

General Rules and Guidelines

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Revised 2006

Philosophy of the FFA Activities Program

1. North Dakota FFA Career Development Events are educational activities organized by the North Dakota FFA Association with support from the North Dakota FFA Foundation and its special industry sponsors.
2. Events are designed to complement classroom instruction by giving students an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in competitive situations.
3. Each event has been specifically designed to test skills, concepts and knowledge of students in a particular area of agriculture.
4. Involvement by all FFA members in selected FFA activities to provide opportunities for personal career development should be the ultimate goal.
5. Award and degree applications should reflect the individual's occupational goals and the supervised agricultural experience program in operation.
6. Individual member participation should closely correlate with the individuals occupational and leadership development goals.
7. Individuals and teams are encouraged to participate in events above the chapter level provided that they are adequately prepared and can gain through such participation.

Determining Chapter Eligibility

1. To be eligible for participation in district and state sponsored FFA activities, each chapter must submit its membership roster and \$50 activity fee by October 20. A Chapter Program of Activities is also to be handed in at the District Leadership Meeting Registration. The Activity fee for chapters after the October 20th deadline will be \$100. Those chapters that fail to submit membership rosters and affiliation fees by January 1 will be suspended from state participation until all are received and paid. Additional members can be added to the chapter roster at any time until the first school day in April annually. Any chapter having past-due accounts with the North Dakota FFA Association in excess of 18 months will be ineligible for any state competitions until such time as those accounts are cleared or arrangements are made for repayment with the approval of the State FFA Advisor.
2. Each chapter shall annually complete and submit an Annual Chapter Report due by July 1st.
3. FFA chapters may remain fully active for 3 years without an instructor/advisor, due to teacher shortages or program discontinuance, provided they meet all the requirements of eligibility and proper supervision is given by a person having the approval of the local school district and state FFA advisor.
4. In situations of multi-district centers or cooperatives, with shared teacher arrangements, FFA chapters may operate as separate entities and be entitled to entry in all career development events. A single multi-school umbrella chapter composed of mini-chapters may enter only one team or individual per contest or award area. The umbrella chapter shall function as a single chapter.
5. Provisions of the chapter constitution may not conflict with the State and National FFA Constitutions and chapter activities must be in harmony with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization (Article IV Section B, National Constitution).

Determining General Individual Member Eligibility

1. To be eligible for participation in district and state sponsored FFA activities each member must:
 - a. Meet all eligibility requirements as outlined in the National Constitution (Article V Section B) which in part states: "to be eligible for active membership in a chartered chapter, a student must be enrolled in a secondary agricultural education program". In North Dakota, seventh and eighth grade students enrolled in pre- agriculture education are eligible for FFA membership. "To become an active member and retain membership, a student must:
 1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study, either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career.
 - FFA membership is also available to students enrolled in a school not currently offering agricultural education courses, home-schooled students, students taking classes via interactive television or students enrolled in courses through the ND Division of Independent Study.
 - In order for these students to participate in FFA activities above the local level, that student must be enrolled in at least one agriculture class of at least one semester in length, and must include a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAE). Membership must be in the FFA chapter in the students' home school district or in the FFA chapter located closest to the students' residence or in the chapter of the school providing the interactive television course.
 - Agricultural internet courses (on-line courses) taken by students are acceptable for this requirement if the course is accepted by the school district and becomes a part of the students' High School transcript.
 2. Show an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
 3. Pay all current state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.
 4. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.
 - b. Be passing in three subjects including at least one semester of agricultural education and meet the eligibility requirements of the North Dakota High School Activities Association.
 - c. Meet all requirements for the specific career development event.
 - d. Meet any other eligibility requirements of the local school and have the approval of the local school administration to participate in those activities sanctioned by the ND FFA Association, Inc. above the local level.
 - e. A member who is eligible at the time entry is made for an award or an award trip shall be eligible to take part in the complete progression of that activity. Graduating seniors may not enter a new career development event after August 31 following their graduation from high school. See rules for each activity.
 - f. The use of ineligible members shall result in the forfeiture of individual and/or team awards in the activity in question.
 - g. A member may retain active membership until November 30, following the fourth National FFA Convention after graduation from high school.

Policy Governing State Association Sanctioned Activities

1. Approved state activities shall be limited to those which will:
 - a. Motivate individual members in their study of agriculture and encourage their personal development as a useful citizen in our democracy.
 - b. Develop individual skills, interests, attitudes and/or abilities which will help individual members select and pursue an agricultural career.
 - c. Be closely related to the instructional program and curriculum.
 - d. Promote leadership development.
 - e. Be kept within the proper perspective so as not to unduly interfere with classroom activities nor provide intensified training for a selected few individuals at the expense of the educational opportunities of the rest of the members of the chapter.
 - f. Not involve nor promote competition with other youth organizations.
2. Traveling plaques and trophies for state sanctioned events shall become the property of the state association upon their retirement.
3. All contest printed materials (tests, etc.) shall be made available to local chapters.
4. Participants are expected to observe the FFA Code of ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket during career development events (Please see the latest edition of the Official FFA Manual). Official dress is highly recommended for all participants where appropriate and is required for awards presentations and recognitions unless otherwise noted. (See appendix D)

Methods used to Select Teams to Represent the State Association

1. North Dakota will select a state team to represent our state association at national career development events in the following areas:

National Convention Team Events - (See Appendix A)

Ag Sales (4)	Livestock Selection (4)	Meats Judging (4)
Dairy Cattle Selection (4)	Dairy Foods (4)	Farm Management (4)
Agricultural Mechanics (4)	Nursery/Landscape (4)	Floriculture (4)
Food Science (4)	Horse Judging (4),	Parliamentary Procedure (6)
Ag Communications (5)	Crops (Agronomy) (4)	

Other Teams Events - Land Judging, Range Judging, Quiz Team, Small Animal Care (up to 4 each).

2. The state association will designate the official state event in each activity and coordinate its operation.
3. Teams selected to represent our state association shall consist of the high team as determined at the state event. In the event that the high team cannot participate in the national event, the second place team will be eligible to participate and will receive the travel stipends. Members of a state team must be from the same chapter.
4. Each chapter may enter up to 5 active members in the state event. The team score shall be the total of the three highest scores from that chapter (exceptions- food science, ag communications and parliamentary procedure). See individual rules for each career development event.

5. The coach of the high team will serve as coach for the national event provided he/she is still employed as the agriculture/agribusiness instructor and FFA advisor in the same school through the time period of the national event. In the situation where the instructor leaves that school, the successor would be designated as team coach.
6. In Land and Range judging, regional and/or national events may allow several FFA teams per state to compete, but only the 1st place team in our state event will be sponsored by our state association. Location of the Old West Regional Range Contest will vary each year (five state rotation). The National Land & Range Judging Event is held in Oklahoma. The state association will work with state teams to coordinate participation in these activities. Team support will only be provided for one activity above the state level.
7. In Quiz or other CDE's where a regional or national event is not available, the three or four members of the high team will each receive a travel stipend to attend the next National FFA Convention. Teams not traveling to the National Convention will not receive the stipend. The second place team will not be given these stipends in the event the first place team members choose not to attend the National Convention.
8. In the event the same chapter wins more than one state event qualifying for national convention participation, the winning coach, in cooperation with the state advisor, may select an assistant to coach one of the teams. National guidelines limit students to participation in only one national CDE per year.
9. The High Individual in each CDE will receive a \$100 college scholarship. (See Appendix C.)

State Team Member Guidelines

1. Participants must be FFA members in good standing (dues paid) at the time of the state event. The FFA Code of Ethics must be followed; use of alcohol, tobacco and/or drugs will not be tolerated.
2. The participant at the time of selection must be an active member, grades 7-12, or a graduating senior up to and including the first National FFA Convention following high school graduation and meet all other general eligibility requirements.
3. No student may participate in more than one National FFA team event (or receive more than one travel stipend) each year. National rules prohibit more than one year of participation in a specific national career development event. (Exception: See #2 below)
4. Individuals who have judged in the national event for a specific activity may continue to compete in that activity at the state level for individual awards only. They must be so designated upon entry.

National Team Member Support

1. Each member of the state team will receive a travel stipend from the State FFA Foundation or State FFA Association. (*See Appendix A.*)
2. These stipends are to be used toward travel expenses to the National FFA Convention (exceptions: Land and Range, see #6 under "Methods used to select teams").
3. All checks will be written to the chapter, not to the individual.

Other Individual National Activity Participants

1. North Dakota FFA will provide travel stipends to individuals selected to represent our state in other national events and activities. (*See Appendix B*)
2. Each individual will receive a stipend from the North Dakota FFA Association or from the North Dakota FFA Foundation. All other expenses are the responsibility of the participant. These are not cash awards and will not be given to individuals that do not travel to the National FFA Convention. In the event the state winning individual(s) is unable to attend, the next successive individual in the state event will be offered the opportunity to participate and will receive the travel stipend.

3. Advisors & coaches are reimbursed through the local program and will receive no compensation from the State Association or Foundation.
4. The State Association will provide housing (with the Association or compensated at an equivalent rate) and registration for all individuals whom are candidates for the Honorary American FFA Degree.
5. The state association will assist coordinating of national convention travel and lodging for all participants.
6. A number of participants may be selected by the National Organization for participation in Band, Chorus, Agriscience Student, Courtesy Corps or Talent at National Convention. Travel stipends will be provided to each individual selected. All other costs will be the responsibility of the participants and/or their chapter. *(See appendix B)*
7. Local sponsorships may be coordinated through the State FFA Foundation.
8. National Officer Candidates will be reimbursed for up to \$500 support for expenses at the National Convention.
9. Past State Officers (from the previous year only) will be provided lodging expenses at the National Convention.
10. Hall of States Exhibitors will receive lodging and \$50 each for expenses at the National Convention. (maximum of three people).
11. National Star finalists and national proficiency finalists will be provided with towards National FFA Convention expenses.

Awards

1. Individual and team awards will be provided to participants in state events using the following guidelines: top 20% gold, next 25% silver and next 30% bronze. When making these award splits, activity chairs will take into consideration natural breaks in the event results.
2. In events where there has been district elimination, all participants in the state event will receive an award (e.g. state public speaking, state tractor driving, etc.)
3. The high individual in a state event shall receive a Baby Bison trophy.
4. The high individual or team in a state event shall take possession of any revolving trophy or plaque, add their name and return it for presentation at the next state event. Damages/repairs and engraving to traveling trophies are to be made prior to the next state event and are the responsibility of the chapter/individual in possession of the award.
5. State gold award teams shall receive the standard state gold award plaque (black plaque) for that event in the first year they receive a gold award in that event and shall add team member names to plates on their plaque in successive years. The initial state gold award plaque in any CDE is provided by the State Association, upon filling of the plaque, additional plaques must be purchased by the chapter. These plaques are available through the state office.

High Individual Scholarships

1. Scholarship certificates will be issued upon completion of the State Career Development Event. Scholarship certificates can be redeemed by submitting the certificate along with enrollment verification to the state FFA office. (See instructions on the scholarship certificate.)
2. Scholarships must be used within three years of graduation from high school.

3. Scholarships are not transferable.
4. High Individuals in State Career Development Events that do not have a national contest and are not a member of the high team are provided the choice of the \$100 scholarship or a travel stipend for attendance at the next National FFA Convention.
5. An individual is eligible for one scholarship (or high individual travel stipend) per state activity/CDE.
6. Only one scholarship and baby bison trophy will be given in each area unless otherwise noted in Appendix C or in the case of a tie. (See Appendix C) Ties must be broken in Creed, Dairy Cattle Showmanship and Public Speaking CDE's.

Determining Implementation of Career Development Events

Before a Career Development Event will be implemented in North Dakota the following criteria must be met:

1. The curriculum to which the event provides supplementation must be provided by 15% of the Agricultural Education programs in the state. This to be verified by review of the Calendar of Units submitted annually for review to the Supervisor for Agricultural Education.
2. The first year for a proposed new event will be demonstrative. The second year will be considered probationary.
 - a. For a CDE to become a demonstration event and continue in the second year as a probationary event a minimum of eight chapters representing no fewer than five districts must participate in each the demonstration year and probationary year.
 - b. The winner of a demonstrative event will be allowed to participate in that National FFA event. Participation will be at the expense of the individual/team/chapter. No high-individual scholarship will be made available.
 - c. The winner of a probationary event will be allowed to participate in that National FFA event. The North Dakota FFA Association will provide for a travel stipend for the winning individual/team/chapter. That stipend will be commensurate with previously approved events and to include the awarding of a scholarship for the high individual.
3. At the completion of the demonstration and probationary years the event will be reviewed by the State Advisory Committee for evaluation of content, procedure and compliance with state and national guidelines.
4. Having met the stipulations of the afore-mentioned criteria, the CDE will be presented to the Delegates at the North Dakota State FFA Convention for final approval as a state sponsored activity.

Determining Continuation of Career Development Events/ Activities

Any state sponsored activity that no longer reflects the extension of the classroom and curriculum will be reviewed by the State Advisory Committee and State Staff for potential revision to attain applicability. If revision cannot be made, the activity will be presented to the Delegates of the North Dakota State FFA Convention for discontinuance as a state sponsored activity.

Any state sponsored team CDE that has fewer than five teams or thirty individuals participating will be placed on probation for one year. If by the end of the probationary year the minimum numbers have not been met, that CDE will be presented to the Delegates of the North Dakota State FFA Convention for discontinuance as a state sponsored activity. Reinstatement of that CDE as a state sponsored activity would be treated in the same fashion as the implementation of a new event.

Appendix A

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION TEAM CDE's

TRAVEL STIPEND

1.	<i>Ag Communications (5 X \$200)</i>	\$1000
2.	<i>Ag Mechanics (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
3.	<i>Agronomy (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
4.	<i>Ag Sales (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
5.	<i>Dairy Cattle Selection (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
6.	<i>Dairy Foods (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
7.	<i>Farm Management (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
8.	<i>Floriculture (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
9.	<i>Food Science (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
10.	<i>Horse Judging (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
11.	<i>Livestock Selection (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
12.	<i>Meats Judging (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
13.	<i>Nursery/Landscape (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
14.	<i>Parliamentary Procedure (6 X \$200)</i>	\$1200

OTHER TEAM CDE's

TRAVEL STIPEND

1.	<i>Land Judging (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
2.	<i>Quiz Team (up to 4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
3.	<i>Range Judging (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800
4.	<i>Small Animal Care (4 X \$200)</i>	\$800

Appendix B

NATIONAL CONVENTION INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

TRAVEL STIPEND

1.	<i>Creed Contest</i>	\$200
2.	<i>Dairy Cattle Handlers</i>	\$200
3.	<i>Extemporaneous Public Speaking</i>	\$200
4.	<i>Memorized Public Speaking</i>	\$200
5.	<i>National Band *</i>	\$200
6.	<i>National Chorus *</i>	\$200
7.	<i>National Courtesy Corps (Up to 3)</i>	\$200
8.	<i>National Talent Show *</i>	\$200
9.	<i>Agriscience Fair (Grand and Reserve at State Fair) *</i>	\$200
10.	<i>Agriscience Student *</i>	\$200

**All Selected by the National FFA Organization*

OTHER NATIONAL CONVENTION TRAVEL

1. "Hall of States" Exhibitors (Maximum of three)
2. Honorary American FFA Degree
3. National Officer Candidate
4. National Proficiency Finalists
5. National Star Finalists
6. Past State Officers (Previous Year Only)
7. Flag Bearer

TRAVEL STIPEND

- \$150/Travel
\$50/Materials
Cost of housing plus registration
- \$500
- \$200
- \$200
- Cost of housing
- \$200

Appendix C**HIGH INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

1. Ag Communications
2. Ag Mechanics (Advanced)
3. Ag Sales
4. Crops Judging
5. Dairy Cattle Selection
6. Dairy Foods
7. Farm Business Management
8. Floriculture
9. Food Science & Technology
10. Horse Selection
11. Land Judging
12. Livestock Selection
13. Meats Evaluation
14. Nursery/Landscape
15. Range Judging
16. Small Animal Care
17. Star Greenhand

SCHOLARSHIP

- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$100
- \$60 towards S.C.

**HIGH INDIVIDUAL
SCHOLARSHIP / STIPEND OPTIONS**

1. Advanced Tractor Driving
2. Ag Mechanics (9th Grade)
3. Ag Mechanics (10th Grade)
4. Basic Tractor Driving
5. Demonstration (Max. 3)
6. Livestock Showmanship (State Fair Round Robin)
7. Quiz

SCHOLARSHIP / STIPEND

- \$100/\$150
- \$100/\$150
- \$100/\$150
- \$100/\$150
- \$100/\$150
- \$100/\$150
- \$100/\$150

