

Youth Career Centered Contests

ACA Convention
February 23-24, 2024
Huntsville, AL

Registration:

Participants are encouraged to register online by February 11th at [Home - 2024 ACA Convention & Trade Show \(cvent.com\)](https://www.cvent.com).

Check-In for contests 8:00 – 8:30 am on Friday at the registration booth to confirm your time and secure your place in competing. ***Please note that you will not be able to register for contests day-of.***

Awards:

All youth winners will be announced after the final round of Quiz Bowl hosted on the trade show stage. The winners will be awarded a scholarship or prize sponsored by the Alabama State Beef Checkoff Program.

Career Development (senior division only)

1st - \$400

2nd - \$300

3rd - \$200

Public Speaking

Junior Division

1st - \$300

2nd - \$200

3rd - \$100

Intermediate Division

1st - \$400

2nd - \$300

3rd - \$200

Senior Division

1st - \$500

2nd - \$400

3rd - \$300

Quiz Bowl

All team members of the first and second placing team will receive non-monetary awards.

Age Divisions:

Age as of February 23rd, 2024

Juniors 9-12 years old

Intermediate 13-16 years old

Senior 17-21 years old

Membership:

All competitors must be current members of AJCA, Alabama 4-H, or an Alabama FFA chapter.

Youth Events Schedule:

Friday February 23rd

8:00 – 8:30 am Check-in at registration booth for youth contests

9:00 am Career Development (*17-21 years of age only*)

10:00 am Public Speaking (*9-21 years of age*)

1:00 pm Quiz Bowl (*9-21 years of age*)

Awards Presentation to follow the final round of Quiz Bowl

Registration Fees:

To compete or attend all contests is free of charge. This does not include trade show or meals. If you wish to register for the other events or meals during convention, do so at [Home - 2024 ACA Convention & Trade Show \(cvent.com\)](#).

AJCA Career Development Contest

Objective:

Contestants in the Career Development Contest will gain interview experience to help youth develop career skills and provide them with feedback to apply towards future jobs or internships. *Contestants must be ages 17 – 21 on the day of the contest.*

Rules:

1. Top three placing winners from the senior division will be recognized and awarded after the final Quiz Bowl Game.
2. Seniors should abide by the following scenario:
 - a. The applicant is applying for an internship in the beef/agriculture industry.
 - b. The applicant should submit a cover letter and resume detailing their qualifications and be prepared for a ten-minute interview.
3. There will be two judges. Contestants should provide a copy of cover letter and resume for each.

Judging Criteria:

1. *Professional Appearance*
2. *Interview Skills*
3. *Knowledge of Beef/Agriculture Industry*
4. *Cover Letter and Resume*

AJCA Public Speaking Contest

Objective:

Contestants in the Public Speaking Contest will present speeches to a panel of judges. This contest will require proficiency in public speaking and serve to train a new generation of beef industry advocates. *Contestants must be ages 9 – 21 on the day of the contest.*

Rules:

1. The Public Speaking Contest will be an individual competition.
2. Contestants in the Public Speaking Contest will compete in one of 3 age divisions: Junior, Intermediate or Senior.
3. Contestants will present a prepared speech to a panel of judges.
4. Junior speeches should be 2-4 minutes in length; Intermediate speeches should be 3-5 minutes in length, and Senior speeches should be 5-8 minutes in length.
5. Speech Topics should be picked according to participants age division.

Junior Topics (ages 9 – 12)

- What are the nutritional benefits of beef?
- What do you believe is the biggest benefit of joining AJCA, 4-H, or FFA, and why?

Intermediate Topics (ages 13 – 16)

- What are unique ways beef producers can use social media to communicate with consumers?
- Identify a sustainable beef cattle production practice and explain the benefits of adopting that practice.

Senior Topics (ages 17 – 21)

- What do you believe is the biggest obstacle for young/new producers looking to enter the beef cattle industry, and what is the solution for removing this obstacle?
- Identify a genetic/reproductive technology that you feel is under-utilized (examples: artificial insemination, embryo transfer, genomic testing, etc.) and explain the benefits of adopting that technology.

6. Contestants are allowed to bring props such as a poster or backboard to aid in the presentation of their speech. Easel will be provided.
7. Handouts to the judges will be allowed.
8. Electronic media (PowerPoint, etc.) will not be allowed.
9. Speeches will be given in one of the convention center meeting rooms with all interested persons seated behind the judges while the contestants present speeches.
10. Top three placing winners from each of the three age divisions will be recognized and awarded a scholarship at the final Quiz Bowl Game.
11. If a contestant is found to have given the same speech in previous years than they are subject to disqualification.

Judging Criteria:

1. *Subject Knowledge*
2. *Poise*
3. *Speech Delivery*
4. *Adherence to Time Requirements*

AJCA Quiz Bowl Contest**Objective:**

Teams in the Quiz Bowl Contest will compete in a game show atmosphere to showcase beef industry knowledge. *Contestants must be ages 9 – 21 on the day of the contest.*

Rules:

1. Teams will consist of four team members and can compete with three-man team if desired. Teams cannot have more than 2 individuals from the same age category.
2. If you do not have a team and would like to participate you can sign up and you will be added to a team if there is a slot.
3. Before answering a question, the contestant must push a button which will trigger a light and horn. The moderator will acknowledge the first person pressing the button. Only the called upon contestant may answer the question. If you shout out the answer without the moderator calling on you it will be a points deduction.
4. There will be one 10-question round where any member can answer. The member who pushes the button must answer without talking to team members. This is an individual round.
5. There will be one 6-question round that will be a team round. The first captain to hit the buzzer will have 20 seconds to converse with their team to give an answer.
6. Each correct answer will result in ten points for that team.
7. If an incorrect answer is given it will be a five points deduction and, the other team will be given a chance to answer the question.
8. In case of a tie, a batch of three questions will be given that can be answered by any member of the team.
9. No protests or timeouts are allowed in this Quiz Bowl Contest.
10. Teams may not use any aids during contest.
11. The winner and runner-up will be recognized and awarded a prize at the final round of contest.