Recognition Opportunities

State Project Awards
Achievement in 4-H project areas is recognized annually at the State 4-H Recognition Day in March. Fifty recipients receive a monetary award based on leadership, citizenship and project knowledge in the 4-H project areas. Selection is through an application/interview process. Applications due Feb. 1.

4-H Scholarships
Every year, $60,000 - $100,000 in 4-H scholarships is awarded to 75 recipients ranging from $500 to $3,500. High school juniors and seniors in addition to former 4-H'ers attending 2- or 4-year Iowa colleges are eligible. Applications are due to the Iowa 4-H Foundation Feb. 1.

Pioneer Grants
DuPont Pioneer awards up to $10,000 per year in grants of $50-$500 to stimulate Iowa 4-H clubs to plan and carry out community improvement activities by providing “seed money” needed to make the projects successful.

For More Information
Contact your local Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office or visit www.extension.iastate.edu/4h
Statewide Program Opportunities

Iowa State Fair
The State Fair experience features nearly 4,000 exhibits, 2,000 youth with livestock entries and daily hands-on activities. Develop your leadership and citizenship skills, have fun and meet new people by volunteering to help visitors in the 4-H Exhibits Building or assist with 4-H livestock shows. Opportunities include being an exhibit assistant, communication coordinator, data entry or assistant for livestock shows. Many special events are often held during the State Fair and have included the Awardrobe Clothing Event, Cook This! Culinary Challenge, Robotics Challenge and Film Festival.

Iowa 4-H Center
This year-round retreat center near Madrid (just west of Ames) is a fun and educational outdoor get-away for individuals, families, friends, 4-H clubs and corporate retreats. 4-H summer camps and seasonal programs feature team challenge courses, outdoor camping, environmental education, photography, shooting sports and recreation.

State Science + Technology Fair of Iowa
This science fair is open to any student (grades 6 - 12) residing in or attending school in the state of Iowa. During the event over 500 student research projects are presented by more than 600 students. Youth also participate in workshops and are eligible for more than $70,000 in scholarships and prizes. At this time there is no qualifier fair required for participation.

Iowa 4-H Youth Conference
Each June, nearly 1,000 Iowa teens, not just 4-H'ers, attend a three-day conference on the Iowa State University campus planned by the State 4-H Council. Activities include speakers, workshops, mixers, dances, a banquet and community service opportunities.

Animal Science Round-Up and CSI: Crops
These two events are held in conjunction with the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference in June. ISU animal science and agronomy faculty provide hands-on workshops. Livestock activities include making sausage, exploring rumens, balancing feed rations and more. Crops activities include scouting for plant pests and lab work to identify the culprits.

Horse, Dairy and Livestock Contests
Test your knowledge in judging, verbal communication and production by participating in judging contests and dairy or horse quiz bowls. Learn decision-making and communication skills. Participate in county contests for opportunities to advance to state events. Top 4-H teams will represent Iowa at national contests.

Iowa 4-H Camera Corps
Expand your photography skills. Independently identify local photo opportunities, participate in an educational workshop and have your photos considered for selection in future publications and exhibitions.

Safety and Education in Shooting Sports
Shooting sports features archery, rifle, shotgun, muzzleloader and wildlife skills disciplines. Participants learn safe and responsible use of equipment including sound decision making, self-discipline, environmental stewardship, and ethical behavior. Trainings and competitions are held throughout the state.

State 4-H Council
Forty youth ambassadors represent 4-H at the county and state levels, meeting four times a year to plan the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference. 4-H members in grades 10-11 apply through an application/interview process in March. The council is comprised of three committees: Marketing, Finance and Conference.

Citizenship Washington Focus Trip
Learn about and practice the importance of good citizenship during a summer trip to Washington, D.C. with youth from various states. Attend workshops, visit historic places, meet Iowa legislators and have FUN at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Available to youth in grades 10-12.

National 4-H Congress
Delegates are selected to represent Iowa and travel to Atlanta, GA where they interact with 4-H'ers from other states and develop leadership skills through recreational, social and cultural activities. Selection is through an application/interview process. Participants must be in grades 10-11 on Feb. 1 when applications are due.

National 4-H Conference
Delegates represent Iowa as they discuss topics affecting youth and collaborate with their 4-H peers to create positive social change in their local communities. Held at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD. Selection is through an application/interview process. Participants must be in grades 10-11 on Feb. 1 when applications are due.

4-H'ers for 4-H
Organized by the State 4-H Council, the 4-H’ers for 4-H Campaign is the longest running 4-H fundraiser led by youth, for youth. All Iowa 4-H Clubs are challenged to donate money on a per-member basis and the funds raised are designated for financial assistance for 4-H’ers and to make improvements to the Iowa 4-H Center.