



**NEW JERSEY**  
**FFA ASSOCIATION**

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*In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education*

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **96<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NEW JERSEY FFA FALL CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS**

To: New Jersey FFA Chapter Advisors/Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Educators

From: Kristianne M. Dowd, State FFA Specialist

CC: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Advisor

Re: Fall Career Development Events  
Tuesday, November 17 - Thursday, November 19, 2020  
Hosted Virtually

Date: August 7, 2020

#### **WHAT DO FALL CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS INVOLVE?**

Fruits and Vegetable Identification, Land Judging, Milk Quality and Products and Turf Management will be conducted using the rules, judging forms and references available in the New Jersey FFA Career Development Events Handbooks 2017-2021 modified from the National FFA Handbooks. Handbooks can be found on the State Activity Guide. Students should be prepared in all event sections.

#### **WHO CAN COMPETE?**

1. Contestants must be currently enrolled in an approved agricultural education course and appear on the chapter's roster.
2. Students who have been members of a first place official team in a state event and have participated at the highest level for that event may not compete again in that particular event.
3. Land Judging, Turf Management and Fruits & Vegetables Career Development Events can have 3-4 members. The top three scores on a team constitutes the official team score. The Milk Quality & Products Career Development Events require a four member team. The score of all four team members constitute the official team score.

#### **HOW DO I SIGN-UP?**

Participant Lists and payment for all chapters participating in Fall Career Developments is requested by **Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**. – Please sign-up using [www.JudgingCard.com](http://www.JudgingCard.com).

#### **Steps to using the [judgingcard.com](http://www.judgingcard.com)**

1. Log in to [www.JudgingCard.com](http://www.JudgingCard.com) (If you have an AET account, login using that information. If you don't have an AET account and have not changed your log in, use your chapter number for both the username and password (i.e. NJ0000). Both are case sensitive!)
2. Click on the leftmost icon at the bottom of the screen for "Registration and Information."

3. Use the month list at the top of the calendar to browse to the month of the contest you need to register for (November).
4. Click on the event link "New Jersey Fall CDEs" on the calendar (November 19)...this will pull up the event's registration page.
5. Click the link to "Online Registration" at the top of the page.
6. Click on the link to "Registration" next to each event they need to register for (i.e. Land Judging, MQ&P, etc.).
7. Change the "Number of Contestants" to what they would like, specify an advisor, and then specify contestant names.
8. Click the "Submit Entry" button.
9. Repeat steps 6, 7, and 8 for each event for which you need to register.
10. Review all of their entries back on the event's main page.

A minimum of five teams is necessary to run any state Career Development Event.

### **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

A \$44.00 per team, or \$11.00 per person (maximum 4-team members), skill assessment fee is invoiced per event for each chapter participating. Fees associated with Career Development Events go towards career development assessments – expenses to conduct the assessments. No food, travel or lodging is covered through these fees. Please make checks payable to: Treasurer, State of New Jersey with "FFA Fall CDE" in the memo line and send to the Office of Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625-0330. **Participant Lists received after October 15<sup>th</sup> are subject to a \$10 late fee per event.** Participant Lists will not be accepted any later than one week prior to the event. ***Chapters who affiliate with the "Blue Supplemental Package" will receive a discount on Career Development Assessments.***

*(Remember, your payment is non-refundable since your participant lists are what we use to pay for assessment expenses. NOTE: The only exception, according to New Jersey's FFA Conference Refund Policy, is a doctor's note or proof of death in the immediate family along with a cover letter explaining the circumstance. This must be sent to the state executive board within one month of the event.)*

### **How will these events be administered online?**

1. Computers with internet access will be needed for each competitor in each event. **Access to technology** – If a student does not have access to a computer and internet, please notify the Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education immediately. Alternative testing methods will be explored with the school.
2. A proctor will be needed. This person cannot be someone training and/or working with team members. You are encouraged to reach out to guidance counselors or school administrators. If schools are not back in session, a parent or guardian is acceptable. Having them proctor this event will allow you to share with them how agricultural education is on the cutting edge. The OFANRE reserves the right to request students to participate in a Zoom call while competing in order to ensure the integrity of the event.
3. Students will be assigned usernames and passwords to access the exam. An instruction sheet for students and a password list will be e-mailed to registered chapters on or before Friday, November 13, 2020.

