

Maryland 4-H Diamond Clover Award Program

This new award is designed to encourage 4-H members to engage in a variety of projects and activities that will enable them to acquire the skills necessary to lead successful lives as competent, caring and contributing citizens.

Level One – Amethyst

*Complete at least **three** of the following tasks:*

Learn the 4-H Pledge, Motto and Colors

Attend at least 60% of club meetings

Attend at least one local 4-H unit* activity or event

Host a meeting or provide refreshments or lead a game or give a report

Complete at least one 4-H project (see project completion guidelines on page 2)

Level Two – Aquamarine

*Complete at least **four** of the following tasks:*

Attend at least 60% of club meetings

Compete in a local 4-H unit contest

Attend at least two local 4-H unit* activities or workshops

Help with a club or community service-learning project

Help with a club or community fundraiser

Attend a day or resident camp, conference or overnight experience representing 4-H

Complete at least one 4-H project from a new project area (see page 2)

Level Three – Ruby

*Complete at least **five** of the following tasks:*

Attend at least 60% of club meetings

Help with a club or community service-learning project

Help with a club or community fundraiser

Participate in a 4-H Communications event.

Attend at least two local 4-H unit* activities

Attend a resident camp or overnight experience representing 4-H

Attend at least one regional or state 4-H event

Complete at least one 4-H project from a new project area (see page 2)

Level Four – Sapphire

*Complete at least **six** of the following tasks:*

Attend at least 60% of club meetings

Serve as a club/group officer or committee chair

Provide leadership for a club or community service-learning project

Provide leadership for a club or community fundraiser

Compete in a 4-H Communications event.

Attend at least three local 4-H unit* activities

Attend at least one regional or state 4-H event

Help a younger member with their project, demonstration or learning the pledge

Attend a resident camp or overnight experience representing 4-H

Complete at least one 4-H project from a new project area (see page 2)

** 4-H Unit means county, city or Military 4-H program*

Level Five – Emerald

Complete at least **seven** of the following tasks:

- Attend at least 60% of club meetings
- Serve as a club/group officer, committee chair or teen leader
- Provide leadership for a club or community service-learning project
- Provide leadership for a club or community fundraiser
- Provide leadership for a local 4-H unit* activity or event
- Compete in a 4-H Communications event.
- Attend at least one state 4-H event.
- Participate in a national or international event representing 4-H
- Help a younger member with a project exhibit or demonstration
- Attend a resident local 4-H unit, regional or state camp representing 4-H
- Participate in an Interstate Exchange
- Complete at least one 4-H project from a new project area (see page 2)

Level Six – Diamond

Complete at least **eight** of the tasks in Level Five **and** conduct a **major service-learning project**. *This task is patterned after the Boy Scout Eagle Award and requires the 4-Her to complete a project that benefits his/her community. The 4-Her will submit a detailed plan that includes: Description of the project, justification for the project, who will be recruited to help, a budget and how funds will be obtained, a projected timeline and any necessary approval letters from landowners, city/local 4-H unit government, province, etc. The Diamond Clover Committee (local 4-H unit committee to include at least five: 4-H Leaders, previous Diamond Clover winners, 4-H All Stars and a 4-H Educator, including at least one each: 4-H Leader, 4-H All Star and 4-H Educator) must approve the plan before any work is started. When the work is completed the 4-Her must submit a detailed report outlining what was accomplished with documentation (photographs, etc.) If the report is approved, the Diamond Clover Committee will forward it to the State 4-H Leader (or designee) for final approval.*

Project completion requirements: 1. Do work described in the project manual, 2. Complete a project record, record book or resume, 3. Present a visual presentation related to the project at a club meeting and 4. Exhibit something related to the project at a club or local 4-H unit fair. (Note: Project completion requirements may vary by 4-H unit). A new project area is one in which the 4-Her has not completed a project, not a different project in the same project area.

Notes:

1. The Diamond Clover will be the primary recognition for Maryland 4-H and will be supported with funds formerly used for project medals. 4-H Units may continue to award self-funded project medals. Sponsors and grants will be sought for additional funding.
2. The Diamond Clover Award is designed for a young person to begin at Level One and progress through six levels, one level per year, acquiring valuable skills as he/she advances. Youth who are older when joining 4-H, may begin at a higher level (two through four) as is mutually agreeable to the participant and the club/group leader. The 4-H Unit educator must also be in agreement for a youth to start at levels five or six.
3. Youth meeting the requirements of levels one through four will be recognized at a 4-H Unit event. Youth meeting the requirements of levels five and six will be recognized at an appropriate state event.
4. Diamond Clover recognition is not automatic. A youth must apply for Diamond Clover recognition using the appropriate plan/report form in a timely manner.
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