Appendix D

OFFICIAL DRESS APPROPRIATE

1.	<i>Ag Communications</i>	<i>Yes</i>
2.	<i>Agriscience Fair</i>	<i>Yes</i>
3.	<i>Advanced Tractor Driving</i>	<i>No**</i>
4.	<i>Ag Mechanics (Advanced)</i>	<i>No</i>
5.	<i>Ag Mechanics (9th Grade)</i>	<i>No</i>
6.	<i>Ag Mechanics (10th Grade)</i>	<i>No</i>
7.	<i>Ag Sales</i>	<i>Yes</i>
8.	<i>Ambassador</i>	<i>Yes</i>
9.	<i>Band/Chorus/Talent/Courtesy Corps</i>	<i>Yes*</i>
10.	<i>Basic Tractor Driving</i>	<i>No**</i>
11.	<i>Creed, Memorized & Extemporaneous Speaking</i>	<i>Yes</i>
12.	<i>Crops Judging</i>	<i>Yes</i>
13.	<i>Dairy Cattle Selection</i>	<i>Yes</i>
14.	<i>Dairy Cattle Handlers</i>	<i>No</i>
15.	<i>Dairy Foods</i>	<i>Yes</i>
16.	<i>Demonstration (Max. 3)</i>	<i>Yes*</i>
17.	<i>Farm Business Management</i>	<i>Yes</i>
18.	<i>Floriculture</i>	<i>Yes</i>
19.	<i>Food Science & Technology</i>	<i>Yes</i>
20.	<i>Horse Selection</i>	<i>Yes</i>
21.	<i>Land Judging</i>	<i>No**</i>
22.	<i>Livestock Selection</i>	<i>Yes</i>
23.	<i>Livestock Showmanship (State Fair Round Robin)</i>	<i>No**</i>
24.	<i>Meats Evaluation</i>	<i>No</i>
25.	<i>Nursery/Landscape</i>	<i>Yes</i>
26.	<i>Parliamentary Procedure</i>	<i>Yes</i>
27.	<i>Quiz</i>	<i>Yes</i>
28.	<i>Range Judging</i>	<i>No**</i>
29.	<i>Small Animal Care</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Yes = certain conditions may not be appropriate for official dress.*

*No** = Official dress not required for event or awards.*

Yes = Official dress is highly recommended for the event and required for awards presentations

No = Official dress not recommended for the event but required for awards presentations.

ND FFA ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS

The Code of Ethics formulated for the North Dakota FFA Association is in keeping with the code adopted by delegates to the 1952 National FFA Convention and revised at the 1995 National FFA Convention which states: As an FFA member I pledge to:

1. Develop my potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.
2. Make a positive difference in the lives of others.
3. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion. "Official Dress" for FFA members is defined in the most current "Official FFA Manual".

"Appropriate Dress for all state called FFA Activities will be the "Official Dress" of the National FFA Organization or appropriate dress as defined for a specific state-called activity by the State FFA Advisor.

"Appropriate Dress for locally called FFA Activities will be the "Official Dress" of the National FFA Organization or as defined and announced for that specific locally-called FFA Activity by the local FFA Advisor.

4. Respect the rights of others and their property.
5. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.
6. Communicate in an appropriate, purposeful and positive manner.
7. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
8. Make myself aware of FFA programs and activities and be an active participant.
9. Conduct and value a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program.
10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.
11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization.

In addition, the Delegates of the 1975 State FFA Convention adopted the following guidelines:

1. Hair should be Neat, Clean, Well-Groomed and of reasonable or moderate length. Boys should be clean shaven. (These matters are under the authority of the local officials.)
2. Use of alcohol, tobacco and/or drugs will not be tolerated while members are attending an official FFA activity.
3. Members attending convention sessions should show courtesy and respect for other FFA members and guests by not leaving the building unless absolutely necessary until the session is over. Chapters are urged to continue to familiarize their members with the high ideals of the FFA and to use fair and reasonable corrective measures when necessary.
4. Members who violate the Code of Ethics during activities of the North Dakota Association, or rules formulated for any single event, may be asked to appear before the FFA Ethics Committee. This Committee shall have the authority to:
 - a. Counsel with the member concerned and give assistance in interpreting the Code of Ethics and its importance.
 - b. Withdraw awards earned or received during the FFA event.

c. Disqualify the member for participation in FFA activities for a specified time.

The committee shall consist of five members. Two shall be appointed by the president of the North Dakota FFA Association and two by the president of the North Dakota Association of Agricultural Educators. The fifth member shall be the state advisor or a person appointed by the state advisor. The committee will be announced at each convention and serve until the next convention. Three members shall constitute a quorum. The state advisor may name a committee for single events in which there is not statewide participation.