



Congratulations!

All times EDT.

Congratulations on qualifying to participate in the National FFA Agricultural Technology and Mechanical Systems (ATMS) CDE during the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo!

We encourage you to use the [CDE/LDE webpage](#) to stay current and locate the event materials. Skill information will also be found on this page and no longer on the "Teacher Workroom" website. Please review the [General Orientation](#) for essential details, materials, deadlines and assistance. Be sure to read through the handbook and event information sections.

Competition Schedule

We will host a virtual team orientation on [Monday, Sept. 22, at 4 p.m. EDT](#). This call will focus on equipment and preparation for the event. It will be recorded and posted on the CDE/LDE Page under event orientation.

A second virtual team orientation will be on [Monday, Oct. 13, at 4 p.m. EDT](#). This call will focus on on-site logistics and be recorded and posted under event orientation on the CDE/LDE Page.

A Zoom invite for each orientation will be emailed to the certified advisor. Before the orientations, email questions to me at alex.byrd@abac.edu to ensure they are addressed and included in the recording.

The event will be held at the Champions Pavilion on the Indiana State Fairgrounds. For timing, we will release rotation schedules for Wednesday's team activity and exam and Thursday's skill activities following the second orientation. Plan travel to arrive on-site for the competition by noon on Wednesday.

Event Details

Please read the ATMS CDE rules provided in the event handbook and review the information for the event components in the Teachers Workroom, now accessible from the CDE/LDE webpage. Each year, participants encounter problems that would not have occurred if they had read the event materials.

The written exam has been adjusted to include 3 math-type questions and 2 systems-based questions related to each systems area.

Coaches and team members should regularly check the website for new information. If you have questions about a specific skill area (found in the above document), please email the skill area associate superintendent and copy the message to the event superintendent.

Equipment

- Teams must have a charged laptop with working USB ports. Bring power cords just in case. Students should also bring their personal protective equipment (PPE). All required tools will be provided at the event.
- Please refer to the [handbook](#), pages 7-8, for specific instructions on equipment requirements, including the specialized safety equipment required for this event.

Food and Beverage

Based on the event schedule, no meals or snacks will be provided. Students are welcome to bring their own.

Dress

Official Dress is not recommended for the event but is recommended for the awards program. The handbook on page 8 provides specific instructions on specialized safety equipment required for the event.

Students need to have a jacket or coat with them because they may be outside for part of the Team Activity on Wednesday, Oct. 29.

Students will be allowed to bring cell phones to the event, but they must be secured at the beginning of the event.

Recognition

All teams and individuals will be recognized at the Awards Program, which will be held at the Indiana Convention Center. Team participants, coaches, advisors, and family are welcome to attend with a convention badge. The ceremony will be streamed on FFA.org.

Final placings for the top four teams and top 10 individuals will be presented on stage during the Fifth General Session in Lucas Oil Stadium.

On behalf of the ATMS CDE Committee, we wish everyone the best of luck and look forward to providing an excellent experience for you and your students! Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Safe travels to all, and I'll see you in Indianapolis.

Sincerely,

Preston Byrd

Event Superintendent, Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems

864-245-5373 - alex.byrd@abac.edu



AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY & MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

All times EDT. Schedule subject to change.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Monday, Sept. 22	4 p.m.	Team Orientation # 1	Zoom
Monday, Oct. 13	4 p.m.	Team Orientation # 2	Zoom
Wednesday, Oct. 29	11 a.m.	Drop/Add Deadline for team members	Log into Profile to change in certification
	Noon – 4:30 p.m.	Written Exam, Team Activity	Champions Pavilion (ISF)
Thursday, Oct. 30	8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Skills Practicums	Champions Pavilion (ISF)
Friday, Oct. 31	9 a.m.	Awards Program	Wabash 1-2 (ICC)
	2:30 p.m.	Final Placings- Fifth General Session	Lucas Oil Stadium

Location Guide

- **Indiana State Fairgrounds (ISF):** 1202 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, IN 46205
- **Indiana Convention Center (ICC):** 100 S Capitol Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46225
- **Lucas Oil Stadium:** 500 S. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46225



CAREER AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

2025 GENERAL INFORMATION

Revised: April 18, 2025

Congratulations! We're excited to welcome you to the National FFA Career and Leadership Development Events (CDEs/LDEs) as part of the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo. Information for this year's events is on the [CDE/LDE webpage](#). Go to the webpage now to subscribe to email notifications when updates occur.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications will be sent to the email in the advisor's FFA.org profile. This email and the mobile number provided are the Advisor's Contact Information. Please add cde@ffa.org to your allowlist to receive important updates. You can also specify a second contact for additional communications. If the advisor's email changes after certification, update it in Certification or email cde@ffa.org with the state, event, and new advisor details.

EVENT HANDBOOKS

Each event will adhere to the rules and procedures outlined in its handbook. Any changes can be found in the Detailed Summary of CDE/LDE Handbook Updates. The current handbooks were posted on the webpage in Jan. 2025 and include all updated formats, lists, and rubrics. Participants should review the event components thoroughly before competing.

