UW-MADISON EXTENSION
Taylor County 4-H
925 Donald St., Rm 103
Medford, WI 54451

Taylor County 4-H is on Facebook & Instagram!

This will be another way to communicate information, event details and learn more about Taylor County 4-H

Facebook: Taylor County 4-H
Link: https://www.facebook.com/4h.taylorcounty

Instagram: uwextaylorcounty4h
Link: https://instagram.com/taylor.uwex.edu

Purpose Statement

We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.

Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Taylor County 4-H

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are confidential.

HEAD
HEART
HANDS
HEALTH

Taylor County 4-H
Clover Connection
Nov/Dec 2026
Editor: Julie Diepenbrock – **Production** Kelly Phillips

Dear 4-H Families and Friends:



Happy Holiday Season 4-H Families,

Thanks to all of our 4-H youth members and adult volunteers who made the 2025-26 4-H year a great one in Taylor County with lots of activities, learning, and growth. We are working hard to create new, fun, engaging learning activities for a meaningful 4-H experience in the 2026-27 4-H year.

4-H is open enrollment which means people can enroll throughout the year. However, it REALLY helps our clubs and our office to know who is going to be involved. Last year we ended the 4-H year with 186 4-H youth members in Taylor County and 37 adult volunteers. Currently, we are at 52 4-H youth members and 16 adult volunteers (7 more volunteers once they complete the trainings and/or background check). If you haven't enrolled yet, please do so. Let's keep increasing these numbers so other youth can benefit from 4-H! Remember youth need to enroll in 4-H by March 1 and attend at least 3 club meetings by summer to be qualified to exhibit at the Taylor County Fair.

Adult volunteers, we need your help to provide project meetings for our youth to help them learn. We will soon be sending out information about how many youth are enrolled in each project. Please register to be a 4-H volunteer and be thinking about how you can share your skills with our youth.

Enjoy the upcoming Holiday Season!

Julie Diepenbrock
4-H Program Educator

Beginning the New 4-H Year

Don't forget to re-enroll in 4-H by November 1

to continue receiving emails/newsletters from us!

All members/leaders must re-enroll each year.

Re-enroll HERE → v2.4honline.com

Your login will be the same as last year. If you forgot your password, click on Reset Password. Do not make a new account!

Questions? Contact our office 715-748-3227
phillips32@wisc.edu
julie.diepenbrock@wisc.edu

Join the Federation of Taylor County 4-H

Elections @ the November 23rd Annual Meeting

All 4-H Volunteers or Youth 4-H members (6th grade and older) are invited to attend and share your ideas at the Federation Meetings.

Each club has one volunteer standing spot (and vote) on the Board of Directors for the Federation. 3 youth representatives may vote (if not all from the same club).

Be your club's voice at Federation to help make 4-H even better in Taylor County.

Contact Julie Diepenbrock, 4-H Educator, julie.diepenbrock@wisc.edu

- Support educational learning: Discovery Days, Camps, etc.
- Organizes Fundraisers, Food Stands, Plat Books
- Sets Policy for local programs
- Get a chance to vote at meetings
- Who can be a Board Member? Youth in Grade 6+ & Adult Volunteers. Nominate yourself or someone else.
- Supports Travel Experiences & Conferences

Harvest Days/YLO







Have food yet to donate? You can drop off in the entry of the Extension building. Thank-you Krause family!



Leadership Mtg



Beginning the New 4-H Year

4-H Youth and Volunteers enroll through 4-H Online beginning September 2nd. As of October 26, we have 52 youth and 16 volunteers enrolled for the 2026-27 4-H year. October 4-10 was National 4-H week - Taylor County 4-H was highlighted in radio spots on K99, many social media posts, window decorations in local businesses, displays in public libraries, and many of our clubs had their first club meeting of the new 4-H year. Most clubs elected their new officers for the 2026-2027 4-H year and plan for the year including: service, education, fundraising and fun. All of this information is included in the Club Charters due November 1. Planning and organizing is a great life skill that 4-H members learn during these meetings.



