

Rules, Regulations and Recognition

1. The teacher must complete all registration information online (judgingcard.com) for each contest (see page 4 for deadlines). Teams not properly registered will be declared ineligible to participate.
2. Late registrations will not be allowed.
3. A final registration/check-in of teams will take place. The check in will be used to provide each contestant with a name badge/contestant number. This badge must be worn at all times during the contest (unless it poses a safety hazard). Changes in team members will be taken care of by the contestants filling out the scantron cards properly. Teams will report directly to the designated contest location.
4. A team shall consist of four students. See the first section of each respective contest or the "Maximum Number of Participants per Team" section to determine the number of scores that will count as the team score.
5. Check the program of events so that you will avoid scheduling the same student(s) for two contests which may overlap due to unforeseen circumstances.
6. Students may compete in a Career Development Event even if their school does not have a full team (3 or 4 members). If a school has less than 3 team members, the students are only eligible for individual awards. A school may enter only one team (maximum 4 students) per event. (Passed 11/6/2006).
7. All chaperones attending the Career Development Events must be formally approved by the local Board of Education.
8. Any student who fails to correctly enter his/her team and student numbers on the Scantron sheets will be disqualified from the event.
9. The *National FFA Bulletin on Career Development Events* will serve as an excellent reference in preparing teams for competition.
10. All exam questions will be taken from the past five years of exams used in the National FFA Organization's contests.

Use of Technology in WV Career Development Events

1. The use of all electronic devices are prohibited once the career development events begins. If an event requires the use of calculators, the event coordinator will provide exact specifications on the type(s) of devices (including functions) that will be permitted.
2. If a contestant is observed using an electronic device during a contest (student has his/her Scantron in hand), the group leader will record the student's name, school and contestant number and give it to the contest coordinator and/or the results tabulator. This individual will be disqualified from the contest.

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Use of Reference Materials in WV Career Development Events

1. Students participating in West Virginia Career Development Events are prohibited from bringing reference materials, paper, and/or other aids into the contest area unless the materials/aids are specified by the event coordinators in the official rules and regulations. The exception, all students are permitted to use a standard clipboard. Cover sheets will be provided for all contestants in all contests. Contestants participating in contests with oral reasons will be provided two sheets of unlined paper to take notes.
2. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the elimination of the entire team from competition. A letter will be sent to the school principal and superintendent by the state staff detailing the reasons for the dismissal.

Communication among Contestants

1. Once a contest has started, there will be no communication among contestants until the contest has been completed and all score cards have been collected. If a contestant is observed talking at any time he/she has a scantron in hand, the group leader will record the student's name, school and contestant number and give it to the contest coordinator and/or the results tabulator. This individual will be disqualified from the contest.

ELIGIBILITY

Student must be a current high school student (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students), enrolled in secondary agriculture, and an FFA member to be eligible to participate in the Career Development Events (Exception: students who recently graduated from high school (May-June of current year) are eligible to compete in the June events as well as the Dairy Evaluation Contest in August.). Middle school students are eligible to compete only in the 7th & 8th Grade Agriscience and the Middle School Food Science Contests. Students are eligible to participate in the same contest four years.

Secondary students of agriculture meeting the following requirements are eligible for officially designated National FFA Career Development Events.

1. The student is a bona fide dues paying FFA member in good standing with the local chapter, state association and the National Organization at the time of his or her selection and at the time of the Nation Career Development Events in which he or she competes.
2. The student, at the time of his/her selection as a state/national team member, must be:
 - i. a high school student (or a recent graduate),
 - ii. enrolled in at least one course for an agricultural occupation and/or following a planned course of study, including a supervised agricultural experience program the objective of which is related to the field of agriculture.
3. The State Supervisor of Agricultural Education must certify that contestants are eligible. If an ineligible student is entered in any contest, the team of which that student is a member shall be declared ineligible.

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4. Teams and/or schools or teachers/coaches will not visit the WVU livestock facilities or greenhouse with **60 days of the event**.
5. No advisor or coach will be allowed in the livestock pavilion or within 300 feet of penned livestock while students are judging, unless his/her assistance is needed to help facilitate the contest.
6. A school must enter a minimum of six contests to be eligible for the Sweepstakes Award. The sweepstakes award will be based upon the cumulative team placing standings in the high six contests. In case of a tie, the team with the most first places, then second places, etc., will win. *Winning the sweepstakes award does not denote the best secondary agriculture program in WV.*
7. The sweepstakes year will run from July 1 to June 30 with the Sweepstakes award presented at the Spring CDE Awards ceremony.
8. Student participation in all Career Development Events is limited to four years.
9. Members of first place State teams may not participate in the same contest again.

AWARDS

All announcements of winners and presentation of awards will be made at the Awards Program which is held on the final day of the Career Development Events.

1. Contest results as announced are final.
2. Plaques will be presented to the winning teams in the contests. Competition areas are requested to select a method of breaking team and individual ties so as to eliminated misunderstanding and confusion.
3. Agricultural and Extension Education will award medals to the three high scoring individuals in each contest.
4. The West Virginia Association FFA will present the sweepstakes award.
5. The winning high team in any contest is given the right to represent West Virginia in any national career development event in which FFA teams are eligible to participate.
6. All plaques and trophies become the permanent possession of the school.