

American Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Achievement Award
Rules for 2020 AFBF Annual Convention Competition

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Background

The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) annually conducts a Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Achievement Award competition. **The ideal candidate(s) 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.**

Information about the Achievement Award applicant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND IS DESTROYED AFTER JUDGING IS COMPLETED.

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, 2020.
- Applicant(s) must be actively engaged in farming and/or ranching, with the majority of his/her net 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.
- 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.

Entry Form & Application Guidelines

- **Read all instructions before filling out your application**
- Application are due **September 20, at 5:00pm**. No late applications will be accepted.
- Applications should be submitted by email to ***garrickahall@gmail.com***
- All awards applicants must be available and able to travel to the AFBF National Convention, January 17-22 in Austin TX, to compete in the national contest if chosen as the winner. If the winner chooses not to travel to the national contest, excepting for unforeseen reasons (death of family member, sudden illness, etc.), they will forfeit all prizes including ATV's.
- All applicants must submit a short, 250-word, biography and 2-3 pictures of family/operation for the awards night recognition, with the application. The application will be considered incomplete and will not be accepted without the bio and pictures.
- No identifying language can be used when filling out the application, including but not limited to: Names of applicants, Names of family members, names of counties/towns, names of school attended (Utah State).
- All answers must fit within the character number listed for each question; you cannot change the format of the application to increase the length of your answer. (Note, all questions use a character count, not a word count)
- All applications must be typed, it is recommended that you have someone proofread your application prior to submitting it.
- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-6. "A1"/"A2" may not be used for questions 1-6. Applicants must use "A1"/"A2" to denote each applicant for all of question 7.
- The Financial Statement must be typed; handwritten financial forms will be disqualified.
- 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.
- It will be up to the judges' discretion to deduct points if applicants include activities before they were 18.

Judging

- The entry form and application of each entry will be coded upon receipt by AFBF. The applicant's name will not be revealed to the judges until judging is completed.
- A panel of three qualified judges will select the state winners.
- 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	

**American Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Achievement Award**

2020 Entry Form

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Please submit this form via the online application process. No emailed or mailed entry forms or applications will be accepted.

The state's entry form and application must be submitted via the online portal **on or before 12:00 p.m. (noon) EST Dec. 16, 2019.**

The data below and throughout the application applies to you and your spouse/spousal-equivalent, if married. Please indicate "Applicant 1" (A1) and "Applicant 2" (A2) on question 7.

Applicant(s)*: A1 _____ A2 _____
**Will be used in the program and for recognition*

Phonetic Pronunciation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: A1 _____ A2 _____

Date of Birth: A1 _____ A2 _____

Education/Degree: A1 _____ A2 _____

Short Courses/Specialized Study: A1 _____ A2 _____

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements. **AFBF DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY BY A STATE FARM BUREAU OFFICE.** AFBF reserves the right to use my (our) photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of the undersigned contestant(s) may also be available to Farm Bureau sponsors. By participating in the Event, I (we) warrant that I (we) fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the YF&R official contest rules and the decisions of the AFBF YF&R Committee, which are final and binding.

Applicant(s) Signature(s): A1 _____ A2 _____

I hereby certify that the above-named applicant(s) is the official state entry and is therefore eligible to be entered in and considered for AFBF's Young Farmers & Ranchers Achievement Award for 2020.

State President/Administrator: _____ Date: _____

State: _____

3. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION – *Approximately 1,100 characters per section*

A. List Major Crops*	First Year: _____	Current Year	
	<i>No. of Acres</i>	<i>No. of Acres</i>	<i>Yield per Acre</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Indicate if irrigated*

B. Under “Volume of Production,” indicate number of head, pounds, dozen or other appropriate measure of volume.

Enterprise	First Year: _____	<u>Volume of Production</u>
		Current Year
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

C. Please be creative in explaining the operation if the agricultural enterprise does not fit within Sections A and B – ***Approximately 2,000 characters.***

3. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued) – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

D. How was the agricultural operation acquired? Indicate, in narrative form, what portion of the operation was purchased or personally earned by the applicant(s), acquired through inheritance, or acquired through partnership conversion, rental, or by a contract or management arrangement.

E. List other agricultural or related business enterprises, describing the size, relationship and importance to the total operation (i.e., custom harvesting, processing, ag tourism, etc.).

3. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued) - *Approximately 5,000 characters*

- F. Describe significant changes, expansion or improvement in management and marketing practices, and the acquisition of agricultural machinery, equipment and irrigation systems, and/or buildings built or devised by the applicant(s) since his/her involvement in the operation began.

4. APPLICANT'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT – Upload typed, signed and notarized document as a PDF. (No handwritten financials will be accepted.)

Note: All information submitted is regarded as confidential, and upon completion of judging, all applications are returned to the AFBF office to be destroyed.

Current market value of the **share of just the applicant(s)** of:

A. ASSETS	First Year: _____	2018	2017	2016
1. Value of land, building & other improvements	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. Value of machinery & equipment	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. Value of livestock & poultry	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. Value of crops & supplies on hand	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. Value of cash, stocks, bonds, other personal assets	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. Non-ag assets (primary dwelling, rental homes, etc.)	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL ASSETS	_____	_____	_____	_____
B. LIABILITIES				
1. Current liabilities (less than one year)	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. Intermediate liabilities	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. Long-term liabilities (10 years and up)	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET WORTH (total assets-total liabilities)	_____	_____	_____	_____
DEBT/ASSET RATIO (total liabilities/total assets)	_____	_____	_____	_____
C. AG EXPENSES AND RECEIPTS				
1. Total agricultural expenses	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. Total agricultural receipts	_____	_____	_____	_____
OPERATING EXPENSE RATIO	_____	_____	_____	_____
(total ag expenses/total ag receipts)				

Please explain any situations or circumstances that may have affected the above financial numbers:

Banker/Loan Officer/Tax Accountant Signature:

5. PROGRESS OF OPERATION (continued) - *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

B. Describe ways in which the applicant(s) measures and evaluates the management of his/her farming operation.

C. Indicate plans the applicant(s) has for future expansion, improvements or changes in the agricultural operation.

6. GOALS - *Approximately 5,000 characters*

- A. What goals does the applicant(s) have for the next five years related to his/her career, Farm Bureau involvement and involvement in other organizations?

7. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (from age 18 to current) - Approximately 2,500 characters per section (20 lines)

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 (2015-2016)*

County Farm Bureau

State/American Farm Bureau

7. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (from age 18 to current) - Approximately 2,500 characters per section (20 lines)

- 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.

C.

Example: A1 and A2 – 4-H, Serves as a 4-H Livestock Club Leader (2013 – present)

Organization	Description	Years
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- D. 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 (2015-2016)

Organization	Description	Years
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- E. Please explain any situations or circumstances that may have affected your leadership experiences.
Approximately 250 characters