Movie & Awards



Join us in celebrating our **Taylor County 4-H 2025-2026 Record Book Completers and Special Award Winners!**

We are proud of your dedication, achievements, and commitment to making the best better. Congratulations to all who earned recognition this year!

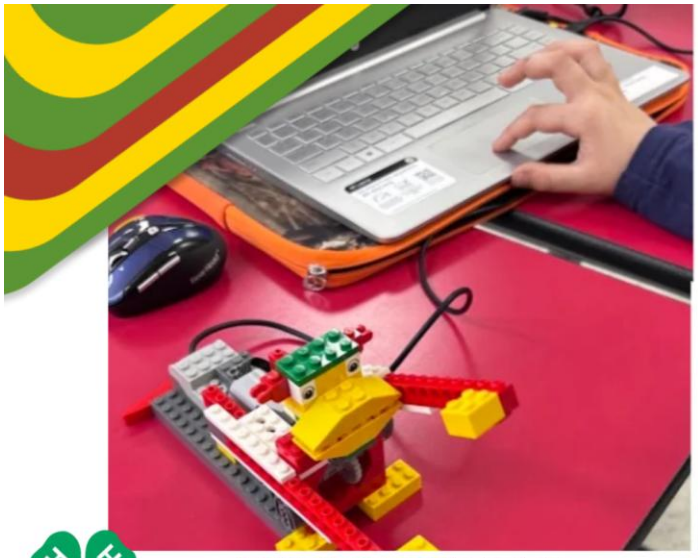
tinyurl.com/Taylor4HAwards26

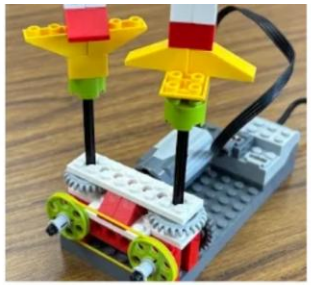
Discovery Days

Discovery Day was a success thanks to all who helped. Leigha, Ben & Heidi Geiger (Liberty) did a Make & Take activity. Aly, Ryker and Becky Czarnezki (Thrifty-Go-Getters) conducted a Pet & Learn. Dawn Rudolph (Liberty) did a Make & Take. Best guess – over 300 youth attended Huey's activities the morning of the 24th.



Afterschool Programs







JOIN 4-H EDUCATOR, JULIE DIEPENBROCK FOR



LEGO ROBOTICS!



We will get together to build and learn using our LEGO WeDo Kits! If you love building and creating, this is a great opportunity for you!

REC CENTER AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

THURS., NOV. 19TH & DEC. 10TH

3:45-5:15PM

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

Awards

LEADER OF THE YEAR

Cheri Klussendorf, leader of Little Whispers 4-H club was selected as 2026 Taylor County 4-H Leader of the Year

The following nomination was submitted for Cheri:
Cheri has led this club for six years and has grown our club to be the largest 4H club with 62 members! Cheri makes meetings fun, engaging, exciting and our members are eager to attend. She encourages personal growth of our 4H members by supporting and encouraging officers to learn their leadership roles and carry them out as independently as possible. She works hard to make sure all 4H members can actively participate in our meetings, often teaming the youngest Cloverbuds up with older 4H'ers to build community and friendships.

Cheri ensures the success of our club members by clearly communicating events, responsibilities, expectations, deadlines, and more. She actively leads by working in the barns, knowing all of the 4-H things like the back of her hand, working in the 4-H Food Stand, and almost always being accessible before, during, and after fair week. She always shows genuine excitement for all 4-Hers throughout the course of the fair as children celebrate their accomplishments.

As Cheri transitions out of her role as the leader of Little Whispers, she has provided knowledge and support to those taking over her role. She will be missed and deserves recognition for all she has done for our club, and for Taylor County 4H, during her time as the leader of Little Whispers.

