



NEW JERSEY FFA

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CAREER AND LEADERSHIP  
DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

# Creed Speaking

2017-2021

## 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 7th, 8th and 9th grade FFA members as well as develop their self-confidence and contribute to their advancement in the FFA degree program.*

## Event Rules

- The New Jersey FFA Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event will be limited to one participant per chapter. The participant must be in grades 7, 8 or 9.
- It is highly recommended that participants wear FFA Official Dress for this event.
- Any participant in possession of any electronic device at any point throughout the event 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 the final round of the event. The questions will be formulated annually.

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 have one point deducted for every second over set time.

The state event will be conducted in two rounds (if more than 8 contestants and at the discretion of the state FFA advisor and the state FFA specialist): preliminary (consisting of four to eight speakers per section) and finals (four participants). The top two speakers from each preliminary section will advance to the finals. The final round will take place 30 minutes following the last contestant in the preliminary round. No ranking will be given except for the final four.

Event officials will randomly determine the speaking order, unless of scheduling conflicts (i.e. State Officer Selection Process). The room facilitator will introduce each participant by participant name 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 CDE 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. Participants are not allowed to re-enter the event room to observe other participants.

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 to the questions 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 rankings 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).

## Scoring

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 the participant whose total ranking is the lowest.

### TIEBREAKERS

Ties will be broken based on the greatest number of low ranks. Participant's 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. If a tie still exists then the participant's raw scores will be totaled. The participant with the greatest total of raw points will be declared the winner.

## Awards

Awards will be presented to teams based upon their rankings at the 3<sup>rd</sup> general session of the New Jersey State FFA Convention. Awards are sponsored by the New Jersey FFA Foundation.

### Individual

- 1<sup>st</sup> – \$100.00, plaque sponsored by the National FFA, certificate & pin
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – \$75.00 & pin
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – \$50.00 & pin

The 1<sup>st</sup> place individual will represent New Jersey at the Big E in September and the National FFA Convention in October (if 60% mastery is met).

## 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. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

- National FFA Core Catalog-<http://shop.FFA.org>
  - Figures of Speech DVD
  - Developing Great Speeches Guide
- Past CDE materials, finals hall footage and other resources are available by logging in to <https://www.ffa.org/participate/cdes/creed-speaking>
- Current year's official FFA manual (ffa.org)



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# Creed Speaking LDE Presentation Rubric

## 100 points

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

INDICATORS	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Points
<b>Oral Communication- 30 points</b>						
Pace	Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience	Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has unnecessary hesitations	Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience		X2	
Tone	Voice is upbeat, impassioned and under control	Voice is somewhat upbeat, impassioned and under control	Voice is not upbeat; lacks passion and control		X2	
Volume	Emitted a clear, audible voice for the audience present	Emitted a somewhat clear, audible voice for the audience present	Emitted barely audible voice for the audience present		X2	
<b>Non-Verbal Communication- 30 points</b>						
Eye Contact	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. Constantly looks at the entire audience (90-100%)	Eye contact is mostly effect and consistent. Mostly looks around the audience (60-80%)	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. Occasionally looks at someone (less than 50%)		X2	
Mannerisms and Gestures	Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points. No nervous habits.	Sometimes exhibits nervous habits. Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize.	Displays some nervous habits. Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting		X2	
Poise	Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions)	Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure	Lacks confidence and composure		X2	

Creed Speaking LDE Presentation Rubric Continued

INDICATORS	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Points
<b>Question and Answer- 40 points</b>						
Response to Questions	Is able to respond with organized thoughts and concise answers.	Is able to speak effectively and sometimes gets off topic. Answer lacks organization.	Response fails to answer question.		X2	
Support	Always provides details which support answers/basis of the question.	Usually provides details which are supportive of the answers/basis of the question.	Sometimes overlooks details that could be beneficial to the answers/basis of the question.		X3	
Knowledge of agriculture	Answer shows knowledge of agriculture.	Answer shows limited knowledge of agriculture.	Answer shows no knowledge of agriculture.		X3	
<b>Gross Total Points</b>						
<b>Time Deduction*</b>						
<b>Accuracy Deduction**</b>						
<b>NET TOTAL POINTS</b>						
<b>RANK</b>						

\*-1 point per second over, determined by the timekeepers

\*\* -2 points per word, determined by the accuracy judges



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# Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources Content Standards

Measurement assessed	Where measured in event	Academic content standards addressed
<b>CRP.04.01. Performance Indicator: Speak using strategies that ensure clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in formal and informal settings.</b>		
CRP.04.01.01.a. Identify and categorize strategies for ensuring clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in verbal and non-verbal communication (e.g., vocal tone, organization of thoughts, eye contact, preparation, etc.).	Entire Event	
CRP.04.01.02.b. Apply strategies for speaking with clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in a variety of situations in formal and informal settings.	Entire Event	
<b>CRP.04.03. Performance Indicator: Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.</b>		
CRP.04.03.01.b. Apply active listening strategies (e.g., be attentive, observe non-verbal cues, ask clarifying questions, etc.).	Entire Event	
<b>CRP.04.03. Performance Indicator: Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.</b>		
CRP.04.03.01.b. Apply active listening strategies (e.g., be attentive, observe non-verbal cues, ask clarifying questions, etc.).	Entire Event	
CRP.04.03.02.c. Model active listening strategies in formal and informal settings.	Entire Event	