

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award

Rules for 2021-2022 Competition

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.

Agreement

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

- The state winner must complete the AFBF EA application before the December 2022 deadline.
- The state winner must agree to compete in the 2023 AFBF Excellence in Agriculture Award competition, scheduled to take place at the AFBF Annual Convention held in San Juan, Puerto Rico on January 6-11, 2023.
- The state winner must be willing, within reason, to accept Farm Bureau leadership and or assignments between the time they are announced as winners and the time the AFBF EA application is due.

**Disclaimers for Awards & Competitions: Awards programs are subject to change. Out-of-town trips are based upon availability. Winner must agree to represent SCFB in the national competition to receive the prize package.*

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. 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.
- The attached entry form and application are examples of the information needed for the official online application. Authorized state representatives will have access to the online portal for official state submission. No emailed or mailed entry forms will be accepted.
- 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 applicants include activities before they were 18.

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

Application Judging

- All applications will be judged and three finalists will be announced by October 22, 2021. 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.
- 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	<u>10 points</u>	<u>2.5%</u>

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

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

Presentation Judging

- All finalists will present during the SCFB Annual Convention.
- Competitors will present to a panel of three judges who represent the industry.
- All judges will use the same presentation rubric to score the presentations.
- 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	<u>30 points</u>	<u>30%</u>

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 3, 2021 at the SCFB Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach, 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 the presentation on a USB flash drive formatted for use on a PC to the SCFB representative prior to the presentation. A computer, 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 2021 SCFB Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach on December 3, 2021
- A one night-stay at the 2022 SCFB YF&R Conference in Charleston, SC on February 5, 2022

The winner or winning couple will receive:

- Up to \$7,000 toward the purchase of a new ATV
- An opportunity to attend the 2022 AFBF YF&R Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY Feb. 25-28th *
- A one night stay at the SCFB Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach on December 2, 2022 to be highlighted as the 2022 winner*.
- A trip to compete (required) at the 2023 American Farm Bureau (AFBF) Annual Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico on January 6-11, 2023*.

*Disclaimers for Awards & Competitions: *Awards programs are subject to change. Out-of-town trips are based upon availability. Winner must agree to represent SCFB in the national competition to receive the prize package.*

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, Monday October 1, 2021.

2021-2022 SCFB Excellence in Agriculture Award Timeline

ALL APPLICANTS	August 15, 2021	2021-2022 Applications are posted
ALL APPLICANTS	October 1, 2021	2021-2022 Applications due
ALL APPLICANTS	By October 22, 2021	EA Finalists Announced
3 FINALISTS	December 3, 2021	In-person presentations given at the SCFB Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach, SC
WINNER	Feb. 25-28 th , 2022	2022 AFBF YF&R Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY
WINNER	By April 2022	Winner selects & purchases new ATV
WINNER	December 2, 2022	2022 Winner recognized at 2022 SCFB Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach, SC (one-night stay covered)*
WINNER	December 10, 2022 (approx.)	AFBF Excellence in Ag Award application due
WINNER	January 6-11, 2023	2023 AFBF Annual Convention, San Juan, Puerto Rico (expense-paid)* -SC winner competes nationally

**SC Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award
2021-22 Entry Form**

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.

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

2022 Application

Note: Remember to write in first person narrative (i.e., I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. Remember no county-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) personal involvement in agriculture/agribusiness.

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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.

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? What steps have been made to reach these goals?

SAMPLE

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

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**

- 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 (2018-2020)

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.

SAMPLE