The Award will be officially presented on Saturday, November 7, after the 10:00 AM Family Movie at Broadway Theatre.

Congratulations, Cheri!



Awards



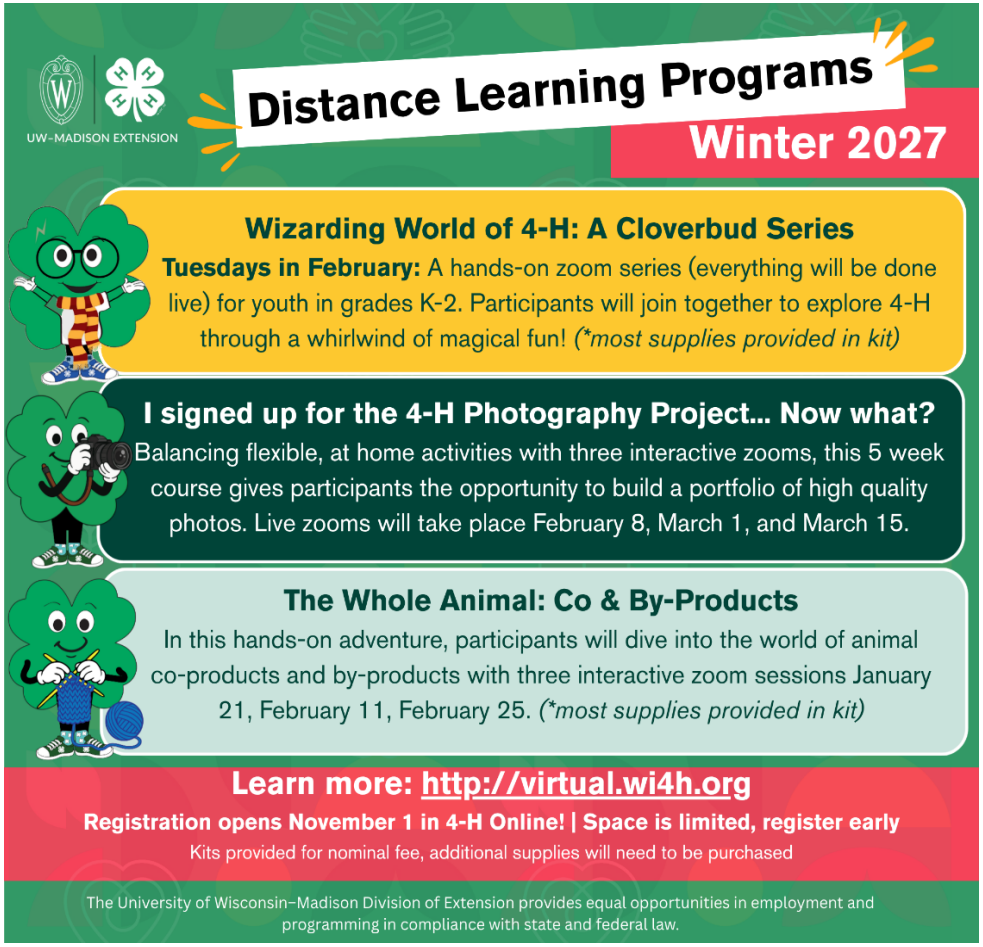
Friends of 4-H Certificate Recognition

The Taylor County 4-H Program proudly recognizes **Nestlé Pizza Division of Medford** as a **Friend of 4-H** in appreciation of their continued generosity and support of Taylor County 4-H.

Through their donation of pizzas for the YLO Pizza Stand at the Taylor County Fair, Nestlé Pizza Division has helped create opportunities for local 4-H youth to grow and succeed. Funds raised directly support 4-H members through scholarships, educational opportunities, and sponsorships for summer camps.

Thank you, Nestlé Pizza Division, for your commitment to investing in the future of our youth and for being a valued partner of Taylor County 4-H. Your generosity makes a lasting difference in the lives of 4-H members and helps us continue to build confident, capable leaders for tomorrow.

