

NATIONAL CHAPTER

Award Program Guide



MICHIGAN FFA

Applications due:

Please refer to the [Association Calendar](#) for the deadline

PURPOSE

The National Chapter and Superior Chapter Award programs are designed to award those FFA chapters that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. These chapters improve their operations using a program of activities that emphasizes growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture. Chapters are rewarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership. This application process assists chapters in assessing their accomplishments.

ELIGIBILITY

All chapters that are chartered by the Michigan FFA Association are eligible to participate in the National Chapter and Superior Chapter Award programs. Chapters are eligible for recognition in the program each year. Only chapters that have submitted a program of activities for the current year are eligible to participate in the National Chapter Award Program.

APPLICATIONS

Superior Chapter Award

To apply for this recognition, the chapter must complete Form I of the National Chapter Award Application, verifying that members have completed at least one activity related to each of the [five quality standards established within the three divisions](#): growing leaders, building communities, and

strengthening agriculture. Chapters must also submit their POA. The application must be submitted as directed by the Michigan FFA Office.

National Chapter Award – Gold, Silver, or Bronze

To apply for this recognition, the chapter must complete Form I and Form II of the National Chapter Award Application, verifying that members have completed at least one activity related to each of the [five quality standards established within the three divisions](#): growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture. Chapters must also submit their POA. The application must be submitted as directed by the Michigan FFA Office.

Chapters that submit their application for the National Chapter Award, will automatically be considered for the Superior Chapter Award as well.

APPLICATION SCORING

The initial scoring of applications will determine Gold, Silver, and Bronze ratings for chapters. Additionally, this scoring will determine the Top Three National Chapter Finalists. The top three finalists will be invited to participate in a presentation and interview at State Convention.

TOP THREE PRESENTATIONS & INTERVIEWS

Number of Students

The top three FFA chapters will provide a team that consists of a maximum of two in-school FFA members.

If necessary, a third member may assist with setup/takedown and running technology for the presentation. This third team member will not be involved in the question-and-answer component of the contest but will be on-stage with the other team members.

No other presentation support is allowed, including 'co-presenters' within any media presentation. 'Co-presenters' are anyone or any group that explains, defines, or describes aspects of an activity/event/program to either enhance or substitute for information expected from the two student representatives. If

within the media presentation others are used as 'co-presenters,' 25 points will be deducted from the presentation.

All participants (including technology person) must be members in good standing with the Michigan FFA Association and on the official roster.

Equipment needed by students/provided by contest

Michigan FFA will provide a projection screen. Chapters are responsible for computers, projectors, and/or other special connectors/equipment.

The only visual aids permitted are a slide presentation. No sound, video, or hyperlinks are permitted in the presentation.

While a slide presentation is appropriate, it is not required. If a slide presentation is not used, only a speech presentation will be permitted.

Props and handouts are not permitted. Anything outside of Official Dress will be considered a prop.

Official Dress

Official Dress is required for this contest.

Official Dress for an FFA member includes:

1. An official FFA jacket zipped to the top
2. Black slacks and black socks/nylons or black skirt and black nylons
 - a. Skirt should be a minimum of knee length
 - b. Slacks should be full length
3. White collared blouse or white collared shirt
4. Official FFA tie or official FFA scarf
5. Black dress shoes with closed heel and toe

Note: Medical or cultural adjustments to required official dress may be made with prior approval of contest/event chair. Also, appropriate personal protective equipment may be used with Official Dress.

CONTEST PERSONNEL

Judges

A total of three competent and unbiased judges will be provided.

Educators and industry representatives are recommended.

During the contest, the judges will seat themselves apart from one another in different sections of the room.

Contest Chair

The contest chair will monitor the contest room and assist the judges as they compile their final team placing.

The contest chair will adequately prepare the judges before the event competition.

Timekeeper

The timekeeper should use a stopwatch and the guidelines provided.

PROCEDURE

Presentation

The presentation should consist of an introduction of the students, the chapter they represent and a brief overview of their chapter's projects. The overview should cover how the activities were tied to high quality education, how the activities related to the quality standards indicated on the application, and how the presentation will highlight what made the projects educational, beneficial, and unique/innovative.

Judges will be given copies of each chapter's application ahead of time. Judges should expect the presentation to support and enhance the written application. Therefore, the leading emphasis of the presentation should not be the creativity of the presentation but the creativity and impact of the projects.

The presentation should be related to the application by demonstrating how your chapter has improved chapter operations using a program of activities

that emphasizes growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture.

Interview

When the presentation concludes, the interview period will begin.

Questions may be taken from the application and/or the presentation.

The two FFA members making the presentation are the only individuals allowed to answer questions.

TIME

The presentation should be a maximum of 10 minutes in length. Should a presentation exceed 10 minutes, the interview will be reduced so the total presentation time plus the interviews does not exceed 20 minutes. Additionally, if the presentation is less than 10 minutes the additional time will be added to the interview so that the total time will equal 20 minutes.

