

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award
Rules for 2019-20

Eligibility

- An applicant can be either an individual or married couple. The 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 turned 36 before January 31, 2021.
- Applicant(s) must not have derived a majority of his/her income from an owned production agriculture enterprise in any of the past three years.
- Applicant(s) may compete in either the Achievement Award or the Excellence in Agriculture Award, but not both in the same year.
- Past state YF&R Achievement Award winners are not eligible to compete.
- Current employees of county, state and/or American Farm Bureaus 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.

Agreement

All applicants **MUST** agree to the following, in the event they are named a finalist or the State winner(s):

- Three state finalists are required to attend the SCFB Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC on December 6, 2019 where the finalists will be announced (Friday night hotel provided)
- Three state finalists are required to attend the awards program during the SCFB Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference in Charleston, SC on February 8, 2020 for the award announcement (Sat night hotel provided)
- The state winner must complete the AFBF EA application before the December 2020 deadline
- The state winner must attend the expense paid AFBF Annual meeting held in San Diego, California, January 8-13, 2021.
- The state winner must be willing, within reason, to accept Farm Bureau leadership and or committee appointments/assignments between the time they are announced as winners and the time the AFBF EA application is due.

Entry Form & Application Guidelines

- Do not use applicant's name, the name of his/her county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of the applicant's county beyond the first-page entry form. For example, if your church name includes the town name, just use [town] Baptist Church.
- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. Applicants must use "A1" and "A2" to denote each applicant for all of question 6. A1/A2 cannot be used for questions 1-5.
- 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.
- Type within the spaces allotted. All required fields must be completed on the online application portal including required attachments.
- Each applicant should submit either a copy of their W2 or 1099 form, or a letter of verification from their employer or company on letterhead that includes length of employment and a brief description of their job

responsibilities.

- Applicant(s) must submit a signed copy of the application signature page with either their county president or county secretary's signature.
- Each applicant should submit two (2) pictures (electronic file only) of his/her/their farm, family and/or involvement. The images submitted will be used for a visual presentation of finalists at the SCFB Annual Convention, but will not be used during the judging process.
- It will be up to the judges' discretion to deduct points if applications include activities before they were 18.

Note: Disregarding any of the guidelines listed above will result in disqualification.

Judging

- All applications will be judged and three finalists will be announced prior to the SCFB Annual Convention in December 2019. Those who judged the written applications may not necessarily be the same judges for the presentation, but every effort is made to use the same judges.

Application

- Questions 2-4: 150 points = 37.5%
- Farm Bureau Experience: 120 points = 30%
- Other Leadership Experience and Goals: 100 points = 25%
- Application Form: 30 points = 7.5%

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

Presentation

- Delivery of Presentation: 40 points = 40%
 - Content of Presentation: 30 points = 30%
 - Responses to Questions: 30 points = 30%
- MAXIMUM POINTS: 100 points = 100% (20% of Total Score)**

Presentation Guidelines

- This will consist of a 20-minute presentation, in which the applicant(s) has an opportunity to share the contents of the entire application in presentation form with a panel of three judges. The presentation will be followed by 5 minutes of interview-style questions from the judges. The presentations will be given on Friday, December 6, 2019 during the SCFB Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach, SC. A short compilation video of the finalist presentations will be displayed at the YF&R Conference on Saturday, February 8, 2020, in Charleston, SC.
- The applicant(s) has a total of 25 minutes to present the topics addressed in the application. At 20 minutes, a warning card will indicate that he/she should move on to the question and answer session. It is up to the applicant to make this transition. No additional time will be given for questions if the applicant(s) does not stop. A card will be shown at the end of 25 minutes and time will be called and conclude the applicant's time in front of the judges.
- 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 formatted for use on a PC to the SCFB representative prior to the presentation. A computer, LCD projector, screen, and one slide advancer remote will be provided.
- Verbal and presentation references to applicant(s) name, state and county will be allowed during the presentation.
- No props (including notes), sound or video will be allowed during the presentation.
- Applicants are not allowed to view other presentations until after they have completed their own.

Prizes

Excellence in Agriculture Award prizes are sponsored in part by the SC Farm Bureau Federation, Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Company and Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company.