Save the Dates



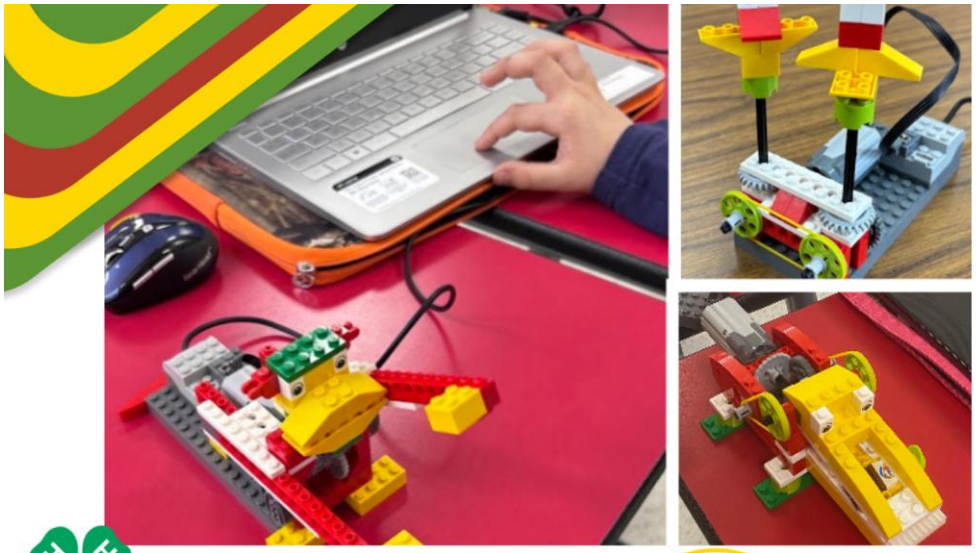
TAYLOR COUNTY
MARKET ANIMAL SHOW & SALE INC

2027 MASS Orientation

Sunday, November 15th @ 1p.m.
At the Medford Area Senior High Cafeteria

Follow:
Taylor County MASS Inc on Facebook

R/L STEM Club



JOIN 4-H EDUCATOR, JULIE DIEPENBROCK FOR

LEGO ROBOTICS!





We will get together to build and learn using our LEGO WeDo Kits! If you love building and creating, this is a great opportunity for you!

RIB LAKE STEM CLUB

WED., DEC. 9TH

3:40-5PM

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

Club Opportunity



It's that time of the year, Wisconsin 4-H! Entries for the **Cedar Crest Ice Cream 4-H Flavor Creation Contest** are being accepted through Nov. 15! The grand prize-winning club gets an ice cream party and an award of $500.

All Wisconsin 4-H clubs are eligible to submit their ideas for a new ice cream flavor, along with a flavor description and fun flavor name. For contest information, rules, and the entry form, please visit:

