

# *Kansas 4-H Member Recognition*

## *Guidelines to Member Achievement Pins*

Kansas 4-H Member Achievement pins are designed to recognize 4-H members as they reach milestones throughout their 4-H journey. The pins are awarded in a series. As a member's 4-H journey progresses, the achievement pin requirements expand to challenge individuals to explore and engage in more opportunities to develop life skills. The following guidelines are to be used statewide in all local Extension Units. This ensures consistency and maintains the integrity of the recognition.

1. 4-H members are allowed to receive only 1 Member Achievement Pin per year.
2. 4-H members may not earn the same pin more than once throughout their 4-H career.
3. 4-H members may start with any pin but may not move backwards. Pins are intended to be completed in sequential order. For example, if a young person joins 4-H for the first time as a 15-year-old, they may choose which pin to start with, and must advance from that point. 4-H'ers may choose to skip a pin but are not allowed to move backwards.
4. The application will represent the 4-H experience of the current 4-H year, unless specifically noted on the application.
5. 4-H members may engage through in-person, hybrid, virtual, and distance learning opportunities to meet the requirements listed on each award application.
6. 4-H members needing an accommodation should make a request as outlined in Kansas 4-H Policy.
7. Pin applications must be signed by:
  - a. 4-H member
  - b. Parent/Guardian
  - c. 4-H Club Leader

\*Independent Members will have their Mentor sign in place of a Club Leader.
8. Written feedback is an important part of educational experience. A sample template is provided to maximize encouraging feedback with a growth mindset.
9. Local Units may choose to provide additional recognition opportunities but may not modify the Member Achievement Pin system as outlined.
10. Each local Extension Unit should develop a method to track and record Member Achievement Pins awarded. Kansas 4-H recommends utilizing 4HOnline for this purpose.
11. Local Units should have a standing Awards & Recognition committee to review, select, and award Member Achievement Pins.



Brand names appearing in this publication are for product identification purposes only. No endorsement is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products not mentioned.

Publications from Kansas State University are available at: [bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu](http://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu)

Date shown is that of publication or last revision. Contents of this publication may be freely reproduced for educational purposes. All other rights reserved. In each case, credit 4-H Youth Development, *Guidelines to Member Achievement Pins*, Kansas State University, October 2023.

**Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service**

4H1170

October 2023

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director of K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts.