

2027 NATIONAL FFA SAE AWARD PROGRAM

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2027 NATIONAL FFA SAE AWARD PROGRAM - OVERVIEW

- A. Why the change?
 1. To recognize all SAEs with a growing membership
 - a. Agriscience Fair does not recognize all research-type SAEs
 - b. Agriscience Fair does not recognize multiple-year projects
 - c. Not all SAE types were receiving recognition
 - i. Example: School-based enterprises
 - d. Increase the number of recognition opportunities
- B. Components of the new National FFA SAE Award Program
 1. 2026 will be the final year of the current Agricultural Proficiency and Agricultural Proficiency Research Awards. Starting in 2027, these award programs will be recognized as part of the new National FFA SAE Award Program.
 2. 2026 will be the final year of the current Agriscience Fair. Starting in 2027, a revised Agriscience Fair will be conducted.
 3. For all National FFA SAE Award areas, only individual awards (max. 101 areas) will be offered.
 4. Applications will be updated to align with *SAE for All*.
 5. Each SAE type will have an application form specific to the type (*Entrepreneurship, Placement, Research, School-Based Enterprise & Service-Learning*). For example, a Placement application will be designed specifically for Placement type SAE projects
 6. Submission of a *Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement, Business Plan, Training Plan or Service-Learning Plan* will be a requirement for the application.
 7. All previous Agriscience Fair, Agricultural Proficiency Award and Agriscience Research Proficiency Award national competitors will be eligible to submit in the new National FFA SAE Award Program in 2027.
 - a. Note members may not use SAE records from work, entrepreneurship or research conducted before Aug 1 of their 7th Grade year.
 - b. Members finishing high school may compete for SAE Awards at the state and national level up to and including their second national convention following graduation.
 8. State FFA associations may not enter more than one applicant per award area.
 9. The National FFA selection process will include:
 - a. Scoring the state-submitted applications remotely
 - b. Announcing up to 6 finalists for each National FFA SAE Award area
 - c. Finalist interviews will be conducted virtually.
 - d. Up to 6 finalists will be recognized on the Main Stage during the National FFA Convention.
 - e. All finalists will receive a draped pin with a gold medal
 - f. Each state-winning applicant will receive feedback (scores/notes) regarding their application and interview, and a gold, silver, or bronze rating.
 - g. SAE showcase opportunity at convention
 10. Members other than the top 6 national finalists are eligible to compete again in the same national level SAE Award area if selected by their state association again.

2027 NATIONAL FFA SAE AWARD PROGRAM - RUBRICS

1. Entrepreneurship SAE Rubric:
 - a. Similar to the Current Entrepreneurship Agricultural Proficiency rubric with the following changes:
 - i. Added a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement or Business Plan to the application for 5 points
 - ii. Added Question #4 in the Overview Section and added 3 points to the rubric.
2. Placement SAE Rubric:
 - a. Similar to the Current Placement Agricultural Proficiency Rubric with the following changes:
 - i. Added a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement or Training Plan to the application for 5 points
3. Research SAE Rubric:
 - a. Similar to the Current Agriscience Research Proficiency Rubric with the following changes:
 - i. Added Collaboration to the rubric for 5 points.
4. School-Based Enterprise SAE Rubric:
 - a. Basically, same as the Current Entrepreneurship Proficiency Rubric with the following changes:
 - i. Add a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement or Business Plan to the application for 5 points.
 - ii. Added Collaboration to the rubric for 5 points.
5. Service-Learning SAE Rubric:
 - i. Similar to current rubrics but specifically measuring information on each step required to qualify a project as a Service-Learning SAE.

2027 NATIONAL FFA SAE AWARD PROGRAM - APPLICATION TEMPLATES

1. 5 different Applications
 - b. Entrepreneurship SAE Award
 - c. Placement SAE Award
 - d. Research SAE Award
 - e. School-Based Enterprise SAE Award
 - f. Service-Learning SAE Award
2. All 5 applications include:
 - g. Basic Setup
 - i. Applicant Contact Information
 - ii. Chapter Name
 - iii. Statement of Applicant and Parent/Guardian
 - iv. Certification
 - v. Applicant Contact Information
 - vi. Chapter Information
 - vii. FFA History
 - viii. Education Information
 - ix. Application Dates
 - h. SAE Information
 - i. Overview
 - j. Accomplishments
 - k. Career Exploration and Planning
 - l. Personal Financial Management and Planning
 - m. Submit a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement, Business Plan, Training Plan or Service-Learning Plan to the application.
 - n. SAE Learning Outcomes
 - o. Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge
 - p. Workplace Safety Photos #1 and #2
 - q. Project Photos #3, #4, #5 and #6
3. Entrepreneurship SAE Application:
 - r. Similar to the Current Entrepreneurship Agricultural Proficiency Application with the following changes:

- i. Added a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement or Business Plan to the application.
 - ii. Updated Income and Expense Summary
- 4. Placement SAE Application:
 - s. Similar to the Current Placement Agricultural Proficiency Application with the following changes:
 - t. Added a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement or Training Plan to the application.
 - u. Updated Income and Expense Summary
- 5. Research SAE Application:
 - v. Similar to the Current Agriscience Research Proficiency Application with the following changes:
 - i. Added Collaboration
 - ii. Updated Research Finances
- 6. School-Based Enterprise SAE Application:
 - w. Similar to the Current Entrepreneurship Proficiency Application with the following changes:
 - i. Submit a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Agreement or Business Plan to the application.
 - ii. Added Collaboration
 - iii. Updated Finances
- 7. Service-Learning SAE Application:
 - x. Similar to current Proficiency Applications with the following changes:
 - i. Submit a Service-Learning Plan to the application.
 - ii. Specific questions to document each Service-Learning requirement
 - iii. Added Collaboration
 - iv. Updated Finances