cedarcresticecream.com/4H-Flavor-Contest

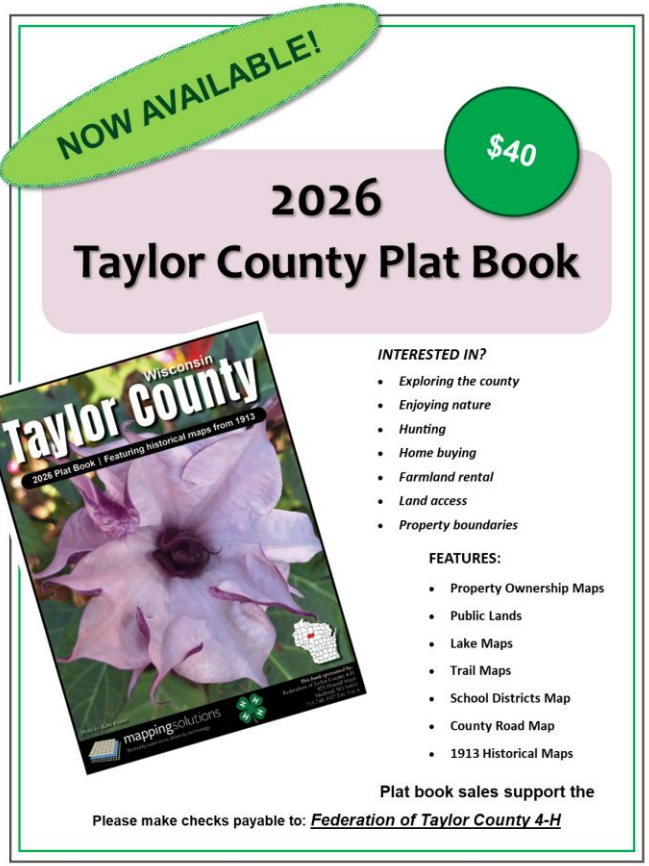


The 2026 4-H Holiday Ornaments have arrived at your local **Tractor Supply Co.** — and they're more than just festive decor. Every ornament you purchase helps support local 4-H youth, giving them the tools to be Beyond Ready for the years ahead.

Give a gift that gives back. Shop now at **Tractor Supply Co.** and spread the cheer!

Club Opportunity

Hunting season is here, and Christmas is just around the corner! The **2026 Taylor County Plat Book** is the perfect resource for hunters, landowners, outdoor enthusiasts, and anyone who loves Taylor County.



Your club - or a family in your club - can come to the Extension office and assemble books and your club will receive $2 per book assembled. It's an easy and fun way to earn some quick money for your club. Just let Kelly know if there is a day/time you can come in and help.

Cloverbud Activities

Wisconsin 4-H Cloverbud Learning Activities



Wisconsin Cloverbud learning activities can be used in a variety of settings, including 4-H club meetings, Cloverbud project meetings, day camps and afterschool programs.

Each activity features a different 4-H project area and targets the development of age-appropriate life skills. The instructions have been tested to be easy to follow for both youth and adult leaders, using materials that are usually low-cost and easy to find.

While each of the activities could be used as stand-alone, they are grouped together for a year-long sequence of Cloverbud activities. **tinyurl.com/WI4HCloverbuds**

Afterschool Programs

Julie will be leading a **Science program at Hueys** - Included will be Rocks, Electrical Circuits and Science Experiments. Join us for the fun and learning!



Club Opportunity

Tractor Supply invites your club to get active with your local store if it hasn't already! Talk with your local store manager about what activity and partnership opportunities exist here in Medford!

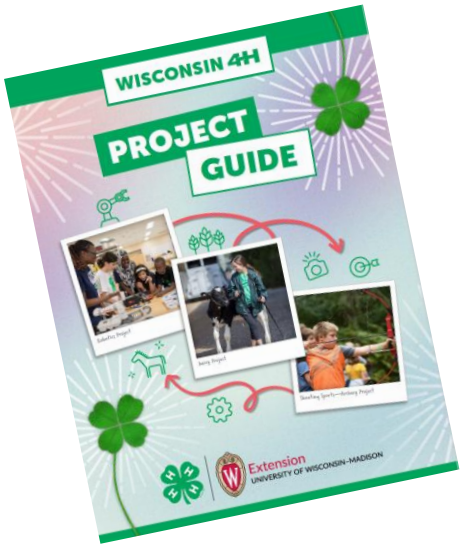


4-H Program

What Are Project Meetings?

A project meeting is defined as a scheduled meeting which is planned, organized, coordinated, and /or taught by a certified 4-H volunteer with the purpose of learning new project skills or mastering project knowledge which will assist the 4-H member enrolled in 4-H project work.

Routine tasks associated with project work should not be considered as an appropriate substitute for project meeting attendance. For example, feeding a pet cat daily should not be considered a project meeting. As the purpose of the 4-H program is one of education and not competition, project meetings should provide an opportunity to develop new skills. Therefore, project meeting focus should be on skill development and not simply on fair exhibit completion and competition. For example, if a 4-H member baked purple ribbon cookies at a project meeting last year and returned to bake the same recipe this year, this activity would be defined as project work and not a project meeting as no new skills were developed.