Each finalist will receive:

- \$500 cash
- A one night stay at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach on December 6, 2019
- A one night stay at the 2020 YF&R Conference in Charleston, SC on February 8, 2020

The winner or winning couple will receive:

- Up to \$7,000 toward the purchase of a new ATV
- An expense-paid trip to the annual 2020 AFBF YF&R Leadership Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, March 13-16, 2020.
- A one night stay at the SCFB Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach on December 4, 2020 to be highlighted as the 2020 winner.
- An expense-paid trip (required) to compete at the 2021 AFBF Annual Convention in San Diego, California, January 8-13, 2021.

Deadline

The completed and signed entry forms and online application MUST be submitted in the online award application portal no later than 4:00 pm, Tuesday, October 1, 2019.

2019-2020 SCFB Excellence in Agriculture Award Timeline

ALL APPLICANTS	August 2019	2019-2020 Applications are posted
ALL APPLICANTS	October 1, 2019	2019-2020 Applications due
ALL APPLICANTS	By November 1, 2019	EA Finalists Announced
3 FINALISTS	December 6, 2019	2019 SCFB Annual Convention, Myrtle Beach, SC (one-night stay covered) - Finalists presentations before judges & finalists recognized at award ceremony
3 FINALISTS	February 8, 2020	2020 SCFB YF&R Conference, Charleston, SC (one-night stay covered) - Finalists recognized/Winner announced (\$\$\$ Awards)
WINNER	March 13-16, 2020	2020 AFBF YF&R Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY (expense-paid)
WINNER	By April 2020	Winner selects & purchases new ATV
WINNER	December 4, 2020	2020 Winner recognized at 2020 SCFB Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach, SC (one-night stay covered)
WINNER	December 10, 2020 (approx.)	AFBF Excellence in Ag Award application due
WINNER	January 8-13, 2021	2021 AFBF Annual Convention in San Diego, CA (expense-paid) -SC winner competes nationally

**SC Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award
2019-2020 Entry Form**

THIS FORM IS INTENDED FOR REVIEW ONLY.

The applicant(s) should **read this entry form and application carefully** before completing any part of it. All applications **MUST** be completed in the online award application portal at https://app.reviewr.com/s1/site//Young_Farmers&Ranchers_Awards. No emailed or paper applications will be accepted. The application must be submitted online **no later than 4:00 pm, Tuesday, October 1, 2019.**

The data below and throughout the application applies to you and your spouse, if married. Please note that an applicant can be either an individual or a couple that is married. The applicant may choose to apply individually, rather than as a couple.

Applicant(s)*: A1 _____ A2 _____
* Will be used in the program and for recognition

Phonetic Pronunciation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Best Daytime Phone # A1 _____ A2 _____

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: (check which form you are providing) 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

Young Farmer & Rancher Excellence in Agriculture Award

2019-20 Application

Note: Remember to write in first person narrative for questions 1-5. Remember no state specific identifiers.

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

2. **AGRICULTURAL INVOLVEMENT**

- A. Please explain the applicant(s) occupation – *Approximately 2,500 characters.*

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 2,500 characters.***

What does the applicant(s) do to positively promote and impact the agriculture industry?

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.

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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?

SAMPLE

6. **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE - 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 at the **COUNTY LEVEL**.

List each activity on a new line, followed by the respective year(s). For example:

- A1 - President of the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors (2015-2016)

A) CONTINUED - List Farm Bureau leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers at the **STATE or NATIONAL LEVEL**.

List each activity on a new line, followed by the respective year(s). For example:

- A1 - State Discussion Meet Winner (2016)

6. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE- 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. (For example, Farm Credit, Soil Conservation, Farm Service Agency, farm cooperatives, 4-H, etc.)

Please list each organization on a new line, followed by a short description of your involvement, followed by the year(s). For example:

- A1 - 4-H, 4-H Livestock Club Leader (2013 - 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. (For example, civic/service clubs, church, school, volunteer leadership, etc.)

Please list each organization on a new line, followed by a short description of your involvement, followed by the year(s). For example:

- A1 - Local Elementary School, PTA President (2015 - 2016)