



Congratulations!

Rev. August 1, 2025
All times EDT

The National FFA Nursery/Landscape CDE Committee members and officials look forward to your team's participation in our national event during the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo.

We encourage you to use the [CDE/LDE Page](#) to keep up to date and locate the materials for the event. Please review the [General Orientation](#) for essential details. Please thoroughly review the **current** Nursery/Landscape handbook, which outlines the points and includes the updated lists and rubrics. Specific changes are listed in the "2025 CDE/LDE Rule Changes" document on the [CDE/LDE Page](#).

Orientation

We will host a virtual team orientation on [Thurs. Oct. 16, at 3 p.m. Eastern Time](#). 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 mmott@fn gla.org to ensure they are addressed and included in the recording.

Competition Schedule

The event occurs Wed. Oct. 29, in the South Pavilion of the Indiana State Fairgrounds. For timing, see the attached schedule. Plan travel accordingly. In fairness to other teams, we cannot accommodate requests for specific start times. There will be an on-site event review immediately following the conclusion of activities around 5 p.m.

Event Details

Please refer to the Plant Identification list in the current handbook. In the Pests, Disorders and Beneficial Insects Identification List, please note the following additions: in Pests Item 226 – Tick and in Weeds Item 250 Poison Ivy.

Team Skills Challenge

The Team Skills Challenge should be completed in 45 minutes, but each skill may take as long as 20 minutes. We have narrowed the challenges for this year to **1, 4, 7, 8, 10, 14, 19, and 21**. Students will compete in four to six of these challenges (400 points). Teamwork will be observed and scored during the activity (50 points).

Additional guides are available at: https://www.landscapeprofessionals.org/LP/Store/Publications/PUBK_001.aspx. There is a cost associated with these manuals. We recommend you contact your local landscape professional or state landscape association to see if they can help you obtain the set of 3 manuals.

Equipment

We will provide a basic five-function calculator, engineer's scale, an architect's scale and hand pruners. Your team members should be prepared to provide the following items for the competition:

Required: a clipboard, free of markings, and a minimum of two No. 2 pencils.

Optional: personal hand pruner or knife.

Food and Beverage

Water kiosks will be available on-site. Your team may bring snacks with them as needed.

Dress

Students should dress appropriately in work clothes and shoes. Consider wearing FFA chapter gear. Official Dress is not recommended for the competition, but highly recommended for the awards program. Cellphones, smart watches, or other electronic devices should be kept out of the event area.

Recognition

All teams and individuals will be recognized at the Awards Program, hosted at the Indiana Convention Center. Team participants, coaches, advisors, and family with convention badges are welcome to attend. The ceremony will be streamed on the convention webpage.

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

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Safe travels to all, and I'll see you in Indianapolis.

Sincerely,

Merry Mott

Event Superintendent, Nursery/Landscape

Cell- 407-832-8277 and email mmott@fn gla.org



NURSERY/LANDSCAPE CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

All times EDT. Schedule subject to change.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Thursday, Oct. 16	3 p.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. - Noon	Group 1	South Pavilion- Hall C (ISF)
		Lunch on own	
	1 – 5 p.m.	Group 2	South Pavilion- Hall C (ISF)
	5 p.m.	Event Review	South Pavilion- Hall C (ISF)
Thursday, Oct. 30	11 a.m.	Awards Program	Rooms 126-128 (ICC)
	2 p.m.	Final Placings- Second 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-req>
 - ☐ Sept-Oct. — Attend event orientation
- Before leaving for the national event at the convention**
- ☐ Confirm certified team members on FFA.org.