

New Jersey FFA - State Officer Selection Process

Updated: 1/11/24

The state officer selection process for the New Jersey FFA Association will consist of eight different rounds, which evaluate potential candidates in the eleven focus areas designated as measures of success for state officers.

AREAS EVALUATED

Candidates will be evaluated in the areas listed below. Specific information including skill indicators, rubrics, and the scoring parameters surrounding these focus areas will only be seen by the nominating committee and adult coordinators to ensure integrity and a fair process for all candidates.

Candidates will be evaluated on their abilities in the following areas:

- *Sound Character*
- *Time Management*
- *Positive Influence*
- *Professionalism*
- *Conversation Skills*
- *Team Player*
- *Providing Clear & Relevant Messaging*
- *Communication Abilities*
- *Advocacy Abilities*
- *Workshop Facilitation*
- *Public Speaking*

SCORING PROCESS ROUNDS

The rounds for the nominating committee process are as follows:

Writing Exercise – 60 minutes

This round will happen online one week prior to the State FFA Convention. All candidates will have 60 minutes to complete a writing exercise which places them in a situation they may encounter as a state officer. Possible writing assignments include (but are not limited to) a blog post, magazine article, written testimony relating to the National FFA Delegate process, etc. The writing exercise will be based off of a list of topics which will be published for all candidates. Candidates are encouraged to understand each topic well. However, the exercise will also require candidates to demonstrate an understanding of how that particular topic relates to all themes (agriculture, FFA, and American education).

Social Media Exercise – 60 minutes

This round will happen online one week prior to the State FFA Convention. All candidates will have 60 minutes to demonstrate how they would utilize social media as a state officer through prompted scenarios. Candidates will be given the social media platform (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) and the scenario they are expected to utilize it for and will be asked to create a post based on that that scenario. Candidates can expect 2-5 scenarios that must be completed. This round will be a simulation and not conducted using actual social media platforms to protect candidates' privacy and the integrity of the process.

Media Interview – 3 minutes

Throughout a state officers' year of service, they may engage in newspaper, radio or TV interviews. Prior to the official start of the State Officer Selection Process, each state officer candidate will be interviewed and recorded by the Nominating Committee Assistant. The focus of the Media Round is on the candidate's demonstration of FFA and Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Education knowledge and self-promotion while conducting a media interview. **This round will not be scored.** The answers candidates provide in this round will be used for evidence during deliberations only.

Personal Round 1 (6:1) – 4 minutes, 3 questions

In this introductory round, candidates will have four minutes to answer three questions posed by the nominating committee. Questions will be in the realm of "tell us about yourself", "why have you decided to run for state FFA office", etc. Additionally, candidates can expect one question posed by the committee to be in direct relation to something from the candidate's application.

One-on-One (1:1) – 5 minutes, 5 questions

Over the course of thirty minutes, candidates will have an opportunity for a one on one conversation with each committee member. The purpose of this round is for the committee to develop rapport with candidates and get to know them, as well as have an opportunity for evaluation of targeted indicators for measures of success through structured questions. Each conversation will last no longer than five minutes, with two minutes given for committee members to score in between.

Facilitation (6:1) – 20 minutes to prepare, 10 minutes to deliver

This round focuses on a candidate's ability to influence through facilitated presentation in front of a live audience. Candidates will have twenty (20) minutes to plan, prepare, and organize their workshop with the materials provided. In addition to materials, candidates will also be provided with instructions that provide specific content objectives for their workshop. Following their preparation time, candidates will have ten (10) minutes to present their workshop portion to an audience of 5-10 live students, with the nominating committee observing. This round is strictly observation only and no questions will be asked.

Representation Round (6:1) – 5 minutes to deliver, 5 minute conversation

This round focuses on a candidate's ability to advocate for agriculture, FFA, or American education. Candidates will have twenty (20) minutes to plan, prepare, and organize their advocacy speech based on the instructions provided. Following their preparation time, candidates will have five (5) minutes to deliver their presentation to the nominating committee and industry representative(s). Following the five minutes of delivery, candidates will have a five (5) minute follow-up conversation with an industry representative. The committee will evaluate the candidates' ability to advocate and articulate facts and key messages regarding the agriculture industry, FFA, and American education.

Personal Round II (6:1) – 10 minutes, undetermined number of questions

This final round of the process gives both the candidates and the committee one final opportunity to ask or answer any questions they feel are pivotal to making their final decision. The structure of this round, number of questions asked, and what is asked, is highly autonomous and is largely at the discretion of the nominating committee. Candidates will have ten (10) minutes to answer the committee's questions and articulate anything else they feel the committee should know. **This round will not be scored.** The answers candidates provide in this round will be used for evidence during deliberations only.