



ND FFA Association

**STATE CONVENTION
GENERAL RULES**

DELEGATE REPRESENTATION

Every FFA Chapter is to be represented by their quota of Official Delegates:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| a. 1 - 75 members | 2 delegates |
| b. 76 - 125 members | 3 delegates |
| c. 126 - 175 members | 4 delegates |
| d. 176 - 225 members | 5 delegates |
| e. 226 - 275 members | 6 delegates |
| f. 276 - 325 members | 7 delegates |
| g. 326 members or more | 8 delegates |

STATE FFA DEGREE

State FFA Degree Applications will be completed using the AET online system. Completed applications are to be submitted electronically to the State FFA Office prior to the due date (see the state Agricultural Education Calendar on ndffa.org). No application will be considered unless it is typewritten. Use of the American FFA Degree application computer version is subject to guidelines specified in the State FFA Degree instructions.

The National Constitution provides that states may determine the number of active members to be elected to the State FFA Degree each year. Individual evaluation of each application by a committee of alumni and others selected by the State Advisor will take place to determine eligibility and quality of each application to determine the number of recipients.

Individuals must meet all requirements of Article VI Section E of the National Constitution to be recommended for the State FFA Degree. Active members in good standing may apply for as long as three years following graduation. Potential candidates must maintain active membership for two full years for eligibility. A State FFA Degree charm and certificate will be provided for each recipient at the installation ceremony during the state convention.

Up to four finalists for Star in Agribusiness, Star in Agricultural Placement, Star in Agriscience and Star Farmer and will be selected from qualified applicants. Each star finalist will be visited on location of their SAE operation by a team of judges and be interviewed. One State Star in each area will be selected from the applicants each year based on their application and interview. State Star award winners will receive checks in the amount of \$300.00 (From the ND FFA Association/Dollars from National FFA), traveling trophies and special plaques.

AMERICAN FFA DEGREE

American FFA Degree Applications will be completed using The AET online system. Completed applications are to be submitted electronically to the State FFA Office prior to the due date (see the state Ag Education Calendar on ndffa.org). No application will be considered unless it completed and submitted through AET. Applicants must meet all requirements of the National FFA Constitution to be recommended to receive this degree.

Procedure for selecting American FFA Degree Recipients

Section A – Applications for the degree must be approved by the state advisor, or representative(s) thereof, and be received by the national organization not later than the announced national due date.

Section B – Applications must be submitted on the official application form provided by the National FFA Organization for the current year.

Section C – The National FFA Board of Directors shall review the American FFA Degree applications and recommend those candidates meeting the minimum qualifications. Final approval of the candidates shall be given by the delegates present at the national FFA convention.

It is required that these candidates have maintained continuous membership (36 months of continuous active membership). The state staff may nominate one candidate for American Star in Agribusiness, American Star in Agricultural Placement, American Star in Agriscience and American Star Farmer each year. Travel to the National Convention to receive this Degree Award is optional but highly recommended. Recipients of the American FFA Degree will receive the American FFA Degree Key and Certificate. The ND FFA Foundation will provide a travel stipend to individuals chosen as National Star Finalists.

STATE FFA CHORUS

Applications are provided to the chapters and are to be submitted electronically to the State FFA Office (see the state Ag Education Calendar on ndffa.org).

Members are eligible to apply for the national band/chorus. The ND FFA Foundation provides travel stipends for those band or chorus members selected to participate at the national level. Selection is based on applications sent to the National Band and Chorus directors.

Members applying for the State FFA Chorus must realize that this will be their most important assignment at the convention. Do not plan on conflicting obligations in other convention events that will limit attendance at rehearsals/performances.

