



GUIDELINES AND PPE REQUIREMENTS

Revised: 7 March 2025

Please review the following concepts found in the current Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems CDE Handbook at <https://ffa.box.com/v/2025-Ag-Tech-Mech-Sys-Handbook>

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SKILLS ACTIVITIES

- Electronic communication devices such as cell phones, smartwatches, and PDAs cannot be used as calculators.
- Each participant must have a clipboard, two sharpened No. 2 pencils and an electronic calculator. Calculators used in this event should be battery-operated and silent.
- Activities may involve problem-solving and calculations. A calculator is highly recommended.
- Students will have 25 minutes to complete skill activities. They will be given a ten-minute break before they pass to the next skill activity.
- Students may use their own equipment such as welding helmets, but this is not required. Except for proper clothing and safety glasses, all required equipment will be provided.
- Teachers must remain outside the event area, A proctor will monitor each student and the advisor/teacher will not be making contact with any contestants during skill activities.

SAFETY GLASSES FOR SKILL ACTIVITIES

- To enter the CDE area, students must have safety glasses in their possession.
- All participants must wear safety glasses during the team and skill events.
- Safety glasses must have a Z87+ rating.
- Side shields are required on safety glasses. Safety glasses must protect the eyes around the eyebrows, temples and cheeks.
- Personal prescription safety glasses are permitted only if they have a Z87+ rating, are equipped with side shields and meet the description above or safety glasses that can be worn over prescription glasses.

Do not bring tinted safety glasses. Only in activities where students are given verbal permission to remove their safety glasses can they take off their safety glasses. Such an example would be the written exam.

CLOTHING

- Each individual shall furnish and wear appropriate clothing for this event, such as long pants, a long-sleeved cotton shirt, coveralls, etc.
- Clothing must be in good repair and fit properly.
- Oversized or loose-fitting clothing is dangerous around agricultural equipment and is not allowed.
- Long sleeves must be worn when welding or oxy-fuel cutting. No open-toed or mesh-top footwear shall be worn during the event. Shoes with cloth tops that welding sparks can burn through are also not permitted.
- Equipment for welding, such as welding helmets and gauntlet gloves, will be provided. However, students are permitted to bring their own if they choose.