



**Updated 9/2021*

Creed Speaking

Purpose

The FFA Creed outlines the organization's beliefs regarding the industry of agriculture, FFA membership and the value of citizenship and patriotism. The Creed is recited by FFA members as part of the requirements to earn the Greenhand FFA Degree. The purpose of the Creed speaking leadership development event is to develop the public speaking abilities of ninth grade FFA members as well as develop their self-confidence and contribute to their advancement in the FFA degree program.

General Information

The Kansas FFA State Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event will be limited to two participants from each district.

- Contestants must be ninth grade FFA members, if from a four-year agricultural education program, or tenth grade FFA members, if from a three-year agricultural education program.
- The state winner will present the Creed during the convention session immediately following the announcement of the winner.
- The state winner will be eligible to compete at the National FFA Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event as long as they are a ninth grade FFA member.

Event Rules

- It is highly recommended that participants wear FFA Official Dress for this event.
- Three to five competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the event. At least one judge should have an agricultural/FFA background. Any advisor who has a student competing in a speaking event may not serve as a judge for that respective speaking event.
- Any participant in possession of any electronic device is subject to disqualification.

Event Format

- The event will include an oral presentation and answering critical thinking questions directly related to the Creed.

- Each participant will be asked three questions per round with a five-minute total time limit. The questions used will change as the participant progresses to final round of the event. The questions will be formulated annually by the Creed speaking leadership development coordinator and will avoid two-part questions.
- Members will present the Creed from the current year's Official FFA Manual.
- The event will be a timed activity with four minutes for presentation. After four minutes, the participant will be deducted one point for every second over set time.
- The state event will be conducted in two rounds: preliminary (consisting of seven speakers per section) and finals (four participants). The top two speakers from each preliminary section will advance to the final round. No ranking will be given except for the final four. Feedback for all participants will be distributed at the registration area following the announcement of the results.
- Event officials will randomly determine the speaking order. The room facilitator will introduce each participant and chapter in order of the drawing. No props are to be used.
- Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
- Each participant must recite the Creed from memory. Each participant shall begin the presentation by stating, "The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany." Each LDE participant shall end the presentation with the statement, "... that inspiring task. Thank you." Additional introductory or concluding remarks will result in accuracy deductions as indicated on the scorecard.
- Participants will be held in isolation until their presentation. Participants will not be allowed to have contact with any outside persons.
- At the time of the event, the judges will be seated in a designated section of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant on the delivery of the Creed and responses using the rubric provided.
- Timekeepers will be designated to record the time used by each participant in delivering his/her speech. Content accuracy judges will record the number of recitation errors during delivery.
- When participants have finished the presentation and answering of questions, each judge will total the score of each speaker. The timekeepers' and accuracy judges' records will be used in computing the final score for each participant. The judges' score sheets will then be submitted to event officials to determine final ratings of participants.
- Participants will be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score to be determined by each judge without consultation. The judges' ranking of each participant then will be added, and the winner will be that participant whose total ranking is the lowest. Other placings will be determined in the same manner (low-point score method of selection).
- During preliminary round, recording of presentations is permitted by one person from each participant's chapter for that participant only.

Tiebreakers

Ties will be broken based on the greatest number of low ranks. Participants' low ranks will be counted, and the participant with the greatest number of low ranks will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, then the event superintendent will rank the participant's response to questions. The participant with the greatest number of low ranks from the response to questions will be declared the winner.

Awards

Awards will be presented on stage during a session of State FFA Convention based upon their rankings to the top four individuals as follows:

- 1st place- \$100, plaque and gold medal
- 2nd place- \$50, plaque and gold medal
- 3rd place- \$25, plaque and gold medal
- 4th place- \$25, plaque and gold medal

Awards are sponsored by cooperating industry sponsors as a special project and/or by the general fund of the Kansas FFA Foundation.

References

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive.

Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. Make sure to use discretion when selecting website references by only using reputable, proven sites. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation. The most current edition of resources will be used.

- Past finals hall footage are available by logging in to [FFA.org/participate/ides/creed-speaking](https://www.ffa.org/participate/ides/creed-speaking).
- National FFA Core Catalog: Developing Great Speeches Guide
- Current year's Official FFA Manual, [FFA.org](https://www.ffa.org)