



# Georgia FFA Association

## Prepared Public Speaking LDE

### Senior Division

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#### **I. OVERVIEW**

Participants in the Prepared Public Speaking LDE present a speech they have individually prepared before a panel of judges. Once the presentation is complete, they respond to questions from the judges and are scored individually by each judge.

#### **II. PURPOSE**

The Prepared Public Speaking LDE is designed to develop agricultural leadership. It aims to provide the opportunity for personal growth and premier leadership by enhancing the speaking skills of participants. The event also encourages civic participation and cultivates a better knowledge of agriculture among participants.

#### **III. ELIGIBILITY**

This event is open to students in grades 9-12 who are agricultural education students and are paid members of a chartered FFA chapter. Each student's name must appear on the chapter's FFA roster at least 10 days prior to competition above the chapter level.

Members who are participating in the area competition must first have qualified through earlier elimination brackets (if necessary). The top two participants in each area are eligible for state competition. This LDE does not have a national level of competition; so a winning student may not participate in any other LDE and no student who is a member of a state winning LDE team prior to the state competition is eligible to participate. A student may only participate in one state speaking competition per year.

#### **IV. SPECIAL NEEDS REQUEST**

To report any special needs or request special services for a student to compete in a Career Development Event or FFA Award area (Area or State level), it is the responsibility of the FFA advisor to provide a detailed and specific request and explanation in writing. Requests should include written documentation from the school system verifying the IEP and need being requested. Written requests must be submitted to the CDE Superintendent prior to registering for the CDE/event (at least 3 weeks prior to the date of competition.)

#### **V. RULES**

1. The Prepared Public Speaking event is limited to one student per chapter on the area level, and two students per area on the state level.
2. This event will follow the general procedure established for all Georgia FFA CDEs and LDEs.
3. All manuscripts must be a student's original work. It is advantageous to consult all available sources, but all material secured from another source must be documented.
4. Participants should follow any instructions given by the event superintendent.
5. It is highly recommended that students wear official dress as outlined in the Official FFA Manual.
6. Allowing people to sit in the room to listen to speakers will be determined by the LDE Superintendent based on available space.
7. The State FFA Executive Committee and their appointees will be in charge of this event.



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#### VI. EVENT FORMAT

##### A. Materials to be submitted:

1. Three doubled-spaced typewritten copies of the speech on 8 1/2" x 11" white bond paper with cover page that gives the speech title, participant's name, chapter and date. The body of the manuscript should have 1" margins and the character font should be 12 point. Format, bibliography and reference questions should be answered by the APA style manual. Do not bind manuscripts, only staple. Manuscripts must be sent to the regional offices for initial level of competition.
2. Each participant should submit a signed statement that the manuscript is original work.
3. Each manuscript must be accompanied by a complete and accurate bibliography. Any plagiarism will result in dismissal from the competition. Consult the APA style manual with documentation questions.

##### B. Subjects

Participants may choose any current subject of an agricultural nature for their speeches. This may include agribusiness, animal systems, plant systems, environmental services, food products and processing, natural resource systems, biotechnology systems and power, structural and technical systems. Speeches should be persuasive in nature. Official judges of the FFA Prepared Public Speaking Career Development Event may disqualify a participant if he or she speaks on a non-agricultural subject.

##### C. Time Limit

Each speech should be a minimum of six minutes in length and a maximum of eight minutes. Participants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being under six minutes or over eight minutes. Each participant will be allowed five additional minutes in which he or she will be asked questions relating to his or her speech. No time warnings will be given.

##### D. Judging

1. Prior to the event, the content and composition of all manuscripts will be judged and scored by qualified individuals using the manuscript score sheet. Manuscript scores will be averaged and supplied to the presentation judges after they have scored the oral presentation.
2. Presentation judges will be furnished with typewritten copies of the participants' manuscripts, which they will use to formulate questions. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject.
3. Event officials will randomly determine the speaking order. The event superintendent will introduce each participant by name in order of the drawing. A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation. No props are to be used. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
4. A designated timekeeper will record the time used by each participant in delivering his or her speech, noting under time or overtime, if any, for which deductions will be made.
5. At the time of the event, the judges will score each participant on the delivery of the speech, using the score sheet provided.



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6. Each judge will ask questions at the conclusion of the oral presentation of the speech. Judges will score each participant on the ability to answer all questions asked by judges. The full five minutes for questions should be used.
7. When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score on composition, delivery and response to questions for each participant. The timekeeper(s) record will be used in computing the final score for each participant. Participants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score to be determined by each judge. The judges' score sheets will then be submitted to event officials to determine final ratings of participants.
8. The judges' ranking of each participant then shall be added, and the winner will be that participant whose total ranking is the lowest.
9. The top two placing contestants from each of the two preliminary rounds will compete against each other in the final round.

#### E. Rounds

1. The state Prepared Public Speaking LDE will be conducted in two rounds, preliminary (12 participants; 6 each in two rooms) and a finals round (4 participants; top 2 from each preliminary round).

## VII. SCORING

Total possible points for the Sr. Prepared Public Speaking LDE is 1000 points. Please see the Prepared Public Speaking LDE score sheet below (pages 5-6).

