IOWA
FFA ASSOCIATION

FFA CREED SPEAKING LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT

Table of Contents

Section	Page
General Leadership Development Event Rules	2
Overview	5
AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards	5
Event Rules	6
Resource Information	6
Awards	7
Event Hosting Guidelines/Checklists	7
Event Forms	8

1055 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy
Ankeny, IA 50023
P: 515-965-7376
F: 515-965-7373
iowaffa.com

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT (LDE)
GENERAL POLICIES, RULES, RESULTS AND STANDARDS

*Violations of any of the following rules may be grounds for the disqualification of the participants.

I. Board Policies

The following board policies (https://www.iowaffa.com/about.aspx, "Governing Documents" link on the right) apply directly or in part to LDEs:

- Board Policy #2-2: Changes to Judging Event Results
- Board Policy #2-3: Use of Electronic Storage/Transmission Devices
- Board Policy #2-4: Substitution of Team Members
- Board Policy #2-5: Advancement of Teams to National FFA Competition

II. Eligibly of Chapters and Participants

A. Events are open to all FFA chapters in good standing with the Iowa FFA Association. The first qualifying level of participation varies among sub-district, district, and state levels. Refer to event specific rules to identify the initial level of participation.

B. It is recommended, but not required, to have local FFA advisors or their designee enter teams in the initial level of an event their intent to have a team on Iowa FFA On-Line (http://anfmp01.dmacc.edu/fmi/webd#) seven (7) days prior to the initial event.

C. Participants in the following events may compete in only one sub-district, one district and one state FFA event:

- Ag Broadcasting
- Ag CSI
- Ag Impact
- Ag Issues & Perceptions
- Ag Sales (Individual)
- Chapter Program
- Chapter Website (Event Day Presenter)
- Conduct of Meetings
- Experience the Action
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- FFA Creed Speaking
- Job Interview
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Public Speaking

D. Only one entry per chapter is permitted in each official event with the following exceptions: Ag CSI and Ag Impact. It is strongly recommended that local events be utilized to determine the local winner to broaden the base of competition at the local level.

E. After an FFA Advisor registers the chapter's intent to enter an event, it is suggested, but not required, to enter the names of the participants on Iowa FFA On-Line (http://anfmp01.dmacc.edu/fmi/webd#) by noon three (3) days prior to the event. Any member not listed on Iowa FFA On-Line will need to be registered as an FFA member on the National FFA Roster (https://www.ffa.org/). Changes to online entries may be made the day of the event. State and National FFA Dues will be invoiced in accordance with Iowa FFA Association policies and by-laws.

F. A participant, at the time of his/her participation in the state event and selection as a national team member, must:

1. Be a current bona fide dues paying FFA member in good standing with the local chapter, state FFA Association and the National FFA Organization at the time of the LDE in which he/she participates.
2. Be a middle school or high school FFA member. A graduating senior is considered eligible to compete in state and national LDEs up to and including their first national convention following graduation. Middle school refers to students in grades 7-8 and high school refers to students in grades 9-12.
3. Currently be an active FFA member of the chapter making entry into the event.

G. A member may not participate in both a state 4-H and state FFA event when said events are held on the same day.

H. If an entry in an LDE is not able to advance, the designated alternate(s) will become the participant(s).

I. Members are eligible to participate for up to two years in the following LDEs on the sub-district/district level. Once they have participated in one of those events on the state level they are ineligible to participate in that event in future years.

- Ag Broadcasting
- Ag CSI
- Ag Impact
- Ag Issues & Perceptions
- Ag Sales (Individual)
- Chapter Program
- Conduct of Meetings
- Experience the Action
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- FFA Creed Speaking
- Job Interview
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Public Speaking

J. At the Sub-District and District level, it is permissible to deliver the written materials to the Sub-District Advisor or District Advisor respectively. Written materials will be returned following the respective event and may be revised before the next event. Written materials advancing to the State event must be postmarked to the FFA Enrichment Center seven (7) business days following the District event. Events with written materials include:
   - Ag CSI
   - Ag Impact
   - Ag Sales (Individual)
   - Chapter Program
   - Experience the Action
   - Job Interview
   - Public Speaking

K. No student may participate in more than one LDE/CDE each year at the national level.
L. Accommodations for participants can be made upon request of the FFA Advisor. The accommodation form must be submitted no less than 14 days prior to the respective event. Any assistance given to a team member from any source other than the LDE officials or assistants will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the LDE.
M. Proctors that are identified for online or virtual components shall have proper credentials to deliver educational programs to youth and shall not have a conflict of interest with participants in the event. The FFA advisor(s) and/or assistant FFA advisor(s) shall not serve as a proctor.
N. Participants shall not initiate contact with the judges. Doing so will result in a 5% deduction of points. Interactions allowed between the judges and participants are identified in each respective LDE's rules.
O. Items needed for specific phases of each LDE will be noted under their specific rules.
P. Participants are expected to observe the National FFA Code of Ethics and the Proper Use of the FFA Jacket during the career development events found in the Official FFA Manual (https://www.ffa.org/official-manual/).
Q. Official FFA dress is expected for all participants when appropriate. If official dress is not appropriate, official casual dress should be worn. Official casual dress shall consist of 1) FFA t-shirt or polo shirt and 2) khaki or nice denim pants or shorts.