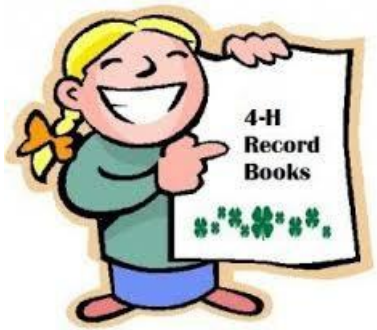


Youth Opportunity



The beginning of the 4-H year is a great time to begin your record book. Record books are required for youth applying for scholarships, educational travel experiences, and 4-H Key Awards. Not planning to go on a travel experience? Do a record book anyways! Record books help you set goals for yourself and keep track of all the things you are accomplishing in 4-H. Record books are typically due the 1st week in September.

You can learn more, print additional pages, and/or request your record book by going to taylor.uwex.edu/4-h/record-books/ or call the Extension office at 715-748-3327 extension 3. Once record books are requested they will be available within one week.



Sept/Oct Callie Cat Winner:

Youth Opportunity



Callie Cat's 4-H Newsletter Contest

Hey 4-H Youth Members! Callie Cat wants you to read the 4-H newsletter so you can have the opportunity to **win a prize** each newsletter! All you have to do is complete the Callie Cat 4-H Newsletter questions and submit them by the last day of the month the newsletter comes out. If you are in K-5 and submit at least 2/3 correct answers OR in grade 6-13 and submit at least 13/15 correct, while following all submission directions, your name will be put into a drawing for a $10 gift certificate! There will be 1 winner from each grade group per newsletter. Participants must be 4-H youth members.

Callie Cat 4-H Newsletter Questions:

Grade K-5 Questions:

1) What date do you need to be enrolled by for 4-H?
2) When is the 4-H Movie & Awards?
3) What page talks about Cloverbud Learning Activities?

Grade 6-13 Questions:

1) When and where is 4-H Movie & Awards?
2) What can you buy at Tractor Supply that gives back to 4-H?
3) Who won Leader of the Year award?
4) What 2 of the 3 Clubs made window displays for Nat'l 4-H Week?
5) What are Project Meetings?
6) What program is Julie Diepenbrock offering Lego Robotics?
7) What is Taylor County 4-H Federation looking for?
8) Will you be entering a new Cedar Crest ice cream flavor?
9) When is the MASS Orientation?
10) What 3 scholarships are offered?
11) What business won the Friends of 4-H award?
12) How many 4-H Youth Members were there last year?
13) What are the dates for Paper Clover time?
14) What treats are being made in the After School Program?
15) What dates will Extension be closed?

Instructions for submitting your entry:

- Answer questions on an 8.5x11 piece of paper. Write you full name and club name in the upper right- hand corner of your entry page.
- Submit to 4-H Agent Attn: Callie Cat Contest, Taylor County Extension, 925 Donald St. Room 103, Medford, WI 54451

4-H Program

4-H Terminology

4-H Educator—4-H staff that manages the county 4-H program and provides outreach programming to non4-H youth.

4-H Year—October to September

Cloverbud—4-H member in grades K-2nd grade

Club Meeting—monthly meeting for 4-H members

Club Leader—an adult volunteer who is responsible for the general operation and coordination of the club.

Project Leader—work with individual members, or a group of youth, in a project area to support and guide their learning.

Federation—group of countywide volunteers who set policies, coordinates countywide activities, and plan and promote the county 4-H program.



