

# Kansas Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award

## Rules for 2021 KFB YF&R Competition

Adapted from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

### **Background**

The Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Excellence in Agriculture Award competition is designed as an opportunity for young farmers and ranchers to earn recognition, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture. Participants will be judged on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, and participation/involvement in Farm Bureau and other organizations (i.e., civic, service and community). **The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence in Agriculture Award is an individual or couple who does not have the majority of his/her net income subject to normal production risk.** The winner(s) of the award will compete in the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Excellence in Agriculture competition in early 2022.

**COVID-19: If KFB is unable to hold the 2021 YF&R Leaders Conference in-person due to COVID-19, the competitive events will be held virtually and/or on an alternate date, and all applicants should be made aware of this possibility prior to their application.**

Information about the Excellence in Agriculture applicant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND IS DESTROYED AFTER JUDGING IS COMPLETED.

### **Eligibility**

- An applicant can be either an individual or a couple that is married or has similar legal rights under Kansas law. Applicant may choose to apply individually, rather than as a couple.
- Applicant(s) shall be a Farm Bureau member(s) between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with his/her county Farm Bureau. The individual or spouse/spousal-equivalent shall have reached his/her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday at the time of competition and shall not have reached his/her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday by Jan. 31, 2022.
- Applicant(s) must not have derived a majority of his/her net income from an owned production agriculture enterprise in any of the past three years.
- Applicant(s) may only compete in one KFB YF&R Competition per year.
- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee, present members of the KFB YF&R Committee and/or their spouse are not eligible to compete.
- Past KFB YF&R of the Year or Achievement Award winners and/or previous AFBF Achievement Award competitors are not eligible to compete.
- Previous AFBF Excellence in Agriculture Award competitors are not eligible to compete. Past KFB YF&R Excellence in Agriculture winners are eligible if they have not previously competed at the national level.
- Current employees or agents of county, state and/or the American Farm Bureau organizations and their affiliates are not eligible to compete. An affiliate is defined as an entity owned or controlled in whole or in part by another entity through, for example, ownership (including partial ownership) or positions on the board of directors. Past employees who were responsible for implementing any of the YF&R Competitive Events at the state or national level are ineligible.

### **Entry Form & Application Guidelines**

- This entry form is adapted and simplified from the American Farm Bureau Federation application.
- Do not use applicant's name, the name of his/her state or county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of the applicant's state beyond the entry form. The written versions of the application have a search feature to locate any identifiers. Verbal and presentation reference to applicants' name, state and county will be allowed during your presentation for personalization of presentation.
- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. "A1"/"A2" may not be used for questions 1-5. Applicants must use "A1"/"A2" to denote each applicant for all of question 6.
- Do not use abbreviations or acronyms, unless it has been spelled out once with the abbreviation in parentheses behind it. For example, United States Department of Education (USDE). AFBF, FB, and YF&R are acceptable to use throughout the application.
- The winning applicant(s) will be the KFB representative(s) in the 2022 AFBF Excellence in Agriculture Award contest and will be asked to expand their application and presentation to meet the AFBF qualifications prior to the deadline in late 2021. KFB staff will assist the winner(s) with this process and coach him/her prior to the 2022 AFBF competition. The applicant(s) will also be highlighted at the 2021 KFB Annual Meeting to recognize the member(s), promote YF&R and encourage future participation in the contest.
- Applications must be submitted to [yfr@kfb.org](mailto:yfr@kfb.org) for entry in the contest.
- County Farm Bureaus have permission to reproduce the attached entry form as a recruitment tool.

- It will be up to the judges' discretion to deduct points if applicants include activities before they were 18.

**Note: Disregard of the guidelines will result in disqualification of the application.**

**Presentation Guidelines**

- The presentation will be an interactive, 20-minute presentation, in which the applicant(s) has an opportunity to share the contents of his/her/their entire application in narrative form with a panel of three judges and the audience.
  - Applicant(s) will have 20 minutes to present on the topics addressed in the application and address questions from the judges. Applicants will be notified by the timekeeper when 10 minutes are remaining and again when five (5) minutes are remaining. Each judge will be prepared to ask at least one question. Time will be called and conclude the applicant's time in front of the judges at 20 minutes even if judges have not been able to ask their questions. It will be up to the applicant(s) to determine how they use this time.
- The only visual means in which to deliver the information is through a PowerPoint or Prezi presentation. The applicant(s) needs to submit their presentation on a USB flash drive at registration at the KFB YF&R Leaders Conference. A computer, LCD projector, screen and one slide advancer remote will be provided. All presentations must be formatted to work on a PC. Contestants will not be allowed to use their own computer.
- Verbal and presentation references to applicant(s) name and county will be allowed during the presentation.
- No props (including notes), sound or video of any kind will be allowed during the presentation.
- Applicants are not allowed to view other presentations until after they have completed their own. Spectators will be allowed based on space.

