

STATE DEGREE APPLICATIONS

2026 Requirements

In addition to the checklist in AET, State Degree applications are also manually checked in the Michigan FFA Office to ensure that the remaining requirements are met. You can utilize this guide to identify the components that are manually verified. There is also an example application that includes additional hints and information throughout to aid you in completing your application.

Members of a four-year program

Show FFA membership since **2023** (or earlier)

Show a **valid SAE** and supporting records every year since **2024**

A **valid SAE** must be connected to **agriculture, food, and natural resources (AFNR)**

All SAEs must be classified as the correct type (**entrepreneurship, placement, or research**) and have appropriate supporting records

All SAEs must include a **description** that describes what the project is and **how it is connected to (AFNR)**

Have participated in a **minimum of five** leadership/FFA activities **above** the chapter level

25 hours of community service, with descriptions for each entry

Service projects must include a description and **cannot** be to FFA chapter, family members, or teaching/participating in religious services.

Members of a two-year program

Show FFA membership since **2024** (or earlier)

Show a **valid SAE** and supporting records every year since **2025**

A **valid SAE** must be connected to **agriculture, food, and natural resources (AFNR)**

All SAEs must be classified as the correct type (**entrepreneurship, placement, or research**) and have appropriate supporting records

All SAEs must include a **description** that describes what the project is and **how it is connected to (AFNR)**

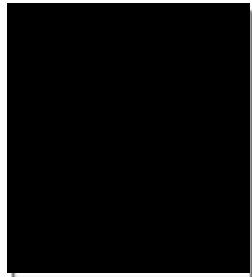
Have participated in a **minimum of five** leadership/FFA activities **above** the chapter level

25 hours of community service, with descriptions for each entry

Service projects must include a description and **cannot** be to FFA chapter, family members, or teaching/participating in religious services.



2022 Michigan FFA State Degree



Applicant Contact Information

Note: Some information and pages of this application have been removed to protect the privacy of the individual.

Chapter Information

In a **four-year program**, students must have a minimum membership of **at least 24 months**.
• Ex: For a 2026 application, membership must have started in **2023 or earlier**.

In a **two-year program**, students must have a minimum membership of **at least 16 months**.
• Ex: For a 2026 application, membership must have started in **2024 or earlier**.

FFA History

Year FFA Membership Began

2016

Had continuous active FFA membership

Yes

Year Received Chapter Degree

2019

dues been paid?

YES

Education Information

High School Graduation Year

2022

Ag Education completed in High School

Years: 4

Hours: 540

Major

Military Duty - Dates of Full-Time Active Military Duty

World Experiences in Agriculture - Date of International Placement





2022 Michigan FFA State Degree

Supervised Agricultural Experience - Placement and Exploratory

2016

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description
Animal Systems	... annually on the ... from one day of ... We hire two ... regularly. My ... care, feeding ... and any other ... assistance in my
TOTAL	

For 2026, students in a **four-year program**, must show a valid SAE and supporting records for **every year since 2024** (can be even earlier).

For 2026, students in a **two-year program**, must show a valid SAE and supporting records for every year since **2025** (can be even earlier).

Be sure all SAE projects are classified as the correct type (placement vs. entrepreneurship). **If enterprise is owned/purchased by applicant, it cannot be listed as placement, it must be listed as entrepreneurship.**

Language such as "groomed **my** horse" and "harvested **my** garden" will lead reviewers to think the applicant owns the project and it should be classified as entrepreneurship.

2017

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description
Animal Systems	... Calf Ranch ... continued work on our family farm, joining my siblings and our farm's two part-time paid employees. As I am another year older, my parents did pay for hours to gain a small paycheck.
Animal Systems	... Calf Ranch ... work on our family farm, joining my siblings and our farm's two part-time paid employees. I continue to do work unpaid to help with financial assistance in my other SAE projects.
TOTAL	

SAEs can be any combination of entrepreneurship, placement, or research for any year.

Please see additional notes below on what is required for a project to be considered a **valid SAE**.

If the project is in fact placement, be sure to clarify in description that someone else owns the enterprise.