4-H is a Family Program

4-H members need the support and encouragement of their family. Parents and other family members can contribute in many ways to the 4-H program. They may help members:

- Determine project goals
- Obtain necessary project supplies
- Carry out work at home
- Maintain records
- Evaluate project work
- Attend club meetings
- Participate in countywide events
- Choose to become a 4-H volunteer

Some helpful advice from 4-H families to new 4-H families:

- Read the Taylor County 4-H Newsletter and 4-H Email Blasts
- Follow Taylor County 4-H on Facebook
- Be on time for important 4-H deadlines
- Bring your family calendar to your 4-H meeting
- Take lots of pictures of your children during 4-H activities
- If you have questions, reach out to your club leader, other 4-H families, or the county 4- H Educator

The Four H's

The foundation of 4-H learning

Head–managing & thinking
Heart–relating & caring
Hands–giving & working
Health–being & living

18 U.S.C. 707



Updates/Helpful Information

Taylor County 4-H Federation

IS LOOKING FOR 4-H MEMBERS FROM EACH CLUB, 12+YEARS OR OLDER. PARENT OR VOLUNTEER WELCOMED AS WELL TO ATTEND AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE MONTHLY 4-H FEDERATION MEETINGS.



UW-Extension will be closed on Thursday & Friday November 26th & 27th in observance of Thanksgiving.



UW-Extension will be also be closed for the Holidays on December 24th-25th & 31st-1st!

Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
TAYLOR COUNTY

Scholarship Opps

Wisconsin Pork Association Scholarship

The Wisconsin Pork Association is sponsoring several scholarship programs for Wisconsin high school seniors recognizing individuals pursuing a career in agriculture. Preference will be given to those students possessing leadership abilities and interests in the swine industry.

To find this scholarship, go to

wppa.org/youth/scholarships

Scholarship Requirements

1. All applicants must possess a sincere interest in the Ag or swine industry.
2. All applicants must pursue a post high school education, i.e. college, vocational school, etc.
3. All applicants are required to fill out and return the form, found at the above link, no later than

   DECEMBER 11, 2026

For more information contact:
Wisconsin Pork Association
PO Box 327
Lancaster, WI 53813
(608) 723-7551 or **wppa@wppa.org**



Scholarship Opps

Equity Cooperative Livestock Scholarship

Annually, Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association offers one $1,500 4-year or university scholarships and six $1,000 technical college scholarships. Students applying must have completed two or more semesters at an accredited college or university, or at least one semester at a technical college. They must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above, on a 4.0 scale. Eiter the student, their parent (s) or grandparent(s) must be an active member or employee of Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association. Go to equitycoop.com to see eligibility requirements. Entries must be completed by **December 4, 2026**, to be considered.

Calling all Wisconsin 4-H Youth

Scholarship applications will open January 1, 2027!

To be eligible for any Wisconsin 4-H Scholarship, students must have been a Wisconsin 4-H member for at least three years, have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and be enrolled or planning to enroll at a university, college, or technical school during the following academic school year.

Previous scholarship winers are not eligible to receive a second Wisconsin 4-H Scholarship.

4h.extension.wisc.edu/Wisconsin-4-h-scholarships/

Calendar of Events

November
1— 4-H Enrollment Ends
1— Distance Learning Programs – registrations open
7—Movie & Awards – Broadway Theatre 10:00 a.m.
15—MASS Fall Orientation and Annual Meeting—Medford High School
15—Cedar Crest Ice Cream Contest Order Entry due
15—Distance Learning Programs - registrations due
23—Federation Meeting/Elections 7:15 p.m. at UWEX
26—Happy Thanksgiving Day
26-27—UW-Extension is closed
27—Paper Clover Campaign @ Tractor Supply starts

December
4—Equity Cooperative Livestock Scholarship due
9—Afterschool – Rib Lake, Lego Robotics
11—WI Pork Association Scholarship due
13—TSC Paper Clover Campaign ends
24-25—UW-Extension is closed
28—No 4-H Federation Meeting
31—UW-Extension is closed



January
1—UW-Extension is closed
1—WI 4-H Scholarship due
25—Federation Meeting 7:15 at UWEX





TC Newsletter Deadlines

December 11--January/February

February 12—March/April

Clubs are welcome to share events or meetings by these dates.
If you have any questions, please contact the office 715-748-3327
or phillips32@wisc.edu