III. Holding Room Operating Procedures

A. Only holding room supervisor(s) and FFA participants are allowed in the holding area while competitive events are in session.
B. Participants will be escorted to the bathroom by an official FFA student or courtesy corps member. If participants are in procession of electronic storage or transmission devices, participants will hand over technology to student escort during that time.
C. In case of emergency, the sub-district or district advisor will be notified immediately, as well as the participant's advisor(s) and holding room supervisors.
D. In the event of an emergency contact which must be made with a participant, the message will be relayed to the participant by means of the holding room supervisor(s), and/or the holding room supervisor accompanying the advisor(s) delivering the message.
E. In the event that participants are arriving late, the participants will be met at the main entrance of the event and escorted by an event official to the holding room area and immediately check in with the holding room supervisor(s). Allowance of a late arrival is at the discretion of the host advisor.

IV. Judging Results and Awards

A. All events at sub-district, district and state levels are to be judged on a group ranking basis of Gold Emblem, Silver Emblem, and Bronze Emblem. Members placing below the three rankings will be listed as participants. Only if a written rule is violated will a "participation" ranking be given. This will prevent that entry from advancing. If necessary for entry in a regional or national event, one or more of the winners will be selected.
B. First, second, and third place shall be designated in every event at the state level.
C. In sub-district, district and state events, effort will be made to secure three (Ag Sales and Job Interview events shall have four) qualified and impartial persons to serve as judges whose decisions shall be final.
D. Judges:
   1. Effort will be made to make the comments of judges on strong and weak features available to all advisors for their participants, after the placings have been made.
   2. Of all events should make every effort to supply comments on individuals and team events.
   3. Must obtain permission from the LDE Chairperson before issuing a "participation" rating.
E. The results of all district FFA events will be released only by the District FFA Advisor, upon completion of the events at the district level.

F. Results of sub-district, district, and state events are to be released to the press and radio services so that parents and others at home may know of the outcome of the FFA events at the earliest opportunity. Release dates should be STRICTLY observed.
G. All references to awards to be provided by the National FFA Foundation, Inc. or Iowa FFA Foundation, Inc., are tentative, pending final announcement by the organization.
H. Should an unusual interruption occur while an event is in progress it is expected that good judgment will be exercised in maintaining fairness to all participants.
I. Officer books advancing to the state level of competition will not be displayed at the district event in order to assist the district advisors in meeting their obligations to preserve the materials for further competition. They will be displayed at the state leadership conference.

V. <u>Video Recording</u>

A. Recording performances at the sub-district and district level is strictly prohibited.

B. Requests to record a performance at the state competition shall be submitted to state FFA staff for consideration at least 3 weeks before the event date.

C. Approval for a request to record a performance at state competitions shall be at the discretion of state FFA staff.

V. <u>AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards</u>

AFNR Content Standards are specifically outlined within each respective LDE.

FFA Creed Speaking

2027 Chairperson: Blake Anderson, Corning
Committee: Emma Cutler, Clarinda; Molly Dolch, Stuart

I. Overview

This event is designed to develop leadership and the ability to appear before groups by students in grades 7-9, as they become members of the FFA. Emphasis will be placed upon knowledge of the FFA Creed as adopted at the 3rd National FFA Convention and revised at the 38th and 63rd National FFA Conventions. This event also supplements the public speaking event in developing leadership.

This is a Sub-District, District, State & National Level Event.

II. AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards

CRP.01. *Standard*: Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- **CRP.01.01.** *Indicator:* Model personal responsibility in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.01.02.** *Indicator:* Evaluate and consider the near-term and long-term impacts of personal and professional decisions on employers and community before taking action.
- **CRP.01.03.** *Indicator:* Identify and act upon opportunities for professional and civic service at work and in the community.

CRP.02. *Standard*: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- **CRP.02.01.** *Indicator:* Use strategic thinking to connect and apply academic learning, knowledge and skills to solve problems in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.02.02**. *Indicator:* Use strategic thinking to connect and apply technical concepts to solve problems in the workplace and community.