2018

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	... Calf Ranch ... in high school, I continued work on our family farm both as paid and unpaid. I joined our farm's two part-time employees to conduct chores daily. Responsibilities increased to include more large equipment use, and our farm conducted a large feeding trial for our feed company.					
Biotechnology Systems	Drone Project I have always been interested in technology, especially drones. With some of my earnings from my county fair projects, I purchased a DJI Mavic Pro. With this drone, I am able to take high resolution pictures and videos of agricultural processes through the year. During the fall of 2018, I concentrated on combining corn.					
Animal Systems	... Calf Ranch ... As a freshman in high school, I continued work on our family farm both as paid and unpaid. I joined our farm's two part-time employees to conduct chores daily. Responsibilities increased to include more large equipment use, and our farm conducted a large feeding trial for our feed company. My unpaid hours are in return for financial assistance for my other SAE projects.					
TOTAL						

2019



Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description
Animal Systems	██████████ Calf Ranch 2019 was a challenging year for our farm as we contended with a very contagious strain of salmonella that increased our death rate a devastating 42%. New vaccination protocols were developed along with a rigorous cleaning and disinfecting system that I was instrumental in executing.
Biotechnology Systems	Drone Project With my new drone purchase last year, I expanded my aerial and video projects to include spring planting of corn, soybean hay; summer harvest of wheat; and fall harvest of corn silage combining soybeans. I also included some winter photograph spreading manure and moving cattle.
Animal Systems	██████████ Calf Ranch While I continued a paid placement on our family farm, my work hours increased from last year. I raised more commercial beef steers this year and in return for financial help from my parents continue to do some work on the farm as unpaid.

For every SAE project listed (both entrepreneurship and placement), in addition to the employer/project name, be sure to include a description. The description must be written so that an outside reviewer can understand:

1. What the project is and
2. How it is related to agriculture, food, or natural resources.

Descriptions should include a description of the project and the student's responsibilities.

Here's how to add/edit an SAE description:

Go to your Journal > Project/Experience Manager (SAE). For each project, under the resources column, there is a clipboard icon. Click the clipboard: Then enter the description into the open field and click save. Repeat these steps for each project.

2020

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	██████████ Calf Ranch This year we had one employee terminate their own employment, leading to a significant increase in my responsibility load on the farm. Beyond general calf and veterinary care, feeding research projects, hay and straw in the summer, my responsibilities grew to include castrating and dehorning, complete clean-up in all barns, automatic calf feeding machine maintenance and large machinery maintenance.					
Biotechnology Systems	Drone Project The 2020 project year brought an expansion from just agricultural processes to taking aerial landscapes including houses and farms. I also took aerial coverage of the 2020 Hopkins graduating class parade.					
Animal Systems	██████████ Calf Ranch This year we had one employee terminate their own employment, leading to a significant increase in my responsibility load on the farm. Beyond general calf and veterinary care, feeding research projects, hay and straw in the summer, my responsibilities grew to include castrating and dehorning, complete clean-up in all barns, automatic calf feeding machine maintenance and large machinery maintenance.					
	TOTAL					

2021

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Animal Systems	██████████ Calf Ranch Death loss continues to improve and cleaning protocols improve calf health which makes daily chores easier. Another addition to my life is a part-time job at a local transportation company as a trailer mechanic. I continue work on the farm, and I have no unpaid hours. Some daily responsibilities were delegated to my younger brother, but I still continue all castration, barn cleaning, large machinery maintenance, and valve repair.					
	TOTAL					

A valid SAE must be connected to agriculture, food, or natural resources. It cannot duplicate other records or activities in the application. The following **cannot** count toward SAE requirements:

- Competing or preparing for CDE/LDE - this is an FFA activity
- Anything also listed as an FFA activity or community service in the application - hours cannot be duplicated across sections of the application
- Working on the degree application itself





2022 Michigan FFA State Degree

Supervised Agricultural Experience - Entrepreneurship

An entrepreneurship SAE must have a unit of measurement when indicating the size/scope of the enterprise. Ex: "heads", "acres", "bushels", etc.

