

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers & Ranchers Achievement Award

Rules for 2022-2023 SCFB Annual Convention Competition

Background

The South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation (SCFB) annually conducts a Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Achievement Award competition. Selection of the winning YF&R competitor is based on his/her efforts in production agriculture and leadership achievement. **The ideal candidate(s) for the Achievement Award is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of his/her gross income subject to farm and/or ranch risks.**

Eligibility

The ideal candidate(s) for the Achievement Award is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of his/her gross income subject to farm and/or ranch risks.

- 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 state competition and shall not have reached his/her 36th birthday by the completion of the national competition. Competitors qualify at the time the State application is submitted and the completion of the national competition is the day awards are given out (January 22, 2024)
- Applicant(s) must be in attendance on-site at the AFBF Annual Convention to compete nationally.
- Applicant(s) must be actively engaged in farming and/or ranching, with the majority of his/her gross income coming from production agriculture. Applicant(s) must have at least three years of financial records showing that the majority of income came from production agriculture.
- 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.
- Previous AFBF Achievement Award competitors are not eligible to compete. Past state YF&R Achievement Award 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 and interns who were responsible for implementing any of the YF&R Competitive Events since January 1, 2018 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 AA application before the December 2023 deadline.
- The state winner must agree to compete in the 2024 AFBF Achievement Award competition, scheduled to take place at the AFBF Annual Convention held in Salt Lake City, UT, on January 19-24, 2024.
- The state winner must be willing, within reason, to accept Farm Bureau leadership and or assignments between the time they are announced as the State winner(s) and the time the AFBF AA 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 county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of the applicant's county beyond the entry form.
- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-9 and 13. "A1"/"A2" may not be used for questions 1-9 and 13. Applicants must use "A1"/"A2" to denote each applicant for all of question 10-12.
- The Financial Success section must be typed and notarized; handwritten financial forms will be disqualified. If the notarization includes a county identifier such as county name or seal, the identifier needs to be blacked out.
- 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 is an example of the information needed for the official online application. No emailed or mailed entry forms or applications 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.

Judging

- The entry form and application of each entry will be coded upon receipt by SCFB. The applicant's name will not be revealed to the judges until judging is completed.
- Judging is based on the application and an on-farm interview that will be scheduled in December 2022.
- A panel of three qualified judges will select the finalists and state winner. The top three competitors will be visited by the same three judges who reviewed the written applications.
- A panel of four qualified judges will select the national winners. The Top 10 competitors will be interviewed by the same four judges who reviewed the written applications.
- On-farm visits will last no longer than 3 hours and are intended to clear up any "gray areas" which may arise from the written application. The three finalists should understand that their on-farm visit by the judges is for verification/clarification purposes and therefore may affect final rankings.

Scoring:

Category	Points
1. Personal Background	10
2. Scope of Farm/Ranch	15
3. Growth & Achievements	25
4. Management Decisions	15
5. Goals & Planning	10
6. Resiliency	10
7. Financial Success Part 1: Debt-to-Asset Ratio and Profit	25
8. Financial Success Part 2: Analysis and Record Keeping	15
9. Financial Success Part 3: Off-Farm Income	10
10. Leadership Experience: Farm Bureau	30
11. Leadership Experience: Other Ag Organizations	10
12. Leadership Experience: Other	10
13. Leadership Growth and Development	10
Total application Points	195
14. On-Farm Judging (Top 3 competitors only)	5
TOTAL POINTS	200

Prizes

Achievement Award prizes are sponsored in part by the SC Farm Bureau Federation and Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Company.

Three finalists will receive:

- \$1,000 cash
- A one night stay at the 2022 SCFB Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach on December 2, 2022
- A one night-stay at the 2023 SCFB YF&R Conference in Greenville, SC on February 4, 2023

The winner or winning couple will receive:

- \$33,750 towards the purchase of a new Ford truck
- An opportunity to attend the 2023 AFBF FUSION Conference in Jacksonville, FL, March 3-6, 2023 *
- A one night stay at the SCFB Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach on December 1, 2023 to be highlighted as the 2023 winner*.
- A trip to compete (required) at the 2024 American Farm Bureau (AFBF) Annual Convention in Salt Lake City, UT, on January 19-24, 2024*.

*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, Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

2022-23 SCFB Achievement Award Timeline

ALL APPLICANTS	July 2022	2022-23 Applications are posted
ALL APPLICANTS	November 1, 2022	2022-23 Applications due
ALL APPLICANTS	By November 16, 2022	AA Finalists Announced
3 FINALISTS	December 2, 2022	Finalists recognized at 2022 SCFB Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC
3 FINALISTS	By December 16, 2022	On-farm judging
3 FINALISTS	February 4, 2023	Finalists recognized & Winner announced at 2023 SCFB YF&R Conference in Greenville, SC
WINNER	March 3-6, 2023	2023 AFBF FUSION Conference in Jacksonville, FL (expense-paid)* <i>optional</i>
WINNER	By April 2023	Winner selects & purchases new truck
WINNER	December 1, 2023	2023 Winner recognized at 2023 SCFB Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach, SC (one-night stay covered)*
WINNER	December 10, 2023 (approx.)	AFBF Achievement Award application due (required)
WINNER	January 19-24, 2024	2024 AFBF Annual Convention, Salt Lake City, UT (expense-paid)* <i>required</i> -SC winner competes nationally