



Congratulations!

All times EDT

Congratulations on being selected to represent your state in the National FFA Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event 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

Please upload your manuscript by 8 p.m. EDT on Tues. Sept. 2. [Upload instructions](#) are available in the Declaration/Certification How-To Guides on the [CDE LDE webpage](#). Please upload the required "Authenticity Statement" as a separate PDF file, distinct from the manuscript. An example is below:

'I certify that all materials presented here are of my own creation and that any work adopted from other sources is duly cited and referenced as such.'

We will host a virtual orientation for participants and advisors on [Wed. Oct. 15, at 4 p.m. EDT](#). 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 elc@spurequitypartners.com to ensure they are addressed and included in the recording.

The event will be held at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown on Wednesday. Refer to the attached schedule for timing. Plan travel accordingly. We will post your flight assignment on the CDE/LDE webpage approximately one week before the event to advise you of your flight assignment. As flights are seeded based on manuscript scores, we cannot accommodate requests for specific start times.

Event Details

Additionally, rules have been established for students wishing to participate but have failed to submit manuscripts by the Sept. 2 deadline.

* Manuscripts received later than the 3rd Friday in September (Sept. 19) will receive zero points for the manuscript score. Still, such participants will be allowed to participate in the presentation and questions portion of the event if the manuscript is provided one week before the event. (Oct. 22). All late submissions should be emailed directly to cde@ffa.org. We will confirm receipt of your submission.

** Late submissions will be assessed a penalty of 20 points.*

Dress

We recommend that students compete in Official Dress.

Recognition

All teams and 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 top 4 individuals will be announced at the Awards Program and compete on stage in the 500 Ballroom of the Indiana Convention Center, with speeches beginning at noon.

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

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Safe travels to all.

Sincerely,

*E.L. Caraway
Event Superintendent, Prepared Public Speaking
817-996-9803 – elc@spurequitypartners.com*



PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT

2025 EVENT SCHEDULE

All times EDT. Schedule subject to change.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, Sept. 2	8 p.m.	Manuscript Upload Deadline	Upload in Profile as part of certification
Wednesday, Oct. 15	4 p.m.	Orientation	Zoom
Wednesday, Oct. 22	11 a.m.	Last day to submit a manuscript to participate in the Presentation round	Email your manuscript to cde@ffa.org
Wednesday, Oct. 29	7:15 a.m.	Preliminary I Speaker Orientation	Indiana Ballroom E (IMD)
	8 – 10 a.m.	Preliminary I Presentations	Indiana AB, CD, G, F (IMD)
	10:15 a.m.	Preliminary II Speaker Orientation	Indiana Ballroom E (IMD)
	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Preliminary II Presentations	Indiana AB, CD, G, F (IMD)
	1:30 p.m.	Advancement Announcement	Remind
	2:30 p.m.	Semi-Final Orientation	Indiana Ballroom E (IMD)
	3 – 4:30 p.m.	Semi-Final Presentations	Indiana AB & Indiana G (IMD)
Thursday, Oct. 30	10 a.m.	Awards Program	Room 101-103 (ICC)
	11:30 a.m.	Finals Orientation	Room 115 (ICC)
	Noon	Final Presentations	500 Ballroom (ICC)
	7 p.m.	Final Placings – Third General Session	Lucas Oil Stadium

Location Guide

- **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-req>
 - ☐ Sept-Oct. — Attend event orientation
- Before leaving for the national event at the convention**
- ☐ Confirm certified team members on FFA.org.