



Georgia FFA Association CREED SPEAKING CDE

I. OVERVIEW

Participants in the Creed Speaking CDE present their presentation of the FFA Creed before a panel of judges. Once their presentation is complete, they respond to questions directly related to the FFA Creed.

II. PURPOSE

The Creed Speaking CDE is designed to foster agricultural leadership in younger members. By developing premier leadership and personal growth, students learn speaking skills and respect for the history of the FFA.

III. ELIGIBILITY

This event is open to students in grades 6-9 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 CDE does have a national level of competition. A winning student may not participate in any other CDE that has a national competition. Also, no student who is already a member of a state winning CDE team that will participate in a national competition is eligible to participate. A student may only win one area speaking competition per year that leads to national competition.

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 Creed 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 career development events.
3. It is highly recommended that participants be in official dress as outlined in the Official FFA Manual.
4. During the event, participants and their advisors may not listen to a speaker preceding their presentation.
5. The State FFA Executive Committee and their appointees will be in charge of this event.



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VI. EVENT FORMAT

- A. 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 for answers. Judges in a round will use the same questions for each contestant speaking in their room. The questions used will change for the candidates who advance to the final round. Questions will be selected from a bank of questions provided to the judges by the CDE Superintendent.
- B. Members will present the Creed from the current year's Official FFA Manual.
- C. The event will be a timed activity with four minutes for presentation. After four minutes, the participant will be deducted 1 point for every second over set time.
- D. The state Creed CDE will be conducted in two rounds: preliminary (12 participants; 2 flights of 6 speakers per room), and finals (4 participants; top two from each preliminary room).
- E. Speaking order will be randomly drawn as determined by the CDE Superintendent.
- F. Each participant will recite the Creed from memory. Each participant shall begin the presentation by stating, "The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany." Each CDE participant should 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.
- G. 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, using the score sheet provided.
- H. 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.
- I. When participants have finished the presentation and answering questions, each judge will total the score of each speaker. The timekeepers' and accuracy judges' records will be used to compute each contestant's final score. The judges' score sheets will then be submitted to event officials to determine final rankings.
- J. 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.

VII. SCORING

Total possible points for the Creed CDE is 1000 points. Please see the Creed CDE score sheet below (page 4).

Consult the National FFA Career Development Handbook or the CDE section of the National FFA website (www.ffa.org.)

VIII. TIE BREAKERS

Consult the National FFA Career Development Handbook or the CDE section of the National FFA website (www.ffa.org.)

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

Consult the National FFA Career Development Handbook or the CDE section of the National FFA website (www.ffa.org.)



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The FFA Creed

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds--achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so--for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

The creed was written by E.M. Tiffany, and adopted at the 3rd National Convention of the FFA. It was revised at the 38th and the 63rd Convention.

Preliminary Brackets

The State FFA Creed 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.

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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Oral Communication – 200 points

Indicators	Very Strong Evidence skill is present (5-4 points)	Moderate Evidence skill is present (3-2 points)	Strong Evidence skill is NOT present (1-0 points)	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
A. Speaking without hesitation	Speaking very articulately without hesitation. *Never has the need for unnecessary pauses or hesitation when speaking.	Speaks articulately, but sometimes hesitates. *Occasionally has the need for a long pause or moderate hesitation when speaking.	Speaks articulately, but frequently hesitates. *Frequently hesitates or has long, awkward pauses while speaking.		X20	
B. Tone	Appropriate tone is consistent. *Speaks at the right pace to be clear. *Pronunciation of words is very clear and intent is apparent.	Appropriate tone is usually consistent. *Speaks at the right pace most of the time, but shows some nervousness. *Pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes vague.	Has difficulty using appropriate tone. *Pace is too fast; nervous *Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand; unclear		X20	

Non-Verbal Communication – 400 points

A. Attention (eye contact)	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. *Constantly looks at the entire audience.	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. *Mostly looks around the entire audience.	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. *Occasionally looks at some part of the audience.		X20	
B. Mannerisms	Does not have distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness. *No nervous habits.	Sometimes has distracting mannerisms that pull from the presentation. *Exhibits some nervous habits.	Has mannerisms that pull from the effectiveness of the presentation. *Displays nervous habits.		X20	
C. Gestures	Gestures are purposeful and effective. *Hand motions are expressive & used to emphasize points. *Great posture & positive body language.	Usually uses purposeful gestures. *Hands are sometimes used to express/emphasize. *Occasionally slumps; negative body language.	Occasionally gestures are used effectively. *Hands are not used to emphasize; motions are distracting. *Lacks positive body language.		X20	
D. Well poised	Is extremely well poised. *In control at all times.	Mostly well poised. *In control most of the time.	Is not well poised. *Seems to lose control.		X20	

Question & Answer– 400 points

A Being detail-oriented	Is able to stay fully detail oriented. *Always provides details which support answers.	Is mostly detail-oriented. *Usually provides details which support answers.	Has difficulty being detail oriented. *Overlooks details that could support answers.		X30	
B Speaking unrehearsed	Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease. *Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts.	Speaks mostly unrehearsed *Is able to speak effectively, but has to stop and gather thoughts.	Shows nervousness or seems unprepared. *Seems to ramble or speak before thinking.		X30	
C. Examples used in response to questions	Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained. *Examples are original, logical, and relevant.	Examples are mostly concrete, but lack clarity. *Examples are effective but lack originality.	Examples are abstract or unclear. *Examples are confusing and raise more questions.		X20	
Gross Total Points						

** - minus 1 point per second over, determined by the timekeepers
*** - minus 20 points per word, determined from by the accuracy judges

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Total Deduction	_____
Accuracy Deduction	_____
NetTotal Points	_____
Rank	_____