CERTIFICATION

All CDE and LDE teams must be certified by Tuesday, Sept. 2. You must certify all team members by the certification deadline. Most certifications may be amended prior to the competition dates. The [How to Certify a Team or Member \(PDF\)](#) contains step-by-step instructions.

TEAM MEMBER CHANGES

Team members can be added or removed from the certified list in Profile on FFA.org until one hour before the first event activity begins. The deadline will be noted in the Event Schedule.

EVENT UPLOADS

Four events—*Agricultural Issues, Employment Skills, Marketing Plan, and Prepared Public Speaking*—require document uploads, including an Authenticity Statement. Use these directions to [Upload a PDF for a CDE/LDE](#). See each event's superintendent letter for further details.

SCHEDULE CONFLICTS

Members may only participate in one CDE/LDE each year. Members participating in multiple award programs may have a scheduling conflict. We encourage students to choose a competitive event or interview over an awards ceremony. If the student or team cannot attend the main stage award presentation, we request a stand-in be sent for the specified session.

ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS

Students needing accommodations or with allergies affecting event participation or provided snacks/meals must complete a [request form](#) at least 30 days in advance (by Sept. 15). This form will remain confidential, and National FFA staff will contact the advisor after receiving the request.

PRACTICE MATERIALS

Sample scan sheets, practicums, and written exams from previous years can be found under "Event Preparation" on the [CDE/LDE webpage](#).

ORIENTATION MEETINGS

All advisors and available team members should attend and review the virtual orientation meetings. Orientation recordings will be posted under "Event Orientation" on the CDE/LDE webpage. The orientation packet contains meeting details and a link to the meetings.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

[Convention registration](#) is required to compete in the Career and Leadership Development Events, which includes a waiver.

SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

We want to hear from you if you notice inappropriate behavior at an FFA event. You will be directed to a third party to file the report, but all reports will be sent to National FFA. If you [see something, say something](#).

INDIANA STATE FAIRGROUNDS SHUTTLES

Courtesy shuttles between the Indiana Convention Center and the Indiana State Fairgrounds ([map](#)) are available for all registered CDE participants. Shuttles depart approximately every 15 minutes. Allow 20 minutes for one-way travel. Shuttles will run from 6 a.m. to the end of your event on Wednesday and Thursday. Check the convention website for details.

THANKING OUR PARTNERS

Our partners' financial commitment is vital to this program's continued success. Contact information is on the [CDE/LDE webpage](#), allowing you to express your appreciation for their support.

CDE/LDE FINALS — INDIANA CONVENTION CENTER

See the top CDE/LDE students compete in their finals. Live streaming is available on [FFA.org](#).

Event	Date	Time (EDT)	Room
Creed Speaking	Wed., Oct. 29	6 -6:30 p.m.	500 Ballroom
Extemporaneous Public Speaking	Thurs., Oct. 30	9:30 -11 a.m.	500 Ballroom
Prepared Public Speaking	Thurs., Oct. 30	Noon-1:30 p.m.	500 Ballroom
Agricultural Issues Forum	Thurs., Oct. 30	4:30-6:30 p.m.	500 Ballroom
Conduct of Chapter Meetings	Fri., Oct. 31	9-11 a.m.	500 Ballroom
Marketing Plan	Fri., Oct. 31	9-11 a.m.	126-128
Parliamentary Procedure	Fri., Oct. 31	2-4 p.m.	500 Ballroom

AWARDS PROGRAMS AND MAIN STAGE RECOGNITION

CDE/LDE awards programs are open events (no tickets required) to recognize all participants and teams. Capture memorable moments! Selfie photo stations will be available for competitors at every event location and during the awards program.

Main stage recognition will announce the national winners, including the top four teams and the top ten individuals, as applicable.

Cash award recipients will receive information on how to claim their award. For more details, see the [Cash Awards Guidelines](#).

National CDE/LDE Advisor Checklist

- ☐ Read this document, General Orientation.
 - ☐ Ensure cde@ffa.org is added to your safe sender list.
 - ☐ Sign up for CDE/LDE updates on the CDE/LDE webpage: <https://www.ffa.org/participate/cde-lde/>.
 - ☐ Note key dates for the release of schedules, event orientation packets and locate preparation materials.
 - ☐ Review the current handbook.
 - ☐ Review/update your profile on FFA.org with your current email address and mobile number.
 - ☐ By August 8th – Download/print the Event Orientation packet at <https://www.ffa.org/participate/cde-lde/>.
 - ☐ Sept. 2 – Deadline: Certify your students and upload applicable event documents on FFA.org.
 - ☐ Sept. 15 – Deadline: Submit Reasonable Accommodations Requests, <https://form.jotform.com/adarequests/reasonable-ada-accommodations-reque>
 - ☐ Sept-Oct. — Attend event orientation
- Before leaving for the national event at the convention**
- ☐ Confirm certified team members on FFA.org.