CRP.04. *Standard:* Communicate clearly, effectively and with reason.
- **CRP.04.01.** *Indicator:* Speak using strategies that ensure clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in formal and informal settings.
- **CRP.04.02.** *Indicator:* Produce clear, reasoned and coherent written and visual communication in formal and informal settings.
- **CRP.04.03.** *Indicator:* Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.

CRP.05. *Standard*: Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- **CRP.05.01.** *Indicator*: Assess, identify and synthesize the information and resources needed to make decisions that positively impact the workplace and community.
- **CRP.05.02.** *Indicator:* Make, defend and evaluate decisions at work and in the community using information about the potential environmental, social and economic impacts.

CRP.06. *Standard:* Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- **CRP.06.01.** *Indicator:* Synthesize information, knowledge and experience to generate original ideas and challenge assumptions in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.06.02.** *Indicator*: Assess a variety of workplace and community situations to identify ways to add value and improve the efficiency of processes and procedures.
- **CRP.06.03.** *Indicator:* Create and execute a plan of action to act upon new ideas and introduce innovations to workplace and community organizations.

CRP.07. *Standard*: Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- **CRP.07.01.** *Indicator*: Select and implement reliable research processes and methods to generate data for decision-making in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.07.02.** *Indicator:* Evaluate the validity of sources and data used when considering the adoption of new technologies, practices and ideas in the workplace and community.

CRP.08. *Standard:* Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- **CRP.08.01.** *Indicator:* Apply reason and logic to evaluate workplace and community situations from multiple perspectives.
- **CRP.08.02.** *Indicator:* Investigate, prioritize and select solutions to solve problems in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.08.03.** *Indicator:* Establish plans to solve workplace and community problems and execute them with resiliency.

CRP.09. *Standard:* Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
- **CRP.09.01.** *Indicator:* Model characteristics of ethical and effective leaders in the workplace and community (e.g. integrity, self-awareness, self-regulation, etc.).

Approved: September 24, 2026

CRP.09.02. *Indicator:* Implement personal management skills to function effectively and efficiently in the workplace (e.g., time management, planning, prioritizing, etc.).
CRP.09.03. *Indicator:* Demonstrate behaviors that contribute to a positive morale and culture in the workplace and community (e.g., positively influencing others, effectively communicating, etc.).

CRP.10. *Standard:* Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals.
CRP.10.03. *Indicator:* Develop relationships with and assimilate input and/or advice from experts (e.g., counselors, mentors, etc.) to plan career and personal goals in a chosen career area.
CRP.10.04. *Indicator:* Identify, prepare, update and improve the tools and skills necessary to pursue a chosen career path.

CRP.11. *Standard:* Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.11.01. *Indicator:* Research, select and use new technologies, tools and applications to maximize productivity in the workplace and community.
CRP.11.02. *Indicator:* Evaluate personal and organizational risks of technology use and take actions to prevent or minimize risks in the workplace and community.

CRP.12. *Standard:* Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.
CRP.12.01. *Indicator:* Contribute to team-oriented projects and builds consensus to accomplish results using cultural global competence in the workplace and community.
CRP.12.02. *Indicator:* Create and implement strategies to engage team members to work toward team and organizational goals in a variety of workplace and community situations (e.g., meetings, presentations, etc.).

III. Event Rules

The rules governing Sub-District, District and State events, in addition to general rules for all LDEs, are as follows:

A. FFA members in grades 7-9 are eligible to participate. A member may only participate in this event one year.
B. In the Sub-District event, the judges will designate the three (3) highest individuals to compete in the District event. In each District, the judges will designate the three (3) highest individuals to compete in the State event. The judges at both the Sub-District and District levels shall name an alternate individual.
C. The judges at the State level shall designate the top (1) individual to compete at the National event. The judges shall also rank the top three (3) individuals.
D. Each participant must recite the Creed from memory. Each participant shall begin the presentation by stating, "The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany." Each participant shall end the presentation with the statement, "...that inspiring task. Thank you." Additional introductory or concluding remarks will result in accuracy deductions as indicated on the scorecard. Accuracy of the Creed is of utmost importance. Any errors (missed, added, or switched words) in the reciting of the Creed will result in accuracy deductions as indicated on the scorecard.
E. Three questions prepared by the Iowa FFA Association will be read by the judges to each participant to test his/her understanding of the FFA Creed. Each judge is to ask the same question to each participant without explanation. There will be a five-minute total time limit to answer questions. Time will be called at five minutes with no additional answer after that time.
F. The event will be a timed activity with four minutes for the presentation of the FFA Creed. The timekeeper will hold up a card with a four (4) on it. After four minutes, the participants will have one point deducted for every second over the set time.

