

Award Application Tips

Where do we get award applications?

- www.WisconsinFFAAlumni.org
- Contact Cheryl Steinbach, Wisconsin FFA Alumni Executive Director, at 715-937-4838 or execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org with any questions.

Due Date for State Judging: November 30th.

Due Date for National Judging: July 1st -Send all gold rated applications to the National FFA Alumni Office, 6060 FFA Drive, PO Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960

Where are award applications sent for state judging?

WI FFA Alumni Association, W2680 US Hwy 10, Granton, WI 54436.

Hints for:

National Outstanding Chapter Application:

- Number of Members involved; it is important to keep track of how many members were involved – both FFA Alumni and FFA.
- Importance of Numbers -- judges have to be able to easily identify either the number of hours invested or the money generated. The dollars raised are important but member's hours are equally important.
- Types and Diversity of Activities included in each section -- activities should directly relate to the section they are included under.
- You can only list an activity once! Put it in the category where it is most effective.
- Results should be easy to interpret and the objective of the activity should be clear.
- Pictures should be current and have a date on them. The pictures should either clarify something in the application or tell something new about your affiliate. Use a picture to show something that is unique or special about your affiliate.
- Do not forget to clip out newspaper articles and keep track of how many articles are in the paper. All photos and newspaper articles must be dated.
- Keep a calendar to write down events and activities.
- Have a report sheet that committee chairperson can fill out after each event with details as to the number of members, hours spent, dollars involved, and other information.
- Encourage all chapter members to take pictures and forward them to the member who is completing the application. Clear pictures of members in action are ideal.
- Review the application 1-2 times during the year to make sure that the affiliate is conducting activities in all the categories.

Achievement Award and Distinguished Contributor:

- Interview the person or family members.
- Include pictures in the application.
- Develop a system to select an applicant each year.
- Applicants compete best if they have activities on local, state and national levels.

- Start a file on individual FFA Alumni members. Clip articles, write down activities and keep pictures on that individual so that if they are submitted for this award, you have some information for the application.

Newsletter:

- Review the newsletter judge's form so that you know what criteria the judges are using when they evaluate the books.
- Include a calendar of events
- List of officers or contacts
- Consider various types of layouts that are easy to read, not too cluttered, easy to find articles and readable font types and size
- Can your newsletter be put on-line?
- Check into printing places for the best cost. Can it be printed at school?
- Postage – stamps or bulk?
- Consider sending newsletters to businesses, school board members, media and administration members
- Enter member's addresses into a label program to decrease time spent sending out newsletter
- Visit state and national websites for upcoming events and activities
- Use the newsletter to educate members about the FFA Alumni
- Do feature articles on FFA Alumni members
- Have feature articles on local agri-business persons.
- Contest rules require hard (printed) copies. It is necessary that the judges have a printed copy to work with and not everyone's software is compatible.