award Criteria

1. The ***Volunteer of the Year Award*** (VOY) is for currently serving 4-H volunteers who have served as 4-H volunteers **less than 10 years** at the local, county, district or state level.
2. The ***Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Award*** (OLV) is for current or former 4-H volunteers who have served **10 or more years** at the local, county, district or state level.

II. Nomination Procedures

1. **Nomination Packets** must be submitted by a nominator to the nominee's state 4-H Program by the state's published deadline.
2. **A completed nomination will consist of a nomination resume of the applicant's 4-H and relevant community volunteer experiences and three (3) letters of recommendation. Please use the enclosed template when developing the nomination packet. A packet missing any of the four components (resume and 3 letters of recommendation) will be eliminated.**
3. Letters of recommendation **should be no longer than 2 pages in length, in 12-point font with 1-inch margins.** Letters of Recommendation should be written by individuals who can best describe the nominee's qualifications for the award such as a 4-H youth participant, another volunteer, etc.

III. Award Information

1. Each State 4-H program may select one nominee for each category (VOY & OLV) from its pool of nominations, and submit it for Regional award consideration via the 4-H WebGrants portal (<http://grants.4-h.org/index.do>).
2. A National Selection Committee appointed by Council will select an Honoree from each region; one for each category (VOY & OLV).
3. Regional winners will be announced the week of April 12, 2021.
4. Regional winners will be recognized at their state 4-H Program in an appropriate manner and venue of its choosing.
5. Council will send each regional Honoree a personalized plaque and donate \$200 in the Honoree's name to a local 4-H Program of the Honoree's choosing.
6. National Honorees will be announced during National Volunteer Week, April 19 – 25, 2021.
7. National Honorees will receive a plaque or similar symbol representative of their achievement. Additionally, Council will donate \$1,000 in the Honoree's name to a local 4-H program of their choosing.
8. Awardees should be prepared to provide information in subsequent years regarding the impact of their awards on their community

IV. Instructions for State 4-H Programs

State 4-H Officials must complete all sections of the on-line application. Only a State 4-H Official can officially designate a volunteer as a state nominee.

State 4-H submitted nominations **must** be received through Council's 4-H WebGrants portal (<http://grants.4-h.org/index.do>). The 4-H WebGrants portal will be able to receive nominations starting **February 16th and ending at 11:59 PM EST on March 25th, 2021**. Nomination resumes should be in PDF format. Letters of Recommendation should be in PDF.

If your nominee is selected, you agree to the criteria set forth in this application and also agree to utilize the 4-H name and emblem when implementing and publicizing the program.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED

**Thank you for your interest in the 2021 4-H Salute to Excellence
Volunteer Recognition Awards!**

Salute to Excellence 2021

Volunteer RECOGNITION awards Application Template

Nominator Information

Name:

Street address:

Post Office, State, zip code:

Email:

Nomination for (check one):

- Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer (10 or more years of service to 4-H)***
- Volunteer of the Year (less than 10 years of service to 4-H)***

Nominee Information

Name:

Street address:

Post Office, State, zip code

Email:

County, State

Please include a high quality, 600dpi headshot of the nominee. If selected, nominee's photo, name, state and 4-H highlights will be posted on the 4-H.org website.

If selected, a cash donation will be made in the Honoree's name to the 4-H entity of his/her choosing. Please include the following information to be used if this nominee is selected as an Honoree.

Check made payable to:

Name and address where check is to be sent.

Please provide the following:

- Three letters of recommendation
- Resume

Please be prepared to provide the following information

A. Brief overview of why the nominee deserves this award (500 words or less):

B. Evidence of a positive impact on the lives of 4-H youth:

- *Demonstrated ability to work with young people in a way that promotes youth empowerment, decision-making, problem-solving, meeting challenges, and mastery.*
- *Nominee's dedication to youth/adult partnerships and developing mentor-learner relationships.*

C. Evidence of a positive impact on the 4-H program:

- *Nominee's innovative approaches to engaging new youth and increasing diversity among participants.*
- *Dedication to providing a safe and inclusive environment for youth.*
- *Nominee's innovative approaches to performing volunteer service, recruitment of additional 4-H volunteers, partnering with other youth serving agencies, fundraising, providing other resources for 4-H, advocacy for 4-H, etc.*

D. Personal attributes:

- *Evidence of professional attitude, character, and morals.*
- *Personal growth from being a 4-H volunteer (that you have observed).*

E. Personal involvement in 4-H:

- *List local 4-H roles (4-H Project Leader; Community 4-H Club Leader, etc.). Include summary of years, roles, and organizations.*
- *List County (Parish)/District 4-H roles (County Extension Committee, etc.). Include summary of years, roles, and organizations.*
- *List State/Regional/National 4-H roles (Regional 4-H Volunteer Leader Forum Planning Committee, etc.). Include summary of years, roles, and organizations.*
- *List relevant 4-H honors/awards and years received.*
- *List relevant non-4-H volunteer roles. Include a summary of years, roles, and organizations.*

F. Optional – FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

- *If nominee was involved in 4-H as a young person, please indicate the state where nominee was involved, type of involvement (4-H projects taken, 4-H camper, etc.), years of membership, exemplary awards, leadership roles, etc.*
- *Current position (professional/homemaker). If retired, most recent role.*