



Karen Richardson Memorial 4-H Horseman of the Year Scholarship Application

In tribute to long-time Oklahoma 4-H Horse Program supporter, volunteer, advocate, and enthusiast Karen Richardson who passed away June 30, 2020, her family and friends established the Karen Richardson Memorial 4-H Horseman of the Year Scholarship Endowment Fund last fall in the Oklahoma 4-H Foundation. Karen Richardson was a “Founding Mother” of the State 4-H Horse Show. She was an example of selfless service to the 4-H Horse program for over 30 years. Karen’s passion for 4-H youth involvement and participation in the Oklahoma 4-H Horse Show and Oklahoma 4-H Horse Project will be carried on in perpetuity through this prestigious scholarship awarded annually to the 4-H Horseman of the Year as selected by the State 4-H Horseman of the Year Scholarship Committee.

The purpose of this scholarship is for the Oklahoma Horse Program to recognize and promote the total involvement and development of the youth horse project member in all aspects of the Oklahoma youth Horse programs. It will not be an award strictly for show activities.

Qualifications:

- Youth must be currently enrolled in 4-H (unless they are graduated seniors) Participation is limited to grades 9-12.
- Must compete in two classes at the Oklahoma State 4-H Horse Show
- Must have completed at least freshman year of high school and completed at least two years in the horse project including current year. Previous winners will be ineligible to compete. The three finalists will be invited to interview in person. The interview will be on Friday, July 12 at the state show, in Chickasha, OK.

Application:

- Complete the Horseman of the Year Scholarship Application (see attached).
- A narrative addressing the following:
 - “What has participating in the Horse Program Has Meant to Me”
 - “Why I would like to have this scholarship and what I plan to do with it”

All applicants must submit their completed resume/scholarship application to the State Equine Extension Specialist by June 15th for consideration.

Submit typed and signed application by mail or email. If there are any questions, please contact state specialist, Dr. Kris Hiney.

*Dr. Kris Hiney
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Selection Process:

- 40% A completed OK Scholarship application. See attached
A completed 1-2-page resume, written in a business style format.
- 20% Narrative Statement
Pages 1-2; “What participating in the 4-H Horse Program has meant to me”
Page 3; “Why I would like to have this scholarship and what I plan to do with it
- 20% Interview conducted TBD; finalists will be notified by July 5th and provided with their interview time.
- 20% Sportsmanship and Horsemanship
The scholarship committee will observe the finalist’s horsemanship and sportsmanship during the state show . The details of the interview and testing will be provided to the finalists upon selection.

The scholarship is awarded in the amount of \$1000 and is eligible to be used in post-secondary education.



What is Sportsmanship?

Good 4-H horse project sportsmanship is defined as:

- **Displaying respect for horses.** This mean exercising good horse management through proper healthcare and nutrition, as well as fair training practices. Horses deserve humane treatment in exchange for what they provide.
- **Displaying respect for opponents.** Sportsmanlike competitors recognize and appreciate a well-prepared, challenging opponent who can bring out the best in them and share that appreciation with their opponents.
- **Displaying respect for the “game.”** This includes respecting and following the rules of the event. It also includes always trying one’s best, using skill and training to achieve positive results, and appreciating the training process.
- **Displaying respect for others.** Judges, show managers, parents, trainers, coaches and leaders deserve respect as well. If one is feeling frustrated, it is important to find an appropriate location and time to vent or show this frustration.

Exhibiting good sportsmanship is not just for youth 4-H members – it applies to everyone involved, including volunteers, parents, leaders and others.



County:

Year of Enrollment in 4-H:

Name *(first, middle initial, last)*:

Name of Parents/Guardians:

Complete Home Address:

Complete address *(if differs from applicant's)*

Age September 1, 2023:

Date of Birth:(00/00/0000)

I have prepared/reviewed this application and believe it to be correct.

Applicant:

Date:

CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED DOCUMENTS/FORMATTING FOR APPLICANT:

_____ Complete scholarship application and news information form (pages 1-10)

_____ Letter of recommendation from teacher, counselor or academic advisor

Scholarship Application -- Academic Information

Name of High School you attended:

Complete Address of High School:

Date of Graduation:

Approximate grade point average *(required)*: _____ out of _____ points

Individual rank in a class of _____ *(how many)*: _____

If individual rank in class is not

available, check the appropriate box:

upper
25%

upper
50%

25-
50%

Not
available

College, university or trade schools attended, including concurrent high school enrollment:

Involvement in scholastic organizations or honors received (HS or college):

Educational Plans

Name of college or university you plan to attend:

Why are you interested in pursuing an advanced education?

Field in which you plan to major and your reasons for choosing this field of study:

Horse Project Work: Summarize your horse project work. (1 page)

Leadership: Summarize your Leadership activities, including leadership positions held. Describe the impact of those activities on the local club, community, etc. (1 page)

Citizenship: Summarize your Citizenship activities. Describe the impact of those activities on the local club, community, etc. (1 page)

Outside Horse Activities:

Outline summary of horse activities outside of 4-H (not to exceed one page, ie breed associations, horse organizations).

Honors/Awards: Summarize significant 4-H Honors and Awards received. (1/2 page)

Non-4-H Experiences: Describe your most meaningful participation in organizations other than 4-H. Include leadership roles, honors received, special interests, etc. (1/2 page)