

Georgia Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award

Rules for 2022 GFB YF&R Excellence in Agriculture Competition

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Background

The Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Excellence in Agriculture Award competition is designed as an opportunity for young farmers and ranchers to earn recognition, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture. Participants will be judged on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, and participation/involvement in Farm Bureau and other organizations (i.e., civic, service and community). **The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence in Agriculture Award is an individual or couple who does not have the majority of his/her gross income subject to normal production risk.** The AFBF YF&R Committee and the AFBF Leadership, Education, and Engagement Department will coordinate the program at the national level.

COVID-19: If GFB is unable to hold the 2022 YF&R Summer Leadership Conference in-person due to COVID-19, the competitive events will be held virtually, and all applicants should be made aware of this possibility prior to their application.

Information about the Excellence in Agriculture applicant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND IS DESTROYED AFTER JUDGING IS COMPLETED.

Eligibility

- An applicant can be either an individual or a couple that is married or has similar legal rights under the law applicable to the state Farm Bureau organization. Applicant may choose to apply individually, rather than as a couple.
- Applicant(s) shall be a Farm Bureau member(s) between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with his/her county Farm Bureau. The individual or spouse/spousal-equivalent shall have reached his/her 18th birthday at the time he/she qualifies for the national competition and shall not have reached his/her 36th birthday by Jan. 31, 2023.
- Applicant(s) must not have derived a majority of his/her gross income from an owned production agriculture enterprise in any of the past three years.
- Applicant(s) may only compete in one national YF&R Competition per year.
- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and/or their spouse are not eligible to compete.
- Past state YF&R Achievement Award winners and/or previous AFBF Achievement Award competitors are not eligible to compete.
- Previous AFBF Excellence in Agriculture Award competitors are not eligible to compete. Past state YF&R Excellence in Agriculture winners are eligible if they have not previously competed at the national level.
- Current employees or agents of county, state and/or the American Farm Bureau organizations and their affiliates are not eligible to compete. An affiliate is defined as an entity owned or controlled in whole or in part by another entity through, for example, ownership (including partial ownership) or positions on the board of directors. Past employees who were responsible for implementing any of the YF&R Competitive Events at the state or national level are ineligible.
- Each county may submit one entry to be considered for state recognition and must use the GFB entry form and application.

Entry Form & Application Guidelines

- Do not use applicant's name, the name of his/her state or county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of the applicant's state beyond the entry form. The written versions of the application have a search feature to locate any identifiers. Verbal and presentation reference to applicant's name, state and county will be allowed during your presentation for personalization of presentation.
- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. "A1"/"A2" may not be used for questions 1-5. Applicants must use "A1"/"A2" to denote each applicant for all of question 6.
- Do not use abbreviations or acronyms unless it has been spelled out once with the abbreviation in parentheses behind it. For example, United States Department of Education (USDE). AFBF, FB, and YF&R are acceptable to use throughout the application.
- No emailed or mailed entry forms will be accepted.
- It will be up to the judges' discretion to deduct points if applicants include activities before they were 18.

Note: Disregard of the guidelines will result in disqualification of the application.

Presentation Guidelines

- The presentation will be an interactive, 25-minute presentation in which the applicant(s) has an opportunity to share the contents of his/her/their entire application in narrative form with a panel of three judges and the audience.
 - Applicant(s) will have 25 minutes to present on the topics addressed in the application and address questions from the judges. Applicants will be notified by the timekeeper when 10 minutes are remaining and again when five minutes are remaining. Each judge will be prepared to ask at least one question. At 25 minutes, time will be called and the applicant's time in front of the judges will conclude even if judges have not been able to ask their questions. It will be up to the applicant(s) to determine how they use this time. If the answers to the judges' questions are complete before time is called, the room moderator will call time.
- The only visual means in which to deliver the information is through a PowerPoint or Prezi presentation. The applicant(s) needs to submit their presentation on a USB flash drive. A computer, LCD projector, screen and one slide advancer remote will be provided. All presentations must be formatted to work on a PC. Contestants will not be allowed to use their own computer.
- Verbal and presentation references to applicant(s) name, state and county will be allowed during the presentation.
- No props (including notes), sound or video of any kind will be allowed during the presentation.

Application Judging

- All applications will be judged prior to the GFB YF&R Summer Leadership Conference, by three representatives from the industry. These are the only judges that will be reviewing and scoring the applications.
- All judges will use the application rubric to score the applications.
- The following breakdown of points will be used for the application:

<u>Application</u>		<u>Approx. %</u>
Questions 2-4	180 points	45.0%
*Ag Involvement, Impact on Ag and Issues Facing Ag Goals	40 points	10.0%
Farm Bureau Experience	90 points	22.5%
Other Leadership Experience	80 points	20.0%
Application Form	10 points	2.5%

* Writing should be clear, descriptive and free of grammatical errors.

