

2028 NATIONAL FFA SAE AWARDS PROGRAM

HANDBOOK

1. No changes from 2027

RUBRICS

1. No changes from 2027

APPLICATION

1. No changes from 2027

SAE AWARD AREAS

1. Two new Award Areas will be available in 2028:

Vertically Integrated Agricultural Production – Entrepreneurship: Member owns an enterprise or business that produces an animal or plant specified in the Diversified Agricultural Production award area description and adds value to that animal/plant through further processing and marketing. To qualify for this award area, the member **must personally own and participate in ALL of the following:**

- Production of the live animal or plant
- Processing the animal or plant into a ready-to-use form
- Marketing and selling the finished product directly to the consumer

NOTE: Acceptable examples include but are not limited to:

- Raising bees and harvesting raw honey and/or wax; processing the honey and/or wax into cleaned and bottled honey, lip balms, candy, candles, etc.; and finally, selling the finished products.
- Raising milking animals (cows, goats, sheep, etc.) and milking them. Processing the raw milk into ready-to-drink milk, cheese, ice cream, lotions, soaps, etc. Marketing and selling the finished products.
- Planting and growing fruits or vegetables. Processing the raw fruits/vegetables into finished food products such as canned or bottled items, baked or dried goods, etc. Marketing and selling the finished food products.
- Raising meat animals (cattle, sheep, swine, rabbits, poultry, etc.). Processing the animal into wholesale or retail cuts or other animal products (jerky, meat sticks, leather, tallow). Marketing and selling the finished products.

Vertically Integrated Agricultural Production – Placement Member works at an enterprise or business that produces an animal or plant specified in the Diversified Agricultural Production award area description and adds value to that animal/plant through further processing and marketing. **To qualify in this award area, the member's employment duties must include personal participation in ALL of the following:**

- Production of the live animal or plant
- Processing the animal or plant into a ready-to-use form
- Marketing and selling the finished product directly to the consumer

NOTE: Acceptable examples include but are not limited to:

- Raising bees and harvesting raw honey and/or wax; processing the honey and/or wax into cleaned and bottled honey, lip balms, candy, candles, etc.; and finally, selling the finished products.
- Raising milking animals (cows, goats, sheep, etc.) and milking them. Processing the raw milk into ready-to-drink milk, cheese, ice cream, lotions, soaps, etc. Marketing and selling the finished products.
- Planting and growing fruits or vegetables. Processing the raw fruits/vegetables into finished food products such as canned or bottled items, baked or dried goods, etc. Marketing and selling the finished food products.
- Raising meat animals (cattle, sheep, swine, rabbits, poultry, etc.). Processing the animal into wholesale or retail cuts or other animal products (jerky, meat sticks, leather, tallow). Marketing and selling the finished products.