SET UP TIME	
0-3 minutes	1) Set up time will begin when all presentation materials are in the room. 2) Timekeeper states, "setup time is now beginning," and starts the stopwatch. 3) Only one assistant may enter the room to help in setting up the presentation. Once set up is complete, the assistant must exit the stage. 4) No setup is allowed prior to the chapter's assigned time period.
At 3 minutes	1) Timekeeper states, "Setup time is over, presentation time is now beginning," and resets the stopwatch to zero. Note: If a chapter completes their setup in less than three minutes, the remaining time will not be added to the presentation time, rather the stop watch will be set to zero and presentation time shall commence.
PRESENTATION	
0-10 minutes	1) Neither handouts nor props will be allowed, only laptops and projectors. If a laptop is not used, only a speech presentation will be permitted. NOTE: If within the media

	<p>presentation others are used as “co-presenters,” 25 points will be deducted from the presentation.</p> <p>2) The 10-minute presentation period will begin after the chapter team has introduced themselves and indicated that they are ready to begin their presentation.</p> <p>3) There will be a warning when the 10-minute presentation time has expired.</p>
INTERVIEW	
0-10 minutes	<p>1) When the presentation concludes, the interview period will begin.</p> <p>2) The judges will be prepared to ask questions for a 10-minute period.</p> <p>3) Should a presentation exceed 10 minutes, the interview will be reduced so the total presentation time plus the interview does not exceed 20 minutes. However, if a presentation is completed in less than 10 minutes, the time remaining from the presentation time will be added to the interview to make up a 20-minute committee appearance.</p> <p>Example #1: <i>If the presentation lasts 13 minutes, 7 minutes are left for questions.</i></p> <p>Example #2: <i>If the presentation lasts 8 minutes, 12 minutes are left for questions.</i></p> <p>4) At 19 minutes, the timekeeper will provide a warning to both the presenters and judges that time is about to expire.</p>
TAKE DOWN TIME	
0-2 minutes	<p>1) At the end of the 20-minute presentation and question period, the time keeper will announce that the “time is over.”</p> <p>2) If the presenters are in the middle of answering a question it is their choice whether to complete their answer. They may either stop speaking when time is called (with no penalty) or they may complete their thought in response to the question in 1-2 sentences (with no penalty).</p> <p>3) Cleanup time shall not exceed 2 minutes.</p>
INTERMISSION	
0-5 minutes	<p>1) Between presentations, the judges will be provided an opportunity to complete their scores and comments.</p>

SCORES

Presentations and interviews will be evaluated on the following criteria. See the National Chapter Presentation & Interview Rubric for further details.

INDICATOR	CRITERIA
A1	Explained how activities were tied to the quality standards
A2	Explained how activities were educational, beneficial, and innovative.
B1	Provided background beyond the application but relevant to the activities.
B2	Spoke knowledgeably about the activities.
B3	It was clear that the chapter activities were completed by chapter members.
B4	The presentation brought the application alive.
B5	Presenters explained whether activity implementation processes were followed as originally planned and, if not, why and what was learned.
C1	Explained how and why activities were selected.
C2	Conveyed how engaged students were in activities from planning to delivery.
C3	Conveyed how creative and innovative students were in the process.
D1	Interview responses went beyond the presentation's content.
D2	Interview responses were free-flowing.
D3	Complete answers were given.
D4	Presenters were knowledgeable – more than just well-prepared.
E1	Preparation and organization was evident.
E2	Presenters did well with professionalism, disposition, and appropriate delivery (grammar, pitch, quality, articulation, language).

DETERMINING AWARDS

Judges will individually evaluate the application and presentation. The total points possible for the application is 450 points. The total points possible for the presentation is 200.

After the completion of judging, the judges are to rank and determine winners using the ranking form. Judges cannot have ties in their individual rankings. So, if a tie exists after their scores are added, they must adjust their individual scores to break the tie.

RECOGNITION

Superior Chapter Awards

The Superior Chapter certificate will be provided to each year the chapter meets the minimum quality standards for this award. Chapters earning this award will be recognized during the Business Session at the State FFA Convention.

National Chapter Awards – Gold, Silver, or Bronze

Chapters receiving a Gold, Silver, or Bronze ranking and National Chapter Finalists will be recognized during session at the State FFA Convention. All chapters receiving Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards will be represented by one student on stage.

The second presenting member for each of the top three chapters will join their other team member on stage for the announcement of the final placings.

NATIONAL LEVEL AWARDS

Chapters that have been rated Gold on the state level are invited to submit their application for consideration at the national level. Michigan may submit the number of Gold applications equal to the top three or ten percent of the number of chapters in the state, whichever is higher.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

- [National Chapter Presentation & Interview Rubric](#)
- [Program of Activities Divisions & Quality Standards](#)
- Examples of presentations from the national level can be viewed here: <https://www.ffa.org/ffa-video-center/national-convention-highlights/>
(Please note: there may be differences in time frames and requirements between state and national level presentations/interviews)