



Growing Agriculture's Future
Since 1975

Outstanding Young Agriculturalist Award

Rules and Application

Purpose

- To recognize High School junior or senior students for outstanding academic, community and agricultural achievement. (must be a junior or senior on March 31 of the year of competition)
- To encourage students to evaluate their progress and career goals.
- To stimulate students' interest in striving for leadership opportunities and involvement in the agriculture and/or agribusiness industries.

Judging and Deadline

****Application must be completed and submitted by March 31 to:**

VFBF Young Farmers, PO Box 27552, Richmond, VA 23261

****Submitting electronically is acceptable - please email to ron.saacke@vafb.com**

Applications received by the deadline will be evaluated by judges to select finalists by early May. All applicants will be notified of standings by e-mail or phone; finalists will be given additional instructions for the state competition at that time.

An Oral Presentation (speech) will be required for finalists competing in the state contest. Finalists will compete for the state title at the Young Farmers Summer Expo held in late-July/early-August with competition location to be announced at a later date.

Judging Criteria

The following point values will be used by the judges in scoring this award.

- 20 points Academic
- 20 points General Leadership
- 25 points Farm/Agriculture-related Experience
- 10 points Recommendations
- 25 points Oral Presentation

Awards and Recognition

- The state winner will receive a cash scholarship of \$1,500 sponsored by Farm Credit, Southern Farm Bureau and the Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers Committee. A runner-up will receive \$500 from VAFB Young Farmers.
- All finalists and parents, if desired, will have hotel and meal expenses covered during the Young Farmers Summer Expo event. Competition will include making your presentation and answering questions from judges during a 10-minute speech and interview process.
- Each finalist, other than the state winner & runner-up, will receive a \$250 award sponsored by Virginia's Farm Credit Associations and Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company.

For more information or questions about this contest, contact:

Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers, P.O. Box 27552, Richmond, VA 23261

Phone: 804-514-4202 or by e-mailing: ron.saacke@vafb.com.

This application may be duplicated and up to 2 pages can be added as needed to answer questions.

Application deadline is March 31

Outstanding Young Agriculturalist Award Application



Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell/Primary Phone Number: (_____) _____

Parent's Name(s): Father _____ Mother _____

County: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Email Address _____

High School: _____ (check one) ___ Junior ___ Senior

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

School Phone: (_____) _____

1. Academic – 20 points

Current Grade Point Average: _____

What was your favorite class in school and why? _____

What are your current and future academic goals? _____

2. General Leadership – 20 points

- a. List the organizations in which you are a member. Describe your leadership role in each and/or the projects or activities involved. (Include high school, church, civic, sports, etc.)

- b. Describe your off-farm work experience including name of employer and skills developed.

3. Farm/Ag-Related Experience – 25 points

- a. Describe your participation and leadership roles in 4-H, FFA, Farm Bureau and other agriculture related organizations.

- b. Describe your on-farm work experience and any other farm-related experiences.

- c. Describe your county fair and/or State Fair participation.

d. Why do you feel you should be selected to receive the Outstanding Young Agriculturalist Award?

4. Recommendation letters and other requirements – 10 points (letters)

- a. **Attach two letters of recommendation.** One must be school-related and one must be agriculture-related.
- b. Send a high-quality photograph or e-mail a digital copy that can be used for publicity purposes.

5. Oral Presentation – 25 points (Presentation will be made during the district and final competitions)

- a. Theme: ***Growing our Agriculture Industry for the Future***
- b. Presentation will be 3-5 minutes in length -- no need to send with application, but must be ready to give your speech if chosen as a finalist for competition at the state level. (No props or Power Point presentations are allowed)

Provide a 5-7 line personal biography in third person:

I understand that by signing this application, I have included information that can be verified as truthful in all accounts. I also understand that my photo and background information may be used by Virginia Farm Bureau for publicity purposes in highlighting winners and finalists of the program.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____



Send completed application by March 31st to:

Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers, P. O. Box 27552, Richmond, VA 23261
Or e-mail to ron.saacke@vafb.com

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