

ND FFA Association

CREED SPEAKING
Handbook

Purpose

The FFA Creed outlines the organization's beliefs regarding the industry of agriculture, FFA membership and the value of citizenship and patriotism. The Creed is recited by FFA members as part of the requirements to earn the Greenhand FFA Degree. The purpose of the Creed speaking leadership development event is to develop the public speaking abilities of ninth grade FFA members as well as to develop their self-confidence and contribute to their advancement in the FFA degree program.

Objectives

The Creed Speaking LDE is for participants to demonstrate their ability to:
a. Recite the FFA Creed with accuracy, clarity, and expression.
b. Communicate beliefs about agriculture and FFA with confidence and professionalism.
c. Respond effectively to questions that assess understanding and interpretation of the Creed.

DISTRICTS

Event Rules & Format

The Creed Speaking LDE is held during the District Leadership Meetings and State LDE Day.

Each chapter may make one entry for the district award.

The complete rules, policies and procedures relevant to all ND FFA Career and Leadership Development Events may be found in the General Rules.

Contest Eligibility

1. To be eligible to participate the student must be enrolled in an agricultural education course and appear on the chapter FFA membership roster.
2. The member must hold the Greenhand Degree or have declared his/her intention to join the chapter and be eligible for the Greenhand Degree, must be a freshman or sophomore* in their first agriculture class and shall have been declared winner of the chapter's creed speaking event.

*Sophomores are only eligible in schools where Agriculture Education classes are not available below the sophomore level. Seventh or Eighth grade members are not eligible for this contest above the local level. Sophomores are not eligible for the national competition.

North Dakota FFA Association — Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

The North Dakota FFA Association adopts and adheres to the National FFA Organization's official AI Policy in full. All North Dakota FFA members, chapters, advisors, and state staff are expected to follow the guidelines set forth by the National FFA Organization regarding

the appropriate and responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in FFA activities, competitive events, and academic work.

For the complete and current National FFA AI Policy, including detailed guidelines on appropriate use, please visit:

https://ffa.app.box.com/v/NFFAAIPolicy

Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the North Dakota FFA Association state office.

Team Activities

Not applicable

Individual Activities

Presentation

Each participant must recite the FFA Creed from memory. Each participant shall begin the presentation by stating, "The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany." Each participant shall end the presentation with the statement, "...that inspiring task. Thank You."

Questions

Each judge will ask one question of each participant to demonstrate an understanding of the Creed. The same question shall be asked of all contestants.

Scoring

Presentation and Questions

1. See Scoresheet on ndffa.org
2. The selection of the judges (minimum of 3) shall be left to the discretion of the district involved, subject to approval of the State FFA Advisor. If chapter advisors are used, no advisor shall judge his/her own student. The composite score of the other judges will be used for the score.

Scoring Summary

Event	Individual Points	Notes
Creed Presentation	0-100	

Awards

Participants will be grouped on the basis of merit and three levels of achievement will be recognized gold, silver and bronze. Not more than two speakers to represent the district in the state event will be selected from gold award winners. The state winner will be eligible to advance to the National Event.

References

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. Make sure to use discretion when selecting website references by only using reputable, proven sites.

The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation. The most current edition of resources will be used.

- Past finals hall footage are available by logging in to FFA.org/participate/ldes/creed-speaking.
- National FFA Core Catalog: Developing Great Speeches Guide
- Current year's Official FFA Manual, FFA.org
- Resources found on ndffa.org/creed

STATE

Event Rules & Format

An elimination round will be held. Individuals will be split into two flights. State Staff will randomly assign rooms such that each room will have four first place teams and four second place teams, each from a different district. The procedure, rules and scorecards will be identical with those used in the district events. The judges will select the two top contestants from Groups A and B and these four will be the finalists.

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2. The member must hold the Greenhand Degree or have declared his/her intention to join the chapter and be eligible for the Greenhand Degree, must be a freshman or sophomore* in their first agriculture class and shall have been declared winner of the chapter's creed speaking event.

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Presentation and Questions

1. See Scoresheet on ndffa.org
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Scoring Summary

Event	Individual Points	Notes
Creed Presentation	0-100	

Awards

The two top participants from each district will be evaluated at the State LDE Creed event. All entries will be rated as gold, silver, or bronze.

The first-place winner is designated to recite the Creed during the awards ceremony at State LDE Day and a state convention session. They will receive the "baby bison" trophy and eligible to participate in the National FFA Creed Speaking LDE. A $250.00 award and a $500.00 travel stipend to the National FFA Convention will be awarded by the ND FFA Foundation.

