



All times EDT

Congratulations!

We are excited to welcome you to the National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Leadership Development Event at the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis! Your qualification for the event is evidence of the courage, quick thinking, and communication skills you've already demonstrated at the highest levels—and we can't wait to see you bring that same excellence to the national stage. I am grateful to the incredible team of individuals who make up the Extemporaneous Speaking LDE Committee, and we are collectively excited to see you in October. Our goal is to help you feel prepared to compete to the best of your abilities.

We encourage you to use the [CDE/LDE webpage](#) to stay current and locate the event materials. Please review the [General Orientation](#) for essential details, materials, deadlines and assistance. Be sure to read through the handbook and event information sections. This document aims to provide important information and clarity as you prepare to join us in October.

Competition Schedule

We will host a virtual team orientation at [3 p.m. on Thurs. Oct. 2](#). The orientation is designed to walk you through all components of the event and provide guidance as you finalize your preparations. This session is also a great opportunity to ask questions and ensure you feel confident heading into the competition. A Zoom invitation will be sent directly to the certified advisor. If you're unable to attend live, the meeting will be recorded and posted on the CDE/LDE webpage under the Event Orientation section for easy access. If you have questions regarding the event before orientation, email them to me at klsmith@uidaho.edu. I will ensure they are addressed and included in the recording.

The event will be held at the JW Marriott. For timing, refer to the attached schedule. Plan travel accordingly.

- Before the preliminary rounds
 - Participants will be randomly assigned to one of the eight preliminary flights. **YOU ONLY NEED TO COME TO THE PRELIMINARY ORIENTATION YOU ARE ASSIGNED TO.**
 - Eight (8) preliminary flights will be randomly assigned and announced prior to event week. These will be assigned in 2 rounds.
- Preliminary Rounds
 - Participants will be in the holding room until their draw & prep time.
 - Materials check will occur in the orientation room
 - The top two individuals from each preliminary flight advance to the semi-final round
- Semi-Finals Round
 - The top two individuals from each preliminary flight will be invited to the semi-final round
 - Finalists will be announced during the awards ceremony

Event Details

Some states closely follow the national event, while others have modifications; the CDE handbook outlines everything you need to be prepared for the National event and may be found on the [CDE/LDE Page](#). Please pay special attention to the preparation of the material, as this is the area that most commonly differs from state rules.

The most significant clarification to the 2025 Extemporaneous Speaking Handbook is related to the use of AI tools in the preparation room. The official guidance for using AI during the allotted internet time reads *"Use of AI language models is allowed for research purposes within the 10 minutes of internet access. Competitors may not use any AI or generative language models to construct speech components (full speeches, introductions, conclusions, main points, outlines, etc.). Use of language modeling to generate speech components or verbiage will result in disqualification."*

Equipment

Chromebooks will be provided so students can access the internet for research. Individuals are not allowed to bring their own laptops to the holding or prep room.

Dress

We recommend that students wear Official Dress. Students will be allowed to bring cell phones to the event to contact others once they are finished competing. All devices must remain in a secure location (not with the student) for the entirety of their time competing.

Recognition

All individuals will be recognized at the Awards Program, held in the Indiana Convention Center. Participants, coaches, advisors, and family with convention badges are welcome to attend. This ceremony will be streamed on FFA.org. The final competition, with the top four individuals competing, will follow in the same location.

The top four individuals' final placements will be presented on stage during the Third General Session in Lucas Oil Stadium.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as superintendent. I cannot wait to see you demonstrate your skills at the event. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions as you prepare.

Sincerely,

Kasee Smith

Event Superintendent, Extemporaneous Public Speaking

801-598-8027 – klsmith@uidaho.edu



EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC SPEAKING LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT

2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

All times EDT. Schedule subject to change.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Thursday, Oct. 2	3 p.m.	Orientation	Zoom
Wednesday, Oct. 29	6:15 a.m.	Drop/Add Deadline for team members	Log into Profile to change in certification
		Holding Room	White River F (JW)
	7:15 a.m.	Orientation I	White River F (JW)
	8 - 9:45 a.m.	Preliminary Presentations I	White River G, H, I, J (JW)
	10 a.m.	Orientation II	White River F (JW)
	11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Preliminary Presentations II	White River G, H, I, J (JW)
	1 p.m.	Advancement Announcement	White River F (JW)
	1:15 p.m.	Semi-Finals Orientation	White River F (JW)
	2:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Semi-Finals Presentations	White River G, H, I, J (JW)
Thursday, Oct. 30	8 a.m.	Awards Program	500 Ballroom (ICC)
	9 a.m.	Finals Orientation	Room 115 (ICC)
	9:30 – 11 a.m.	Final Presentations	500 Ballroom (ICC)
	7 p.m.	Final Placings- Third General Session	Lucas Oil Stadium

Location Guide

- **JW Marriott (JW):** 10 S. West St., Indianapolis, IN 46204
- **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.