PROFICIENCY AWARDS

All in-school FFA members and those out of school one year are eligible to submit applications for proficiency award recognition. Applications may be reviewed at the district level, however all applications are eligible to be submitted to the state office by the deadline for state judging. The top 4 state finalists will receive plaques and the state winners will receive checks for \$250 check. State winning applications will be submitted to the National Judging Committee. Those selected to be National Proficiency Finalist(s) will receive a travel stipend from the ND FFA Foundation to attend the National Convention. Please visit ffa.org for more detailed rules and eligibility requirements.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS (CDEs)

General Rules

1. Registration for CDEs must be completed using the online registration system. A link for this system can be found on ndffa.org and the deadline for registration can be found on the state Agricultural Education Calendar on ndffa.org. If necessary, changes may be made at registration on Monday at State FFA Convention.
2. Teams will be divided into squads so that no two participants from the same school will be together during the event. Participants must meet all eligibility requirements as listed in the CDE Handbook.
3. Communication between participants during an event will be sufficient cause to disqualify the team. Use of electronic communication devices during CDEs will also be cause for disqualification. Smart watches and cell phones are not allowed to be used.
4. Any assistance given to a team member from any source during an event will be sufficient cause for disqualification.
5. Participants are urged to bring and use clipboards during events to facilitate the holding of placing and grading cards. The clipboards are to be clean and free of markings. Blank paper will also be permitted for taking notes and recording placings; however, these sheets will not be allowed when giving oral reasons or taking written examinations. See specific rules for each CDE.

Eligibility of Participants

1. The student must be an FFA member in good standing with the local chapter, State FFA Association, and the National FFA Organization at the time of the state event.
2. The student must be under 21 years of age at the time of the state event.

3. The student must be (1) a junior high/middle school or high school student and (2) enrolled in at least one agricultural education course for an agricultural occupation and/or following a planned course of study, including a supervised agricultural experience program the objective of which is establishment in an agricultural occupation. (Students graduating during the current year are eligible to participate through the completion of that activity.)
4. All eligibility guidelines outlined in the specific state CDE Handbook must be met. Alternates on past national teams are not considered as having previously participated and are eligible only if they did not judge in the national contest.

Member/Participant Accommodation

North Dakota FFA is dedicated to ensuring all members and guests can participate and have a positive learning experience with all activities. If you need accommodations as outlined under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please identify the type of accommodations needed during the event registration process.

Timing of Accommodation Requests

Although a student may make an accommodation request at any time, the North Dakota FFA encourages chapter advisors to make the member accommodation request prior to the registration deadline. This will allow adequate time for consideration and proper documentation of the disability. The request will be processed by the Executive Secretary and forwarded on to the Event Superintendent for consideration. A determination will be made on a case by case basis, with importance placed on maintaining event integrity and standard. The Executive Secretary will follow up with the chapter advisor on the request prior to the event.

Selection of Teams to Represent the State at Nationals

CDEs

Read and review the “ND FFA General Rules and Guidelines” document.

The Agricultural Communications, Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems, Dairy Cattle Evaluation & Management, Dairy Cattle Handlers Activity, Environmental & Natural Resources, Farm & Agribusiness Management, Floriculture, Food Science & Technology, Meats Evaluation & Technology, Milk Quality & Products, Nursery/Landscape, and Small Animal Care (participates in Veterinary Science at Nationals), (or other teams from events developed for state participation) to represent the State FFA Association at the

national convention shall be made up of the high team at the State Career Development Event.

The state Agricultural Sales, Agronomy and Livestock Evaluation teams will be determined at the State CDEs during March in Minot.

Horse Evaluation is selected at a different state CDE day.

All state LDEs are selected at the state LDE day in November. Please refer to the ND FFA LDE Handbooks.

The coach of the high team will serve as coach for the national team if the coach is still employed as an agricultural education instructor in the same school. If not, the successor will be designated as team coach.

If one chapter wins more than one CDE, the winning coach, in cooperation with the State FFA Advisor, will select an advisor to assist in coaching the other team. By national rule, a member may only compete in one National FFA event per year and all members of the team must be from the same chapter.

Each ND FFA state CDE Handbook contains the rules for ND state CDEs, chapters should also consult the National FFA CDE Handbooks located at www.ffa.org. As revisions are made in the national events, ND CDE Handbooks will be reviewed and if deemed necessary, changed to correspond with them.