**Judging**

- All applications will be *judged prior to the YF&R Leaders Conference.*

<u>Application</u>		<u>Approx. %</u>
Questions 2-4	180 points	45.0%
*Ag Involvement, Impact on Ag and Issues Facing Ag Goals	40 points	10.0%
Farm Bureau Experience	90 points	22.5%
Other Leadership Experience	80 points	20.0%
Application Form	<u>10 points</u>	<u>2.5%</u>
* Writing should be clear, descriptive and free of grammatical errors.		
<b>MAXIMUM POINTS</b>	<b>400 points</b>	<b>100% (80% of Total Score)</b>
<u>Presentation</u>		
Delivery of Presentation	30 points	30%
Content of Presentation	40 points	40%
<u>Responses to Questions</u>	<u>30 points</u>	<u>30%</u>
<b>MAXIMUM POINTS</b>	<b>100 points</b>	<b>100% (20% of Total Score)</b>

**Deadline**

Entry forms and applications must be emailed **on or before 11:59 p.m. CST June 1, 2021** to [yfr@kfb.org](mailto:yfr@kfb.org).

**Kansas Farm Bureau  
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award**

**2021 Application for KFB YF&R Competition**

Adapted from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Entry forms and applications must be emailed **on or before 11:59 p.m. CST June 1, 2021** to [yfr@kfb.org](mailto:yfr@kfb.org).

The data below and throughout the application applies to you and your spouse/spousal-equivalent, if married. Please indicate "Applicant 1" (A1) and "Applicant 2" (A2) when responding to question 6.

Applicant(s)\*:           A1 \_\_\_\_\_ A2 \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Will be used in the program and for recognition*

Phonetic Pronunciation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:                   A1 \_\_\_\_\_ A2 \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth:           A1 \_\_\_\_\_ A2 \_\_\_\_\_

Education/Degree:    A1 \_\_\_\_\_ A2 \_\_\_\_\_

Short Courses/Specialized Study: A1 \_\_\_\_\_ A2 \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements. KFB reserves the right to use my (our) photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of the undersigned contestant(s) may also be available to Farm Bureau sponsors. I (we) have not derived a majority of my (our) income from an owned production agricultural enterprise in any of the past three years. By participating in the Event, I (we) warrant that I (we) fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the KFB YF&R official contest rules and the decisions of the KFB YF&R Committee, which are final and binding.

**COVID-19**

If KFB is unable to hold the 2021 YF&R Leaders Conference in-person due to COVID-19, the competitive events will be held virtually and/or on an alternate date. All applicants must be made aware of this possibility prior to their application. Applicants will be advised as soon as possible after the decision is made.

Applicant(s) Signature(s):   A1 \_\_\_\_\_ A2 \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the above-named applicant(s) is the official state entry and is therefore eligible to be entered in and considered for KFB's Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award for 2021.

County President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kansas Farm Bureau  
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award**

**2021 Application for KFB YF&R Competition**

Adapted from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

*Note: Remember to write in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. Remember no county-specific identifiers.*

**1. PERSONAL BACKGROUND** (family, education and personal interests)

**2. AGRICULTURAL INVOLVEMENT**

A. Please explain the applicant(s) occupation.

## **2. AGRICULTURAL INVOLVEMENT (continued)**

B. Please explain the applicant's (applicants') personal involvement in agriculture/agribusiness.

## **3. IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE**

Clearly describe the efforts the applicant(s) have taken to positively promote and impact the agriculture industry. Examples may include things such as hosting farm tours, legislative visits, writing a blog, etc.

#### 4. **ISSUES FACING AGRICULTURE**

- A. Agriculture faces important issues at the local, state, national and international levels. Explain three important issues that the industry needs to address in the next five years. Choose one issue from three of the four levels mentioned above. For example, an applicant might select ag literacy as a local issue, mental health as a state issue and rural broadband as a national issue.

#### **4. ISSUES FACING AGRICULTURE (continued)**

B. Choose one of the issues in your response to 4A and discuss how you personally have addressed, or can address, that issue and work towards a resolution.

5. **GOALS** What goals does the applicant(s) have for the next five years related to his/her career, Farm Bureau involvement and involvement with other organizations? What steps have been made to reach these goals?



**6. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (from age 18 to current)**

*Note: This applies to both applicants, if applying together. Please indicate A1 and A2 when applicable.*

- A. List Farm Bureau leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers. Please include years of involvement. *Example: A1 – Elected President of the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors (2018-2019)*

**County Farm Bureau**

**State/American Farm Bureau**

**6. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (continued)**

- B. List other agricultural leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers. (i.e. Farm Credit, Soil Conservation, Farm Service Agency, farm cooperatives, 4-H, etc.). Please include organization, description and years of involvement.

*Example: A1 & A2 – 4-H, Serves as a 4-H Livestock Club Leader (2018 – present)*

- C. List other community and non-agricultural leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers (i.e. civic/service clubs, church, school, volunteer leadership, etc.) Please include organization, description and years of involvement.

*Example: A1 – Local Elementary School, Served as Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President (2017-2019)*

If you had any situations or circumstances that may affect your leadership experiences, please use this space to explain. If you don't have any situations or circumstances, please leave blank.

*Note: There are no points associated to this section and can be left blank.*