### Manuscript Scorecard (200 points)

#### Manuscript Content – 100 points

1. Topic is important and appropriate (50 points)
  - a. Current topic of interest – 25 points
  - b. Topic is relevant and within the scope of identified subjects – 25 points
2. Suitability of material used (50 points)
  - a. Validity of resources – 25 points
  - b. Accuracy of content – 25 points

#### Manuscript Composition – 100 points

1. Organization and development of content (40 points)
  - a. Logical order and unity of thought – 20 points
  - b. Accomplishment of purpose – 20 points
2. Grammatical accuracy (35 points)
  - a. Spelling/grammar – 35 points
3. Manuscript written according to event format rule #1 (25 points)
  - a. Double-spaced, 8"x11" white bond paper, 1" margins in body of paper – 5 points
  - b.; cover page with title, name, state and year – 5 points
  - c. APA style for references and bibliography – 15 points



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#### **Presentation Scorecard (800 points)**

##### Oral Communication – 300 points

1. Examples – 50 points
2. Speaking without hesitation – 50 points
3. Tone – 50 points
4. Being detailed-oriented – 50 points
5. Command of audience – 50 points
6. Connecting and articulating facts and issues – 50 points

##### Non-verbal Communication – 200 points

1. Attention (eye contact) – 50 points
2. Mannerisms – 50 points
3. Gestures – 50 points
4. Well poised – 50 points

##### Response to Questions – 300 points

1. Speaking unrehearsed – 50 points
2. Command of questions – 250 points

*Consult the National FFA Career Development Handbook on the National FFA website ([www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org).)*

#### **VIII. TIE BREAKERS**

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, the event superintendent will rank the participants' response to questions. The participant with the lowest rank from the response to question will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, the participants' raw scores will be totaled. The participant with the greatest total of raw points will be declared the winner.

#### **IX. AWARDS**

Awards shall be determined each year by the Board of Trustees of the Georgia FFA Foundation. The event is made possible through the Georgia FFA Foundation as a special project of an industry sponsor or from the Foundation General Fund. Minimum awards will recognize the first place individual in each area, and the first and second place individuals at the state level.

#### **X. REFERENCES**

References shall be those outlined in the National FFA Career Development Event handbook for the Prepared Public Speaking CDE.

##### Preliminary Brackets

The State FFA Prepared Public Speaking CDE will consist of two preliminary brackets and the finals. The top two places from each area will compete in the two preliminary brackets. The two preliminary brackets will be as follows.



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BRACKET A	BRACKET B
First Place Area I	Second Place Area I
Second Place Area II	First Place Area II
First Place Area III	Second Place Area III
Second Place Area IV	First Place Area IV
First Place Area V	Second Place Area V
Second Place Area VI	First Place Area VI

State Finals:

The top two places from Bracket A and Bracket B will compete in the state finals.



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## Manuscript Content and Composition Rubric

**200 POINTS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Indicator	Very strong evidence of skill 5–4 points	Moderate evidence of skill 3–2 points	Weak evidence of skill 1–0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Points
Topic relevance	Topic addresses an issue facing the industry of agriculture.	Topic addresses an issue that may show some relationship to the industry of agriculture.	Topic addresses an issue that is unrelated to the industry of agriculture.		x 6	
Persuasive explanation of position on topic	Position is clearly stated, and ample evidence is provided.	Position is not obvious, and evidence is not clearly provided.	Position is not stated, and evidence is not provided.		x8	
Alternative viewpoints recognized	Identifies and counters alternative viewpoints	Only identifies alternate viewpoints	Does not identify alternate viewpoints		x 4	
Logical order and unity of thought	Clearly organized and concise with strong introduction, body and conclusion layout	Good organization with few statements out of place or lacking in clear construction	Little to no organization is present; sometimes awkward and lacking construction		x 4	
Spelling/grammar (sentence structure, verb agreement, etc.).	Spelling and grammar are extremely high quality with two or less errors in the document.	Spelling and grammar are adequate with three to five errors in the document.	Spelling and grammar are less than adequate with six or more errors in the document.		x 7	
Quality of resources	Resources are from reputable sources.	Resources are from questionable sources.	Resources are unreliable and invalid.		x 6	
<b>Manuscript written according to guidelines</b>	<b>5 points</b>		<b>0 points</b>			
Double-spaced & formatted to 8½ x 11-inch paper with 1-inch margins 12-point serif (Times new roman, Cambria, etc.) or sans serif font (Ariel, Calibri, etc.)					x 1	
Cover page with speech title, participant's name, state and year					x 1	
APA style for references and citations					x 3	
<b>TOTAL POINTS EARNED OUT OF 200 POSSIBLE</b>						



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## Presentation and Questions Rubric

**800 POINTS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Indicators	Very strong evidence of skill 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill 3-2 points	Weak evidence of skill 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
<b>Oral Communication and Non-Verbal Communication</b>						
Supporting evidence	Examples (stories, statistics, etc.) are vivid, precise and clearly explained.	Examples are usually concrete but sometimes need clarification.	Examples are sometimes confusing, leaving the listeners with questions.		x 15	
Persuasive use of evidence	Exemplary use of evidence to persuade listeners.	Sufficient use of evidence to persuade listeners.	Has difficulty using evidence to persuade listeners		x 15	
Pace	Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience.	Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations.	Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience.		x 15	
Command of audience	Speaker uses appropriate emphasis and tone to captivate audience.	Speaker presents speech as mere repeating of facts and speech comes across as a report.	Speaker lacks enthusiasm and power to engage audience.		x 20	
Eye contact	Constantly looks at the entire audience (90 to 100% of the time)	Mostly looks around the audience (60 to 80% of the time)	Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50 % of the time)		x 10	
Mannerisms and gestures	No nervous habits are displayed. Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points.	Sometimes exhibits nervous habits; Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize points.	Displays some nervous habits; Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting.		x 10	
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		x 15	
<b>Response to Questions</b>						
Response to questions	Responds with organized thoughts and concise answers	Answers effectively but has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus	Rambles or responds before thinking		x 20	
Knowledge of topic	Answers show thorough knowledge of the subject and supports answer with strong evidence.	Answers show some knowledge of the subject but lacks strong evidence.	Answers show little knowledge of subject and lacks evidence.		x 40	

**TOTAL POINTS EARNED OUT OF 800 POSSIBLE**