2016

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Commercial Beef Steers My family lives on a dairy starter steer farm. My SAE projects encompass many aspects of the farm. While many of our steers are sold at feeder size, I kept one steer in 2016 to raise to finish size and sell at commercial auction at Wayland. He was housed in a barn along side other steers, owned by my parents. With this steer, I learned basic care of commercial steers.	1 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Steer 2017 Turbo was my 2016 Holstein dairy starter steer that I showed at the ██████ County Fair. I exhibited him and brought him home to raise for a big dairy steer for the 2017 fair. He was 574 lbs in September 2016 and had a 2.58 average daily gain. While I have had previous 4-H dairy steer projects, with Turbo I learned better feeding programs.	1 head

2017

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	2017 Market Pigs From the first time I showed a pig for my FFA chapter in 7th grade, I loved the swine project. I expanded my SAE projects to include three market pigs for my county fair - a Berkshire barrow and a crossbred barrow and gilt. I showed two of them at the fair and exhibited one at our carcass class, of which I won reserve champion so I was able to sell the packaged meat at the fair auction. From these pigs, I learned basic care of a pig and basic showing skills.	3 head
Animal Systems	Commercial Beef Steers My family lives on a dairy starter steer farm. My SAE projects encompass many aspects of the farm. While many of our steers are sold at feeder size, I kept one steer in 2016-17 to raise to finish size and sell at commercial auction at ██████. He was housed in a barn along side other steers, owned by my parents. With this steer, I learned basic care of commercial steers.	1 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Starter Steer Snoopy was a black and white dairy starter steer that I exhibited for the 2017 ██████ County Fair. He was raised on our automatic calf feeders and grew well, at times gaining 5 pounds a day. Prior to weaning, he was fed a 22% protein 20% fat blend milk replacer.	1 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Steer 2017 Turbo was my 2016 Holstein dairy starter steer that I showed at the ██████ County Fair. I exhibited him and brought him home to raise for a big dairy steer for the 2017 fair. While I have had previous 4-H dairy steer projects, with Turbo I learned better feeding programs. Turbo grew to 1650 lbs and reached a 2.89 average daily gain. I also won top dairy steer showman with Turbo and was able to compete in my fair's overall showman contest.	1 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Steer 2018 Spartan was a red and white Holstein steer that I kept for a fat dairy steer for next year's fair project. Spartan was not an easy project, as he was very stubborn and not easy to show as he grew bigger. I learned a lot of patience with Spartan and as time moved on, he learned respect of me.	1 head
Animal Systems	Market Sheep My sister had extra lambs from her 2017 lamb crop, and I bought a wether from her to exhibit at the ██████ Co Fair. Noral was a later-born wether but grew exceptionally well. I won reserve champion wether with him at the fair. He was purchased and later exhibited at the North American International Livestock Expo and Oklahoma Youth Expo.	1 head

2018

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	2018 Market Pigs I continued my swine SAE project with three market pigs - a Berkshire barrow and crossbred gilt and barrow. I again had great success as my crossbred gilt won reserve champion carcass. This year, I learned how to clip pigs to get them show-ready and learned more finesse tips on showmanship.	3 head
Animal Systems	Commercial Beef Steers My family lives on a dairy starter steer farm. My SAE projects encompass many aspects of the farm. While many of our steers are sold at feeder size, I kept two steers this year to raise to finish size and sell at commercial auction at ██████. They were housed in a barn along side other steers, owned by my parents. With these steers, I learned basic care of commercial steers.	2 head



Animal Systems	Dairy Steer 2018 Spartan was a red and white Holstein steer that I kept from 2017 and exhibited at the 2018 Co Fair. Spartan was not an easy project, as he was very stubborn and not easy to show as he grew bigger. I learned a lot of patience with Spartan and as time moved on, he learned respect of me.	1 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Steer 2019 Leonard was a 2-year project that started as dairy starter steer at the 2018 county fair and kept to show as a fat steer at the 2019 fair. Leonard was a docile, easy-to-care-for steer. With he was not my first dairy steer project, I learned more feeding programs to maximize growth techniques, and fine tuned my showmanship skills.	1 head

The scope for entrepreneurship SAEs automatically defaults to 1. Be sure to update this number to accurately reflect the project.