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Scoresheet

CREED AWARD SCORE CARD

Rank:

Contestant Name:_____ Chapter:_____

Indicators	Very Strong Evidence Skill is Present 10-8 Points	Moderate Evidence Skill is Present 7-4	Strong Evidence Skill is Not Present 3-0 Points	Points Earned	Judge's Comments
Speaking without Hesitation 10	Speaks very articulately without hesitation - Never has the need for unnecessary pauses or hesitation when speaking.	Speaks articulately, but sometimes hesitates - Occasionally has the need for a long pause or moderate hesitation when speaking.	Speaks articulately, but frequently hesitates - Frequently hesitates or has long, awkward pauses while speaking.		
Attention (Eye Contact) 10	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. - Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100% of the time)	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. - Mostly looks around the audience (60-80% of the time)	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. - Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50% of the time)		
Mannerisms 10	Does not have distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness - No nervous habits	Sometimes has distracting mannerisms that pull from the presentation. - Sometimes exhibits nervous habits or ticks	Has mannerisms that pull from the effectiveness of the presentation. - Displays some nervous habits-fidgets or anxious ticks.		
Gestures 10	Gestures are purposeful and effective. - Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points. - Great posture (confident) with positive body language.	Usually uses purposeful gestures. - Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize - Occasionally slumps; sometimes negative body language	Occasionally gestures are used effectively - Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting. - Lacks positive body language; slumps		
Well Poised 10	Is extremely well poised. - Poised and in control at all times.	Usually is well poised. - Poised and in control most of the time; rarely loses composure	Isn't always well poised - Sometimes seems to lose composure.		
	5-4 Points	**3-2 Points**	**1-0 Points**		
Pace 5	Speaks at a moderate pace to be clear.	Speaks at a moderate pace most of the time, but shows some nervousness.	Pace is too fast/slow; nervous.		
Tone 5	Voice is upbeat, impassioned and under control	Voice is somewhat upbeat, impassioned and under control.	Voice is not upbeat; lacks passion and control.		
Pronunciation 5	Pronunciation of words is very clear and intent is apparent.	Pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes mumbled.	Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand; unclear		
Volume 5	Emitted a clear, audible voice for the audience present.	Emitted a somewhat clear, audible voice for the audience present.	Emitted a barely audible voice for the audience present.		
Question/Answer	**10-8 Points**	**7-4 points**	**3-0 Points**		
Being Detail-Oriented 10	Is able to stay fully detail-oriented. - Always provides details which support answers/basis of the question.	Is mostly good at being detail-oriented. - Usually provides details which are supportive of the answers/basis of the questions.	Has difficulty being detail-oriented. - Sometimes over looks details that could be very beneficial to the answers/basis of the question.		
Speaking Unrehearsed 10	Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease. - Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts and concise answers.	Speaks unrehearsed mostly with comfort and ease, sometimes seems nervous or unsure - Is able to speak effectively, has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus	Shows nervousness or seems unprepared when speaking unrehearsed. - Seems to ramble or speaks before thinking.		
Examples Used In Response to Questions 10	Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained. - Examples are original, logical and relevant.	Examples are usually concrete, sometimes needs clarification. - Examples are effective but need more originality or thought.	Examples are abstract or not clearly defined. - Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions		

General Comments:

-2 points per word error

(100 Points Possible)

Gross Total Points

Deductions

Net Total Points

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Content Standards

Measurements Assessed	Event Activities Addressing Measurements	Related Academic Standards
CRP.04.01. Performance Indicator: Speak using strategies that ensure clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in formal and informal settings.		
CRP.04.01.01.a. Identify and categorize strategies for ensuring clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in verbal and non-verbal communication (e.g., vocal tone, organization of	Entire event	
CRP.04.01.02.b. Apply strategies for speaking with clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in a variety of situations in formal and informal settings.	Entire event	
CRP.04.03. Performance Indicator: Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.		
CRP.04.03.01.b. Apply active listening strategies (e.g., be attentive, observe non-verbal cues, ask clarifying questions, etc.).	Entire event	
CRP.04.03. Performance Indicator: Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.		
CRP.04.03.01.b. Apply active listening strategies (e.g., be attentive, observe non-verbal cues, ask clarifying questions, etc.).	Entire event	
CRP.04.03.02.c. Model active listening strategies in formal and informal settings.	Entire event	