4. **On Tuesday, November 17 – Thursday, November 19, the online exam will be active.** The entire team must compete at the same time. Advisors are asked to schedule the day and time frame for which they plan to have the event(s) administered via <https://form.jotform.com/NJFFA/virtual-cde-scheduling>.
5. Authenticity of Work Certification must be signed by participants and the proctor and submitted to the Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education by 8:30 AM the day following the scheduled competition time. Certification forms can be accessed at <https://www.jotform.com/NJFFA/CDEAuthenticityCertification>.
6. Review the “Event Summary” section of this document for details on the structure of each event.

### **What are the Career Development Event Rules?**

1. The chapter with the highest team score in the Milk Quality and Products Career Development Event (if they achieve 60% team mastery or above) will have the opportunity to represent the New Jersey FFA Association at the National FFA Career Development Event in Indianapolis, IN in October 2021 and the Eastern States Regional FFA Career Development Events in Springfield, Massachusetts in September 2021. Team members must be accompanied to these events by advisor(s). **ALL four individual scores make up the team score.** See page 5 for the full policy on 60% mastery.
2. The top five teams in the Land Judging Career Development Event are eligible to compete at the National Land Judging Career Development Event in Oklahoma in April/May 2021.
3. Four members may participate in each event; the score of the three highest constitutes the official team. The fourth member automatically becomes the team alternate. EXCEPT in Milk Quality and Products where all four scores make up the team score. Most National Career Development Events now require four members to compete and event scores will be based on all four members.
4. A banner or plaque will be awarded to the first place team in each state level event at the annual State Convention. The top three individuals overall will receive a gold, silver or bronze medal. The top five individuals in the practicum portions of each event will receive an H.O. Sampson certificate.
5. Members of a first place team in a New Jersey FFA State Career Development Event may not compete in that particular New Jersey FFA CDE again, unless the team is uncontested and forfeit their first place team ranking or fail to reach the 60% team mastery. Individual awards will still be rewarded if the uncontested team forfeits their team ranking.
6. Official teams can only complete the online exam during the scheduled career development event timeframe (Tuesday, November 17 – Thursday, November 19, 2020) and all team members must participate in the event at the same time.
7. Calculators may be used and can only have the following functions – addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, equals, percent, square roots, +/- key, and one memory register. NO other calculators are allowed during the event. Sharing of calculators between individuals is not

permitted.

8. Participants may not talk or confer with one another during the event or access any materials or resources.
9. **Note: Requesting Assistance for a Career Development Event** – If a student needs assistance during a Career Development Event, the Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education must be notified at the time of registration by identifying the student and their specific need. If a reader or scribe is needed, you are responsible for providing that person. To conduct a state level career development event efficiently, **no additional time will be provided** to a student to complete portions of a career development event.

#### **WHEN WILL WE KNOW RESULTS?**

Official results will be available via email and on the New Jersey FFA website at [http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/agriculture/ag\\_ed/ffa/career/](http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/career/) in the days following the events. Please do not call the Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education for results.

#### **HOW DO I GET SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MY STUDENTS?**

If a student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP) indicates a need for assistance during a Career Development Event, **the school is responsible** for providing the reader or scribe. Please identify the name of the student, their need, and the name of the assistant in your registration e-mail.

The following types of assistance will be allowed, if indicated in an IEP:

- Reader - The reader will assist a student by reading out loud to them any written instructions for the CDE, exam questions, etc. without providing any interpretation of the questions/information or helping that student come a conclusion.
- Scribe - The scribe will provide assistance to a student by writing down information such as the answer to a question. The scribe will not provide a student with direction or additional information that would help that student solve a problem or come to a conclusion.

***In order to conduct a state level Career Development Event efficiently, no additional time will be provided to a student to complete portions of that Career Development Event.***

## **Turf Management Career Development Event**

### *Scholarship Policy*

Effective November 2008

The Turf Management Career Development Event provides the opportunity for the students to receive college scholarships to attend the Turfgrass Science Program at Rutgers. Currently the scholarships are available to individuals who place 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> in the event, regardless of how the team places.

In an effort to encourage the study of Turfgrass Science in college, an exception will be made for an individual on a 1<sup>st</sup> place team who didn't rank 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> individually. The new policy will allow an individual from a 1<sup>st</sup> place Turf Management team to compete in the event again, but only as an individual. This participation will not affect the team rank. The student must be dues paid members from a chapter in good standing and will be eligible for individual medals and certificates. The student is limited to one attempt to compete as an individual for the scholarship.

