

YF&R Contests

Achievement Award and Excellence in Ag Award



Achievement Award

- Selection of the winning YF&R competitor is based on his/her efforts in production agriculture and leadership achievement.
- The ideal candidate for the Achievement Award is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of his/her net income subject to normal production risks.



AA Eligibility

- An applicant can be either an individual or a couple that is married. Applicant may choose to apply individually, rather than as a couple.
- Applicant must be a Farm Bureau member between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with their county Farm Bureau. The applicant must have reached their 18th birthday at the time they qualify for the national competition and shall not have reached their 36th birthday by Jan. 31, 2021.
- Applicant must be actively engaged in farming and/or ranching, with the majority of their net income coming from production agriculture. Applicant must have at least three years of financial records showing that the majority of income came from production agriculture.



AA Application Guidelines

- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-6.
- The Financial Statement must be typed and notarized; handwritten financial forms will be disqualified.



AA Judging

- Judging is based on the application sent to ArFB and an interview.
- A panel of three qualified judges will select the winners.
- Interviews will be up to 20 minutes in length and are intended to clear up any “gray areas” which may arise from the written application.
- During the interview process, only the named applicant(s) on the entry form is permitted into the interview.



AA Scoring

- Values used in judging the applications will be:
 - Farm Operation and Growth: 70 points
 - Financial Progress of Operation: 60 points
 - Farm Bureau Leadership: 40 points
 - Other Leadership: 30 points (Agriculture = 15 points, Community = 10 points, Goals = 5 points)
- Total: 200 points**



Excellence in Ag

- The Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Excellence in Agriculture Award competition is designed as an opportunity for young farmers and ranchers to earn recognition, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture.
- Participants will be judged on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, and participation/involvement in Farm Bureau and other organizations (i.e., civic, service and community).
- The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence in Agriculture Award is an individual or couple who does not have the majority of his/her net income subject to normal production risk.
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EA Eligibility

- An applicant can be either an individual or a couple that is married. Applicant may choose to apply individually, rather than as a couple.
- Applicant must be a Farm Bureau member between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with their county Farm Bureau. The applicant must have reached their 18th birthday at the time they qualify for the national competition and shall not have reached their 36th birthday by Jan. 31, 2021.
- Applicant must not have derived a majority of their net income from an owned production agriculture enterprise in any of the past three years.



EA Application Guidelines

- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5.
- Please provide one of the following for verification purposes (*email with application*)-
 - 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



EA Judging

- All applications will be judged prior to the presentations. Applicants will make their presentation to the same set of judges.
- Presentation Guidelines
 - The presentation will be an interactive, 25-minute presentation, in which the applicant has an opportunity to share the contents of their entire application in narrative form with a panel of three judges.
 - Applicants will have 25 minutes to present on the topics addressed in the application and address questions from the judges. It will be up to the applicant to determine how they use this time. Applicants will be notified by the time keeper when 10 minutes are remaining and again when five (5) minutes are remaining. Time will be called and conclude the applicant's time in front of the judges at 25 minutes.



EA Scoring

• <u>Application</u>		<u>Approx. %</u>	
Questions 2-4	150 points	37.5%	
*Ag Involvement, Impact on Ag and Issues Facing Ag Goals	20 points	5%	
Farm Bureau Experience	120 points	30%	
Other Leadership Experience	80 points	20%	
Application Form	<u>30 points</u>	<u>7.5%</u>	
MAXIMUM POINTS	400 points	100%	(80% of Total Score)
<u>Presentation</u>			
Delivery of Presentation	40 points	40%	
Content of Presentation	30 points	30%	
<u>Responses to Questions</u>	<u>30 points</u>	<u>30%</u>	
MAXIMUM POINTS	100 points	100%	(20% of Total Score)



Which award should I apply for?

- Achievement=50% or more of your income comes from the farm
- Excellence in Ag=50% or more of your income comes from off the farm



AA and EA FAQs

- Applications are available on our website www.arfb.com under YF&R.
- Download the application before filling it out to make sure your information is saved.
- Email completed application to yfr@arfb.com. ALL documents including financials must be included with application.
- Deadline to apply is **MARCH 31, 2021**.
- In person interviews for Achievement Award and presentations for Excellence in Ag will be held **April 24, 2021** in Little Rock at the Farm Bureau office.

