

2024 EASTERN REGIONAL CAREER AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

GOAL STATEMENT FOR THE EASTERN REGIONAL FFA ACTIVITIES

The main objective of all Eastern Regional FFA events is to offer a valuable learning experience for every participant. These regional activities do accept teams that did not place first in state competitions. Some states enhance learning opportunities by sending their first-place teams in state events to the National Competition, while their second-place teams participate in The Big E. We welcome these students to join at the regional level.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENTS AT THE BIG E WILL:

1. Include problem solving and critical thinking.
2. Promote an appreciation for diversity by reducing barriers to participation.
3. Promote new directions and focus on future needs of members and society. Include cooperative activities.
4. Encourage broad participation among members and recognize excellence within levels of experience.
5. Recognize individual and team achievement, develop general leadership and recognize levels of ability.
6. Provide local recognition for superior performance at the local, state, and regional levels.

GENERAL RULES

Violations of any of the following rules may be grounds for the event superintendent to disqualify a participant or team from the activities.

A. TEAM ACTIVITIES

All CDE/LDE events will include team activities, except those that are individual in nature (such as Public Speaking, Star, Tractor Operation, Dairy Handler, Creed Speaking). Team activities will require two or more members of the competing team to work together cooperatively to solve a problem.

Teams who compete at the Eastern Regional FFA CDE/LDE, may also be eligible to compete in the national competition. Completed forms along with the appropriate entry fee and waiver must reach the FFA Coordinator by August 1. Any exceptions must first be cleared with the FFA Coordinator.

A TEAM WILL BE MADE UP OF 3 or 4 MEMBERS. Teams are from the same chapter.

B. ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS

The student must be a FFA member in good standing with the local chapter, State and National Association at the time of the CDE/LDE in which he or she participates.

The student, at the time of his or her selection as a team member, must be (1) a high school student and (2) enrolled in at least one Agricultural Education course and/or following a planned course of study, including a supervised occupational experience program, the objective of which is establishment in an agricultural occupation.

The student may not have previously participated in the same official National FFA Event and may not have previously been first, second or third place individual in the same Eastern Regional CDE/LDE at The Big E.

Appropriate with some events deducting points for not wearing official FFA dress is necessary for the awards presentation.

Registration for events is done through judgingcard.com. Additional forms for other activities are located within the FFA section on thebige.com. **WAIVERS are required** by Eastern States Exposition and FFA for all registered contestants. The eligibility of each contestant must be certified on forms provided by the respective state consultant or state FFA Executive Secretary to The Big E FFA coordinator on the forms located at thebige.com.

Students may participate in more than one event if no scheduling conflicts exist.

Any difficulty concerning the rules shall be referred first to the person in charge of the CDE/LDE and then, if necessary, to The Big E FFA Coordinator or his Assistant.

Special needs students – students requiring special assistance may not receive direct aid from their agriculture education teachers but may from other FFA members or contest officials. If a student needs special assistance the CDE/LDE Superintendent **MUST** be informed at least one month prior to the event.

CDE/LDE officials may stop a contestant if they deem their manner to be hazardous to either themselves or others. Such stoppage shall deem individuals disqualified for that section of the event.

SCHEDULE, RULE CHANGES and FEES: The schedule indicating the time and location of the CDE/LDEs will be available separately on thebige.com. Any changes made by the superintendents of each CDE/LDE will also be posted on thebige.com. **The fee is currently set at \$10 for participation in each team or individual event.** Please note that the fee for the STAR Competition is \$10 for each individual. All checks are made payable to The Big E Planning Committee and sent with team registrations forms.

REGIONAL FFA PARADE SEGMENT - DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2024

Application Form: www.thebige.com/parade.

All FFA members participating at The Big E are requested to march in the FFA Segment of the daily Big E Parade.

OFFICIAL DRESS IS REQUIRED.

FORMULA FOR DETERMINING THE BIG E FFA SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

1. A state must enter at least eight CDE/LDE's to be eligible for this award.
2. CDE/LDE's excluded from the Sweepstakes are any event which is of an individual nature. (i.e. STAR Program, Safe Tractor Event, Creed Speaking and both Public Speaking events.)
3. The state with the lowest number of points (highest PLACINGS) in any eight team events shall be the winner. A state entering more than eight team events shall use the eight team events placing the highest for the sweepstakes award.

STATE PRESIDENT'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Up to nine state presidents from the Eastern FFA Region are selected each year to serve as interns during FFA days at The Big E. A committee of Big E officials selects the interns based upon the applications submitted. The Big E pays all expenses of the interns from their homes to The Big E and return. Interns are expected to be at The Big E from Wednesday late afternoon before FFA days and depart on Sunday. The intern application is available at thebige.com.

AWARDS RECOGNITION PROGRAM

An Awards Recognition Program is held for those FFA members who have participated in the CDE/LDE's at The Big E. This is a ticketed event; tickets are available through FFA Superintendents on Friday and Saturday of the competition. Due to the number of participants, only FFA Participants and one coach are eligible to attend. No awards will be announced prior to this program with the exception of The Big E STARS. State officers from various states within the Region and The Big E FFA interns will conduct the Awards Recognition Program. Awards are sponsored by Eastern States Exposition, Farm Credit Banks And Agri-Mark.