



Congratulations!

All times EDT

Congratulations to you and your team for qualifying for the 2025 National FFA Horse Evaluation CDE at the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo

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.

Competition Schedule

We will host a virtual team orientation this year at [11 a.m. EST on Tues. Oct. 14](#). A Zoom invite will be emailed to the certified advisor. This will be recorded and posted on the CDE/LDE Page under event orientation. Before orientation, email questions to me at josh.tjosaas@northlandcollege.edu to ensure they are addressed and included in the recording.

This year's event location is the Fall Creek Pavilion on the Indiana State Fairgrounds. For timing, reference the attached schedule. Plan travel accordingly to have your team available all day on Wednesday. There will be an event review immediately following the activities.

The team scenario and practical application activities will be conducted on Thursday at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown. Please check in at the [Lincoln](#) room on the 2nd floor. Details on team rotations and times will be provided at the virtual orientation. Please plan initially for your team to be available all morning.

Event Details

The general knowledge exam replaced the Breed and Tack exam and is valued at 60 points (topics include the equine industry, horsemanship, breed identification, management and anatomy/ physiology). This exam is administered on Chromebooks, and the students will be eligible for the National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association (NHJTCA) Equine Management and Evaluation Certification. We recommend using the [National Horse Judging Team Coaches Association Equine Study Guide](#) (link) to prepare. Students will have to achieve minimum scores on the exam and the evaluation portions of the event to earn the NHJTCA certification. In 2024, certifications were awarded to 67 of the 190 participants. (This is an additional benefit in competing at the National Horse Evaluation CDE in 2025.)

In addition, the American Paint Horse Association has offered a discount for all FFA chapters on their [HorseIQ](#) app. Receive a significant discount on a team package or 50% off your first month. Please refer to this [flyer](#) for additional information.

Keep/Cull classes—Two classes of 8 video runs will be judged individually. Students will select the best four runs to advance/keep from the 8 video runs. Classes this year will be Working Cow Horse (Cattle Portion only) and Hunter Hack. Both [AQHUniversity](#) and [HorseIQ](#) are excellent resources for evaluating these classes.

The team activities have been reduced to two practical application activities, the team scenario and the presentation.

Note: The halter classes will be judged as sound; no tracking or close inspection will be done. Please review the guidelines in the CDE handbook or the free downloadable AQHA rulebook available at <https://www.aqha.com/aqha-rulebook> regarding the specific rules for the new and all other classes.

Equipment

All necessary tools and equipment will be provided for the event, including pencils, clipboards, paper and calculators. Students will be provided with any score sheets that can be used for the classes at the event.

Food and Beverage

We will host a student box lunch on Wednesday based on our schedule. Please ensure any ***allergies have been communicated via the [accommodations request](#)***.

Dress

We recommend that students come dressed in Official FFA Dress for both days of the competition. Students will be allowed to bring cell phones to the event, but they must be turned in 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 with convention badges are welcome to attend. 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 Fourth General Session in Lucas Oil Stadium.

Our committee has been working hard all year to ensure a quality competition for all teams, and we wish you good luck. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions; the easiest and most efficient method of communication is through my email provided below. Safe travels to all, and I'll see you in Indianapolis.

Sincerely,

Josh Tjosaas

Event Superintendent, Horse Evaluation

320-583-5056 – josh.tjosaas@northlandcollege.edu



HORSE EVALUATION CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

All times EDT. Schedule subject to change.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, Oct. 14	11 a.m.	Team Orientation	Zoom
Wednesday, Oct. 29	7 a.m.	Drop/Add Deadline for team members	Log in to Profile to change in certification
	8 a.m.	Team Staging	Fall Creek Pavilion (ISF) North Entrance
	8:30 a.m.	Student directions	Fall Creek Pavilion (ISF)
	9 a.m.	Video Judging	Fall Creek Pavilion (ISF)
	9:30 a.m.	Class Judging	Fall Creek Pavilion (ISF)
	11:30 a.m.	Student Lunch to be served	
	Noon – 4 p.m.	Oral Reasons	Fall Creek Pavilion (ISF)
	4 p.m.	Event Review	Fall Creek Pavilion (ISF)
Thursday, Oct. 30	7:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Exam, Team Scenario, Practical Application Activities	Lincoln (IMD) 2 nd floor
	6 p.m.	Awards Program	Wabash Ballroom 1-2 (ICC)
Friday, Oct. 31	8 a.m.	Final Placings- Fourth General Session	Lucas Oil Stadium

Location Guide

- **Indiana State Fairgrounds (ISF):** 1202 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, IN 46205
- **Indianapolis Marriott Downtown (IMD):** 350 W. Maryland St. Indianapolis, IN 46225
- **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.