

## Shawnee County Pin Award Plan “Standards of Excellence Recognition Tacks”

Effective during the 4-H year 1996-97 the pin awards and applications have been changed in Shawnee County to match the suggested State Achievement Plans. The new pin award system will allow 1 pin per year from age 7-15 with the Key Award at age 16. A 4-H'er will be allowed to receive only 1 pin per year. If they are eligible for more than 1 pin the 4-H'er will need to decide which pin they prefer to receive. The only exception would be the membership pin may be received by older 4-H'ers only with another pin in one year.

The pins do not need to be received in the order of the achievement plan, except where noted. The 4-H'er must be the minimum age or older plus meet all the requirements and the optional requirements needed to receive the pin. The 4-H member will need to keep track of what pin(s) they have received. The 4-H office does not keep records on this.

### Shawnee County Member Achievement Pins and Minimum Age Requirements

1. Membership	Age 7	6. Silver Guard	Age 12
2. Bronze	Age 8	7. Leadership	Age 13
3. Clover	Age 9	8. Gold	Age 14
4. Emerald	Age 10	9. Gold Guard	Age 15
5. Silver	Age 11		

**Membership Pin, #1:** Must be given at the end of the member's first year. Attend one over half of meetings.

**Bronze Pin, #2:** Complete 4 mandatory requirements: make at least one exhibit; attend a majority of club meetings; attend one club or county event; at a minimum complete permanent record and personal page and turn in to club leader. No optional requirements listed.

**Clover Pin, #3:** Complete 4 mandatory requirements same as Bronze: make at least one exhibit; attend a majority of club meetings; present a program number at 4-H meeting; at a minimum complete personal page and permanent record and turn in to club leader. Complete 3 of 7 optional requirements.

**Emerald Pin, #4:** Mandatory requirements are the same as for Clover, except change from minimum record book completion to completion of total record book and turned in to club leader. Complete 5 of 9 optional requirements, generally same as Clover Pin, with 2 new options--Participate in club community service and participate in 4-H Week.

**Silver Pin, #5:** Same 4 mandatory requirements as Emerald Pin. Complete 6 of 10 optional requirements, generally same as Emerald pin, with addition of participation on noncompetitive event at county or state fair.

**Silver Guard, #6:** Same 4 mandatory requirements as Silver Pin. Complete 8 of 19 optional requirements. Several optional requirements have been eliminated from the old plan that are no longer age appropriate for 4-H'ers 12 years old following the sequential age series. One new option has been added that continues through the remaining plans, "Submit an article, artwork or photograph to the 4-H Foundation."

**Leadership, #7:** Mandatory requirement same as Silver Guard, except add one additional, "must be enrolled in the Leadership project for the current year." Complete 11 of 25 optional requirements.

**Gold Pin, #8:** Mandatory requirements--must have previously received the Leadership and Silver Guard pins; exhibit one or more exhibits; complete and turn in your current record book; enroll and participate in the Leadership project this current year. Attending a majority of meetings and presenting a program number are no longer required at this level. Complete 15 of 29 optional requirements. These optional requirements are essentially the same as before.

**Gold Guard, #9:** Mandatory requirements--must have previously received the Gold Pin; must be 15 years old or older on January 1 of the current year; exhibit, complete and turn in the current year's record book; enroll and participate in the Leadership project for the current year. Complete 16 of 32 optional requirements. These are generally the same as the Gold Pin with the addition of helping set up or clean up at a county event, and participate in a club or county 4-H fund raiser.