IV. Resource Information

The most current version of the Official FFA Manual shall be the resource for the FFA Creed. Official FFA Resource: "Official FFA Manual" found at: http://shopffa.org/products/126/MANUALS/ Available on-line: https://www.ffa.org/official-manual/

V. Awards

Sub-District:	Chapters:	FFA Certificate	(Available online)
	Individuals:	FFA Certificates	(Available online)
District:	Chapters:	FFA Certificate	(Available online)
	Individuals:	FFA Certificates	(Available online)
State:	Chapters:	FFA Certificate	(Available online)

Individuals:	FFA Certificates	(Available online)
Champion Individual:	Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)
	Cash Award	(Awarded after SLC)
	Travel Money	(Awarded after SLC)
Reserve Individual:	Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)
	Cash Award	(Awarded after SLC)
3rd Place Individual:	Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)
Gold Individuals:	LDE Pin	(Awarded in Chapter Packet at SLC)

All awards subject to available sponsorship.

VI. Event Hosting Guidelines/Checklists

Needed Materials Checklist:

____ Sealed envelopes of FFA Creed questions from Iowa FFA Association
____ 3 copies of the most current Official FFA Manual or 3 copies of the FFA Creed
____ FFA Creed Judges Score Form on white (1 copy x 3 judges x Total Number of Participants)
____ FFA Creed Summary Form on yellow (1 copy)
____ 2 Tables for Judges
____ 3 Chairs for Judges
____ 1 Podium
____ "4 Minutes" Time Card
____ Stopwatch
____ Pens/Pencils for Judges

Event Chairperson: Refer to the "Advisor's Handbook" for specific directions.

VII. Event Forms

THE FFA CREED SPEAKER SCRIPT

THE FOLLOWING IS EXACTLY WHAT MUST BE RECITED:

"The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds – achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so – for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

Thank you"

ALL RECITATION ERRORS (*MISSED WORDS*) MUST BE CIRCLED

Total # of Recitation Errors _____

(missed, added or switched words)

Question Time: _____

Determination of Deductions

Number of errors ___ x 2 = _____

_____

The creed was written by E.M. Tiffany, and adopted at the 3rd National Convention of the FFA. It was revised at the 38th Convention and the 63rd Convention.

© 2026 National FFA Organization

Creed Speaking LDE

Contestant:

Chapter PO:

Date:

District

Judge:

	Very strong Evidence of skill *Most points*	Moderate Evidence of skill *Middle points*	Weak Evidence of skill *Few points*	Points Possibl	Points Earned
Oral Communication – 30 Points					
Pace	Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience.	Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations	Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience	**10**	
Tone	Voice is upbeat, impassioned and under control	Voice is somewhat upbeat, impassioned and under control	Voice is not upbeat; lacks passion and control	**10**	
Volume	Emitted a clear, audible voice for the audience present	Emitted a somewhat clear, audible voice for the audience present	Emitted a barely audible voice for the audience presen	**10**	
Non-verbal Communication – 30 Points					
Eye Contact	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection Constantly looks at the entire audience (90–100 percent of the time)	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent Mostly looks around the audience (60–80 percent of the time)	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50 percent of the time)	**10**	
Mannerisms and Gestures	Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points No nervous habits	Sometimes exhibits nervous habits Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize	Displays some nervous habits Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting	**10**	
Poise	Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions	Maintains control. most of the time. rarely loses. composure	Lacks confidence and composure	**10**	

Question and Answer – 40 Points					
Response to questions	Responds with organized thoughts and concise answers	Speaks effectively and sometimes gets off topic Answers lacks organization	Response fails to answer question	**10**	
Support	Always provides details that support answers/basis of the question	Usually provides details that are supportive of the answers/basis of the question	Sometimes overlooks details that could be very beneficial to the answers/basis of the question	**15**	
Knowledge of agriculture	Answer shows knowledge of agriculture	Answer shows limited knowledge of agriculture	Answer shows no knowledge of agriculture	**15**	
			Total Points	**100**	
				Points Deduction	
				Final Score	

-1 point per second over 4 minutes

-1 point per word of inaccuracy

ALL RECITATION ERRORS (*MISSED WORDS*) MUST BE CIRCLED

Total # of Recitation Errors _____

(missed, added or switched words)

Question Time: _____

Determination of Deductions

Number of errors ___ x 2 = _____

Judge's Creed Speaking FFA Event Summary

This form is to be used by Event Chairperson to report results of the judging.

Judge Names:

Event: Creed Speaking _____

_____ Sub-District of _____ District _____

District/State: _____ _____

Date of Event: _____

	School P.O. (Town)	Participant Name	Use letters to indicate ratings G - S - B - P			Total Points	G = Gold	S = Silver	B = Bronze	P = Participation	Advance to Next Event
			Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3						
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
11											
12											
13											
14											
15											

Chairperson: Hold up this card at the 4 minute mark.

4

Minutes