2027 NATIONAL FFA ENTREPRENEURSHIP SAE AWARD AREAS

A. The following 34 proposed award areas will be offered in 2027.

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|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Agricultural Communication | 17. Forage Production |
| 2. Agricultural Education | 18. Forest Management & Products |
| 3. Agricultural Mechanics Design & Fabrication | 19. Fruit & Nut Production |
| 4. Agricultural Mechanics Repair & Maintenance | 20. Goat Production |
| 5. Agricultural Processing | 21. Grain Production |
| 6. Agricultural Sales | 22. Landscape Installation |
| 7. Agricultural Services | 23. Nursery Operations |
| 8. Beef Production | 24. Outdoor Recreation |
| 9. Dairy Production | 25. Poultry Production |
| 10. Diversified Agricultural Production | 26. Sheep Production |
| 11. Diversified Crop | 27. Small Animal Production and Care |
| 12. Diversified Horticulture | 28. Specialty Crop Production |
| 13. Diversified Livestock Production | 29. Specialty Animal Production |
| 14. Environmental Science & Natural Resources Management | 30. Swine Production |
| 15. Equine Science | 31. Turf & Landscape Maintenance |
| 16. Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production | 32. Vegetable Production |
| | 33. Veterinary Science |
| | 34. Wildlife Production & Management |

2027 NATIONAL FFA PLACEMENT SAE AWARD AREAS

A. The following 34 proposed award areas will be offered in 2027.

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| 1. Agricultural Communication | 4. Agricultural Mechanics Repair & Maintenance |
| 2. Agricultural Education | 5. Agricultural Processing |
| 3. Agricultural Mechanics Design & Fabrication | 6. Agricultural Sales |

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|--|--------------------------------------|
| 7. Agricultural Services | 21. Grain Production |
| 8. Beef Production | 22. Landscape Installation |
| 9. Dairy Production | 23. Nursery Operations |
| 10. Diversified Agricultural Production | 24. Outdoor Recreation |
| 11. Diversified Crop | 25. Poultry Production |
| 12. Diversified Horticulture | 26. Sheep Production |
| 13. Diversified Livestock Production | 27. Small Animal Production and Care |
| 14. Environmental Science & Natural Resources Management | 28. Specialty Crop Production |
| 15. Equine Science | 29. Specialty Animal Production |
| 16. Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production | 30. Swine Production |
| 17. Forage Production | 31. Turf & Landscape Maintenance |
| 18. Forest Management & Products | 32. Vegetable Production |
| 19. Fruit & Nut Production | 33. Veterinary Science |
| 20. Goat Production | 34. Wildlife Production & Management |

2027 NATIONAL FFA RESEARCH SAE AWARD AREAS

A. Following SAE *for All* Research SAEs fall into the following categories:

1. An EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH SAE involves the application of the scientific method to control certain variables while manipulating others to observe the outcome. You will define a hypothesis, determine an appropriate experimental design, conduct the research, collect the data, draw conclusions from the data and recommend further research that can be done.
2. An ANALYTICAL RESEARCH SAE often begins with a question that asks why or how something occurs, followed by a period of data collection using qualitative and/or quantitative methodologies. You will conduct an analysis of data, facts, and other information to determine the answer to the question posed.
3. An INVENTION RESEARCH SAE applies the engineering design process to create a new product or service. This type of research often begins with the identification of a need and the development of a product followed by a design process of prototyping and testing those results in a product that meets the identified need.

B. Division structure

1. Experimental Research
2. Analytical Research
3. Invention Research

C. The following 21 proposed award areas will be offered in 2027.

1. Experimental Research - Animal Systems
2. Experimental Research – Environmental Service/Natural Resource Systems
3. Experimental Research - Food Products and Processing Systems
4. Experimental Research - Plant Systems
5. Experimental Research - Power, Structural and Technical Systems
6. Experimental Research – Social Science
7. Experimental Research – Integrated
8. Analytical Research - Animal Systems
9. Analytical Research – Environmental Service/Natural Resource Systems
10. Analytical Research - Food Products and Processing Systems
11. Analytical Research - Plant Systems
12. Analytical Research - Power, Structural and Technical Systems
13. Analytical Research – Social Science
14. Analytical Research – Integrated
15. Invention Research - Animal Systems
16. Invention Research – Environmental Service/Natural Resource Systems
17. Invention Research - Food Products and Processing Systems
18. Invention Research - Plant Systems
19. Invention Research - Power, Structural and Technical Systems
20. Invention Research – Social Science
21. Invention Research – Integrated

2027 SCHOOL-BASED ENTERPRISE SAE AWARD AREAS

A. The following 8 proposed award areas will be offered in 2027.

1. Agribusiness Systems
2. Animal Systems
3. Biotechnology Systems
4. Environmental Service Systems
5. Food Products and Processing Systems
6. Natural Resource Systems
7. Plant Systems
8. Power, Structural and Technical Systems

2027 SERVICE-LEARNING SAE AWARD AREAS

A. The following 4 proposed award areas will be offered in 2027.

1. **Community Safety:** Addresses concerns regarding the safety of community members and the preparation, response and recovery efforts that relate to emergency preparedness and natural disasters.
2. **Hunger, Health and Nutrition:** Addresses unmet food insecurity needs, increasing physical activity and improving healthy habits to promote the physical and mental well-being of the community.
3. **Environmental Responsibility:** Addresses issues regarding air and water quality, energy, and water efficiency, at-risk ecosystems, and conservation to protect and sustain the natural systems upon which all life depends.
4. **Community Engagement:** Addresses matters related to heritage and traditions, connections between community members and civic responsibility throughout the community.