2019

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	2019 Market Pigs I continued my swine SAE project with three market projects - a Yorkshire gilt and crossbred barrow and gilt. My parents bought one pig from me and butchered for our own pork. The other two pigs were exhibited at the county fair and sold through the fair auction. This year, I learned to feed supplements along with basic feed.	3 head
Animal Systems	Commercial Beef Steers I expanded this part of my SAE, raising and selling five commercial steers to finish size. As with my dairy starter steer for the county fair, I had challenges in the herd with the clostridial and salmonella outbreak. I had to feed the supplement Clostat to the commercial steers as well, improving their feed consumption and overall weight gain. I am also learning how to improve ADG in fat steers, increasing to an overall 2.69.	5 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Starter Steer 2019 #6343 was my 2019 dairy starter steer project and my 8th starter steer project overall. This was a challenging year not only for this project but for our entire farm's steers. We had a clostridial and salmonella outbreak. To combat this problem, we began feeding a feed supplement, Clostat, that was mixed into our corn. Clostat improved their gut health and made them feel better, which led to increased feed consumption. This led to my highest ADG yet at 2.95 from wean to 500 lb feeder size.	1 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Steer 2019 Leonard was a 2-year project that started as dairy starter steer at the 2018 county fair and kept to show as a fat steer at the 2019 fair. Leonard was a docile, easy-to-care-for steer. With he was not my first dairy steer project, I learned more feeding programs to maximize growth, clipping techniques, and fine tuned my showmanship skills.	1 head
Animal Systems	Market Sheep While I have shown sheep for many years, I purchased one lamb from my sister's flock and raised him for the sole purpose of exhibiting at our county carcass class. With this project, I learned how to feed a lamb on commercial non-show feed while maximizing average daily gain in a short period of time. I achieved my goal, winning reserve champion carcass and was able to sell this meat at our county livestock auction.	1 head

2020

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	2020 Market Pigs From the start of this year's project, I wasn't sure if there would be a county fair due to the covid pandemic, but I surged ahead and purchased market pigs. This year I learned how to feed pigs on a more economical feed while still maximizing their weight gain. I achieved a 2.5 lb average daily gain. The last 30 days, I wet-fed to expand meat muscling. While our county fair was canceled, we were able to show at a one-day stock show and had to market our pigs on our own as custom butcher pigs.	3 head
Animal Systems	Commercial Beef Steers My commercial steer herd continues to grow; some of these steers are part of my wages from the farm. My responsibilities on the farm greatly increased this year, with the reduction in our employees. I took over the care of the fat steer barn completely. I learned how to properly clean the barn and promptly haul manure generated from this barn. I also learned how to check feed levels in the bin and call in feed orders to our feed company when needed.	8 head
Animal Systems	Dairy Steer 2020 #6343 was my dairy starter steer from 2019 which I kept over the winter to show as a dairy steer at the 2020 fair. After the cancellation of our county fair, I moved this project to my younger brother, and he showed #6343 as a dairy steer at the one-day stock show. We both learned about marketing a fat animal after the cancellation of the auction and sold him as a custom butcher after the show.	1 head

2021



Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	<p>Commercial Beef Steers In 2020, I took over the care of the fat steer barn completely. In addition to cleaning the barn and calling in feed orders to our feed company, I also help with barn and fence maintenance. I am a senior in high school and am preparing to leave the farm for trade school. As my fat steers are sold, I am not replacing them.</p>	2 head
Animal Systems	<p>Market Sheep At the beginning of the year, it was unclear if there would be a county fair with the traditional market projects because of COVID restrictions. As in previous years, my sister had a few extra lambs so I purchased two ewes from her to exhibit at the county fair. They were housed alongside other lambs, and this year I learned how to feed lambs with commercial feed. I had a back-up plan of butchering these lambs if the fair was cancelled.</p>	2 head





2022 Michigan FFA State Degree

Income and Expense Summary of SAE Program

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1. Revenues from Operations						
a. Closing Current Inventory						
b. Beginning Current Inventory						
c. Change in Current Inventory						
d. Cash Sales						
e. Value Used at Home (Non-cash)						
f. Value of Production Transferred to other enterprise, Transferred to Non-Current, Bartered or Labor Exchanged (Non-cash)						
g. Gross Revenues (Change in Current Inventory and Total Sales)						
2. Expenses from Operations						
a. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Cash)						
b. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Non-Cash Transfers)						
c. Cash Expenses (all other types)						
d. Non-Cash Expenses (Transferred, Bartered, or SAE Labor Exchange)						
e. Contributed Non-Cash Expenses (Gift or non-SAE Labor Exchange)						
f. Total Operating Expenses						
3. Net Income from Operations						
4. Non-Current Inventory						
a. Closing Inventory						
b. Transfer in from Operations (Non-Cash Transfers of non-current assets)						
c. Contributed Inventory (Outside contribution of non-current assets - gift)						
d. Purchases						
e. Beginning Inventory						
f. Sales						
g. Non-Cash Sales						
h. Net Non-Current Transactions						
5. Net Income From Operations & Net Non-Current Transactions						
6. Annual Profitability Measures						
a. Operating Profit Margin (OPM) Net Operating Income/Totals Sales = % of sales related to profit						
b. % of Total Returns from Net Non-Current Gains (Net Non-Current Gains/Total Gains)						
c. Review Non-Current Ending Inv. Value						
7. Non-Cash Transfer/Exchange Review						
a. Check if Non-Cash Transactions are Balanced						
b. Difference that non-cash income categories Non-Cash minus Non-Current Expenses are off						