## **Career Development Event**

### ***60% Mastery Policy***

Effective as amended May 2019

- Teams must achieve at least 60% of the total available points in order to advance to national level competition.
- Achievement will be determined by taking the total team points earned and divide it by the total number of team points available.
- Regardless of whether the team achieves the 60% standard, it will still be recognized (including plaques/medals/etc.) as the first-place team at the State FFA Convention.
- Regardless of whether the team achieves the 60% standard, it is welcome to compete at the Big E. Scores at the Big E will not be considered for the sixty-percent mastery policy.
- If a team does not reach the 60% standard, the team can request an opportunity to re-test later in the year for another chance at representing New Jersey FFA at the National FFA Convention. The retest will consist of a multiple-choice exam related to the content in the career area and be administered online through MyCAERT. Request must be made, in writing, to the State FFA Specialist by May 1. Re-tests must be completed by May 30. State Convention events will be provided an extension that is mutually agreed upon by the State FFA Specialist and chapter advisor, but no later than June 15.
- If the team does not reach the 60% standard, and decides not to re-test, team members are able to compete in that career development again the following year.
- If a team achieves the 60% standard, at least half the team must be original team members when certifying a team for national level career development events.
- If a team achieves the 60% standard but is unable to attend the national event, the second-place team will be offered the chance to compete (as long as it has achieved the 60% standard). The same opportunity to re-test will apply.

## **EVENT SUMMARY**

### **What is the Fruits and Vegetable Identification Career Development Event?**

The New Jersey FFA Fruit and Vegetable Career Development Event allows students to identify various fruits and vegetables that are grown in New Jersey and throughout the United States. Students also have the opportunity to select produce by identifying the variety and judging classes of apples and vegetables for uniformity, variety, color, freedom from blemish, trueness to variety, etc. FFA activities are an integral part of the instructional program in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Education.

The Fruits and Vegetables Identification Career Development Event will have three components.

- Written Exam – 30 minutes – 25 questions worth 100 points
- Identification – 30 minutes – 40 Fresh Specimen worth 400 points
- Judging – 10 minutes – 5 classes worth 300

### **What is the Land Judging Career Development Event?**

Knowledge about soils can be organized and applied in managing farms, fields, and woodlands, in developing communities, in engineering work, and in many other ways. The Land Judging Career Development Event helps FFA members and Agricultural Education students to understand basic differences in soils. Students will be able to comprehend why soils respond differently to management practices, as well as how soil properties affect crop growth and homesite dwellings.

The Land Judging Career Development Event will have three components hosted. Students are encouraged to print out copies of the Land and Homesite evaluation cards to utilize during the event.

- Site 1 (Land & Homesite) – 20 minutes - 30 questions worth 172 points

- Site 2 (Land & Homesite) – 20 minutes - 30 questions worth 172 points
- Site 3 (Land & Homesite) – 20 minutes - 30 questions worth 172 points
- Site 4 (Land & Homesite) – 20 minutes - 30 questions worth 172 points

### **What is the Milk Quality and Products Career Development Event?**

The purpose of the New Jersey FFA Milk Quality and Products Career Development Event is to promote practical learning activities in milk quality and dairy products, as well as assisting students in developing team decision-making skills.

The Milk Quality and Products Career Development Event will have five components.

- Written Exam – 40 minutes – 60 questions worth 120 points
- Milk Flavor Identification and Evaluation – 20 minutes – 10 questions worth 120 points
- Product Identification – 20 minutes – 10 questions worth 100 points
- California Mastitis Test – 20 minutes – 5 questions worth 40 points
- Cheese Identification – 20 minutes – 10 questions worth 100 points
- Problem Solving – 40 minutes – 20 questions worth 100 points

### **What is the Turf Management Career Development Event?**

The New Jersey FFA Turf Management Career Development Event includes all aspects of the industry in producing, marketing, utilizing, and maintaining turf as well as related products, equipment and services. This event will stimulate a career interest, encourage proficiency development, and recognize excellence in students of turf management through the agricultural education curriculum. FFA activities are an integral part of the instructional program in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Education.

The Turf Management Career Development Event will have five components hosted.

- General Knowledge Examination – 25 minutes – 25 questions worth 100 points
- Identification of Turf Species, Pests, Equipment, and Disorders – 30 minutes – 40 specimens worth 200 points
- Equipment Preparation, Maintenance, Problem Solving, and Safety – 25 minutes – 25 questions worth 50 points
- Customer Relations, Problem Solving and Job Estimating
  - Site Evaluation – 20 minutes worth 100 points
  - Problem Solving – 10 minutes worth 50 points

*“The New Jersey FFA Association is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the state FFA constitution, bylaws or policies.”*