MAXIMUM POINTS 400 points 100% (80% of Total Score)

Presentation Judging

- The top 3 applicants, determined by the application score, will present during the GFB YF&R Summer Leadership Conference.
- All judges will use the same presentation rubric to score the presentations.
- The winner and finalists of the competition will be determined based on the combined application and presentation scores.
- The following breakdown of points will be used for the presentation:

<u>Presentation</u>		
Delivery of Presentation	30 points	30%
Content of Presentation	40 points	40%
Responses to Questions	30 points	30%
MAXIMUM POINTS	100 points	100% (20% of Total Score)

Deadline

Applications should be submitted through the online portal (gfb.ag/YFRcompete) by June 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

**Georgia Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award**

2022 Entry Form

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Please submit this form via the online application process. No emailed or mailed entry forms or applications will be accepted.

The entry form and application must be submitted via the online portal (gfb.ag/YFRcompete) **on or before 5:00 p.m. June 1, 2022.**

The data below and throughout the application applies to you and your spouse/spousal-equivalent, if married. Please indicate "Applicant 1" (A1) and "Applicant 2" (A2) when responding to question 6.

Applicant(s)*: A1 _____ A2 _____

** Will be used in the program and for recognition*

Phonetic Pronunciation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: A1 _____ A2 _____

Date of Birth: A1 _____ A2 _____

Education/Degree: A1 _____ A2 _____

Short Courses/Specialized Study: A1 _____ A2 _____

Please provide one of the following for verification purposes – **upload to the application site:**

Copy of Form 1099 or Form W-2

A letter of verification from your employer or company on letterhead that includes length of employment and a brief description of your job responsibilities

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements. **GFB DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY BY A COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFICE.** GFB reserves the right to use my (our) photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of the undersigned contestant(s) may also be available to Farm Bureau sponsors. I (we) have not derived a majority of my (our) income from an owned production agricultural enterprise in any of the past three years. By participating in the Event, I (we) warrant that I (we) fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the YF&R official contest rules and the decisions of GFB and the GFB YF&R Committee, which are final and binding.

COVID-19

If GFB is unable to hold the 2022 YF&R Summer Leadership Conference in-person due to COVID-19, the competitive events will be held virtually. All applicants must be made aware of this possibility prior to their application. In the event of virtual competitions, changes in timing and format of the competitions are likely to be required. For example, some portions of the competition may take place prior to the originally scheduled dates. Applicants will be advised as soon as possible after the decision is made.

Applicant(s) Signature(s): A1 _____ A2 _____

I hereby certify that the above-named applicant(s) is the official county entry and is therefore eligible to be entered in and considered for GFB's Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award for 2022.

County President: _____ Date: _____

County: _____

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2022 Application

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Note: Remember to write in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. Remember no state-specific identifiers.

1. PERSONAL BACKGROUND (family, education and personal interests) – *Approximately 2,000 characters*

2. AGRICULTURAL INVOLVEMENT – *Approximately 2,500 characters*

A. Please explain the applicant(s) occupation.

2. AGRICULTURAL INVOLVEMENT (continued) - *Approximately 2,500 characters*

B. Please explain the applicant's (applicants') personal involvement in agriculture/agribusiness.

3. IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE - *Approximately 5,000 characters*

Clearly describe the efforts the applicant(s) have taken to positively promote and impact the agriculture industry. Examples may include things such as hosting farm tours, legislative visits, writing a blog, etc.

4. ISSUES FACING AGRICULTURE - *Approximately 5,000 characters*

- A. Agriculture faces important issues at the local, state, national and international levels. Explain three important issues that the industry needs to address in the next five years. Choose one issue from three of the four levels mentioned above. For example, an applicant might select ag literacy as a local issue, mental health as a state issue and rural broadband as a national issue.

4. ISSUES FACING AGRICULTURE (continued) – *Approximately 5,000 characters*

B. Choose one of the issues in your response to 4A and discuss how you personally have addressed, or can address, that issue and work towards a resolution.

5. GOALS - *Approximately 5,000 characters*

What goals does the applicant(s) have for the next five years related to his/her career, Farm Bureau involvement and involvement with other organizations? What steps have been made to reach these goals?

6. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (from age 18 to current)- Approximately 2,500 characters per section (20 lines)

Note: This applies to both applicants, if applying together. Please indicate A1 and A2 when applicable.

- A. List Farm Bureau leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers. Please include years of involvement. *Example: A1 – Elected President of the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors (2018-2019)*

County Farm Bureau

State/American Farm Bureau

6. **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (continued)- Approximately 2,500 characters per section (20 lines)**

- B. List other agricultural leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers. (i.e. Farm Credit, Soil Conservation, Farm Service Agency, farm cooperatives, 4-H, etc.). Please include organization, description and years of involvement.

Example: A1 & A2 – 4-H, Serves as a 4-H Livestock Club Leader (2018 – present)

- C. List other community and non-agricultural leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers (i.e. civic/service clubs, church, school, volunteer leadership, etc.) Please include organization, description and years of involvement.

Example: A1 – Local Elementary School, Served as Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President (2017-2019)

If you had any situations or circumstances that may affect your leadership experiences, please use this space to explain. If you don't have any situations or circumstances, please leave blank.

Approximately 250 characters

*Note: There are **no** points associated to this section and can be left blank.*