For **every year** that an entrepreneurship project is listed on the Supervised Agricultural Experience - Entrepreneurship page(s) of the application, there must also be the appropriate financial records for that year on the Income and Expense Summary page(s).



	Total
1. Revenues from Operations	
a. Closing Current Inventory	
b. Beginning Current Inventory	
c. Change in Current Inventory	
d. Cash Sales	
e. Value Used at Home (Non-cash)	
f. Value of Production Transferred to other enterprise, Transferred to Non-Current, Bartered or Labor Exchanged (Non-cash)	
g. Gross Revenues (Change in Current Inventory and Total Sales)	
2. Expenses from Operations	
a. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Cash)	
b. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Non-Cash Transfers)	
c. Cash Expenses (all other types)	
d. Non-Cash Expenses (Transferred, Bartered, or SAE Labor Exchange)	
e. Contributed Non-Cash Expenses (Gift or non-SAE Labor Exchange)	
f. Total Operating Expenses	
3. Net Income from Operations	
4. Non-Current Inventory	
a. Closing Inventory	
b. Transfer in from Operations (Non-Cash Transfers of non-current assets)	
c. Contributed Inventory (Outside contribution of non-current assets - gift)	
d. Purchases	
e. Beginning Inventory	
f. Sales	
g. Non-Cash Sales	
h. Net Non-Current Transactions	
5. Net Income From Operations & Net Non-Current Transactions	
6. Annual Profitability Measures	
a. Operating Profit Margin (OPM) Net Operating Income/Totals Sales = % of sales related to profit	
b. % of Total Returns from Net Non-Current Gains (Net Non-Current Gains/Total Gains)	
c. Review Non-Current Ending Inv. Value	
7. Non-Cash Transfer/Exchange Review	
a. Check if Non-Cash Transactions are Balanced	
b. Difference that non-cash income categories Non-Cash minus Non-Current Expenses are off	





2022 Michigan FFA State Degree

Leadership/FFA Activities

Activity	Chapter	Area, District or Region	State	National Finals Multi-State	National
██████████ useum	17				
Culvers FFA Night	16,17,18,19				
Donkey Basketball	18,19,20				
Great Wolf Lodge	19				
Homecoming BBQ	17,18,19				
Monthly Meeting	16,17,18,19,20,21				
Chapter Hayride and Pumpkin Carving	17,18,19,20,21				
Chapter Banquet	16,17,18,19,20,21				
Cedar Point rewards trip	18,19				
Career Night					
Baseball Concessions					
Mini Convention					
██████████ Fair		17,18,19,21			
Region 1 Officer Training Camp		19,20			
██████████ Stock Show		20			
Region 1 Dance		21			
CDE: Forestry - JH Forestry			17		
Dairy Days Dairy Quiz Bowl			17,18,19		
State Convention			17,18,19,20,21		
CDE: Junior Quiz - Spring Ag Skills			18		
CDE Bootcamp			18		
CDE: Junior Prepared Public Speaking - Drones: A New Era in Agriculture is Taking Off		18	18		
Michigan Fiber Fest			18,19		
CDE: Forestry - Forestry			18,19		
CDE: Extemporaneous Speaking - Extemporaneous Speaking		18,19,20	18,19		
Color Guard	17,18,19,20	19	18,19		
SLCCO			19		
Michigan Livestock Expo			19		
CDE: Junior Creed Speaking - Creed Speaking	16	17	17		17
National Convention					17,18,19,21
Office: Chaplain	19				
Office: Parliamentarian	20				
Poplar Hill Cemetary Clean Up	17,18,19,20,21				
Pumpkin Carving and Hayride	18,19				
Set up for Old Iron Day	17,18				
Spring Chicken BBQ	17,18,19				
Spring Plant Sale	17,18,19				
Winter Recreation	18				

For both a four-year and two-year program, students must have participated in a **minimum of 5** leadership/FFA activities **above** the chapter level



