



The Genny Olmstead Award

June 1st - May 31st

Washington County 4-H Horse

**Questions: Please Contact the Committee
Coordinator, Denise Seggerman at
deniseseggerman@gmail.com or 503-989-6325.**

Genny Olmstead Award

History -

The Genny Olmstead Award was created to encourage and reward 4-H Horse members who actively participate in a variety of activities throughout their 4-H experience.

Genny Olmstead, the namesake of the Award, has given selflessly for over 20 years to the youth involved in many 4-H activities. She has encouraged kids to strive for greater excellence in a variety of areas. This is an award that any child is eligible for if they are willing to learn and work hard, no matter where their skill level is. Achieving this award will be challenging and will encourage kids to step outside their comfort zones and learn new ideas and have a variety of experiences, which in turn will create a more rounded and confident person.

The application can be found on the county website. There is also an interview process for those that qualify with their application. All applicants will receive a Certificate and a large Rosette Ribbon. The overall high point for the application and interview process combined, will receive a Belt Buckle that will be presented at county fair.

General Information –

The Genny Olmstead award is based on an application and if qualified, an interview. Below is some general information regarding the award.

The Genny Olmstead Award year will run from June 1st to May 31st of the following year.

The application must be turned in with the applicants Horse Fair Entry Form(s) – due June 1st.

Any age and division level (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) is eligible to apply for either award.

To qualify for the Certificate and Rosette award, the applicant must have completed at least 5 of 12 the categories.

To qualify for the High Point Buckle award, the applicant must have completed at least 7 of the 12 categories and completed the interview process.

A 4-H Horse member may only be awarded the High Point Buckle award once: however, the Certificate and Rosette award may be achieved each year.

It is recommended that the application be started early in the year. It is required that copies of all records, letters, and any other applicable information be kept and submitted.

All decisions by the Committee, Application Judges, and Interview Judges are final.

All questions should be directed to the Genny Olmstead Coordinator.

Award Committee and Coordinator:

Application and Interview Judges may not be directly affiliated with any applicants.

- There is a committee that will be made up of –
 - A coordinator
 - An Advisory Board member
 - A Club Leader and/or a Resource Leader

- The committee will select the Application Judges. Application Judges may not judge for more than 2 consecutive years and will include at least 3 of the following –
 - Club Leader and/or a Resource Leader
 - Past Genny Olmstead Recipient
 - Friends of 4-H
 - Community Member

- The committee will select the Interview Judges. Interview judges may not judge for more than 2 consecutive years and will include at least 3 of the following –
 - Horse Fair Judge (MUST be included for the Interviews)
 - Past Genny Olmstead Recipient
 - Friends of 4-H
 - Community Member
 - Club Leader and/or Resource Leader

Categories and Points:

The application includes the following categories (activities can earn points in more than one category):

- **Completed Horse Records**
 - Points can be earned in this category by submitting signed up-to-date horse records for **each** project horse used at this year's county horse fair. A maximum of six (6) points can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in Leadership**
 - Points can be earned in this category by actively demonstrating leadership qualities while participating in the 4-H Horse program. Leadership can include but not limited to: Officer of your club, current Jr. Horse Advisory Board member, teaching at the Washington County 4-H Learning Day, and/or coordination of a horse clinic. A letter of recommendation from a leader or adult with first hand knowledge of the leadership must be provided for each point requested. A point can be earned for **each** leadership activity. There are no maximum points in this category.

- **Participation in Community Service**
 - Points can be earned in this category by actively volunteering in events that provide a true service to the community. A point is earned for each 12-hour block of time. A signed and completed Community Service Reporting Form must accompany all hours volunteered. A maximum of eight (8) points can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in the “I Did It Myself” Project**
 - A point can be earned for **each** submitted I Did It Myself application. There are no maximum points in this category.

- **Participation in Horse Bowl Competition**
 - Points can be earned for participation at the County, State, and National contests. Points can only be earned from the current application year, June 1st – May 31st. A maximum of three (3) points can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in Presentations and/or Public Speaking Competition**
 - Points can be earned for participation at the County, State, and National contests. Points can only be earned from the current application year, June 1st – May 31st. A maximum of nine (9) points can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in Horse Judging Competition**
 - Points can be earned for participation at the County, State, and/or National contests. Points can only be earned from the current application year, June 1st – May 31st. A maximum of three (3) points can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in Horse Hippology Competition**
 - Points can be earned for participation at the County, State, and National contests. Points can only be earned from the current application year, June 1st – May 31st. A maximum of three (3) points can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in Pre-Fair**
 - A point can be earned for active participation in Pre-Fair. A maximum of one (1) point can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in Horse Fair**
 - Points can be earned for active participation in the County and/or State Horse Fair from the current application year, June 1st – May 31st. A maximum of two (2) points can be earned in this category.

- **Participation in Dad Potter Tryout(s) (3 Step or 10 Step)**
 - Points can be earned for active participation in tryouts. A post application form must be submitted for each try out attempt. A maximum of five (5) points can be earned in this category.

- **Stepping Outside the Boundary**

- Points can be earned for horse related activities that are outside the members comfort zone and are personally challenging. It is highly recommended that the member describes their Stepping Outside the Boundary experience in the application essay. A letter of recommendation from a leader or adult with firsthand knowledge of the horse related Stepping Outside the Boundary must be provided for each point requested. A point can be earned for **each** Stepping Outside the Boundary experience. There are no maximum points in this category.

Essay and Application:

A typed edited essay and application will be required (pictures are allowed and highly encouraged) stating why the member is applying, activities participated in during the year, and any other information that the member wishes to include. Applicants who are requesting points for Stepping Outside the Boundary should describe in detail their experience in this essay as well.

It is encouraged that an adult/leader review the application and essay before submitting. Grammar and spell check is highly recommended.

Application Check List (if applicable) –

- A typed and completed G.O. application – required
- A typed essay – required
- Photos
- A letter of recommendation for Participation in Leadership and Stepping Outside the Boundary.
- A copy of Horse Records for each project horse.
- Copies of all Washington County G.O. Community Service forms.
- A copy of your I Did It Myself application.
- A copy of the Dad Potter post application form for each try out attempt.
- All documents are in a neat and secure manner.