Maryland 4-H State Animal Science Project and Record Awards Program

About the Award Program
The Maryland 4-H Animal Science Project and Record Awards Program will be offered in 2023 to recognize 4-H members in the Animal Science Program for outstanding achievements in their project work. The awards program will provide recognition to 4-H members who demonstrate 1) distinguished levels of engagement in the Maryland 4-H Animal Science Program projects and related activities and 2) excellence in project record keeping activities.

Award Program Eligibility
This awards program is open to all senior age 4-H members (14-18 years) as of January 1st of the current year. Thirteen award categories will be offered (see below). Members are eligible to apply for multiple award categories; however, a member will be eligible to receive the Top Award in only one category per year. A member is eligible to receive the Top Award in the same category only one time in their 4-H career and is not eligible to apply in a category in which they have previously received the Top Award. The Top Overall Award recipient will be selected from the current year's Top Award winners from the thirteen award categories. A member can receive the Top Overall Award only one time in their 4-H career.

Required Documentation
Youth interested in participating in this awards program must submit the required documents (listed below) via the 4HOnline portal at https://v2.4honline.com by the advertised deadline. The submissions will be evaluated and judged by a committee of UME faculty/staff and volunteers. Required documentation includes (100 points total):

- Summary Report Form (20 points): Completed Maryland 4-H Summary Report Form.
- Project Essay (20 points): Essay must be specific to the award category. Essay must be 2-3 pages in length, typed in 12-point Times New Roman, double spaced, with 1-inch margins.
- Project Record (60 points): Completed Maryland 4-H Animal Science Project Record. In species (or category) where there are both Market and Breeding Projects offered, a 4-H'er is encouraged to submit both Project Records if enrolled in both.

A 4-H'er may submit applications in multiple categories. To submit in multiple categories only one Summary Report Form is required, but a separate Project Essay and Project Record is required for each category.

Awards

Awards will be presented in 13 categories including: 1) beef cattle, 2) camelids, 3) dairy cattle, 4) dairy goats, 5) dogs, 6) horse and pony, 7) meat goats, 8) poultry, 9) rabbits, 10) sheep, 11) small pets, 12) swine, and 13) veterinary science. Awards will be presented at the annual Maryland 4-H Awards Gala.

In each award category, the Top 5 members will be selected and recognized with Certificates. The Top Award winner for each category will receive a Belt Buckle.

One recipient will be selected from the current year's Top Award winners from the thirteen award categories to receive the Maryland 4-H Animal Science State Overall Project and Record Award. The recipient of the Overall Award will receive a plaque and will be offered a trip to National 4-H Congress in November 2024 (NOTE: Recipient must meet all other eligibility requirements established for attending National 4-H Congress. A 4-H'er is only eligible to attend National 4-H Congress one time in their 4-H career).

Awards Program Annual Timeline
- Approx. October 15th – 4HOnline portal opens for submission of applications. The online portal is made available through 4HOnline at https://v2.4honline.com .
- November 15th – Deadline for submission of applications – 4HOnline portal closes.
- January/February - Awards presented at Maryland 4-H Awards Gala.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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