



Champions of Excellence

A W A R D S

Program Rules & Guidelines

1. County Farm Bureau applications must be received at the state Farm Bureau office no later than **July 1, 2019**. Applications can be downloaded from the MFB website and emailed to champawards@michfb.com. Electronic applications are required - handwritten applications will not be accepted.
2. Applications must be complete and shall be no more than three pages long.
3. County Farm Bureaus may submit only one application per award category (Innovation and/or Advocacy). The program or activity must have been conducted between the dates of **July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019**. A **maximum** of two photos and one other supporting document (i.e. press release, poster, invitation, etc.) may accompany application. These items must be submitted electronically and will become the property of Michigan Farm Bureau. *Note: Photos must be high resolution, good quality and sufficiently represent the activity or program for use in promotional materials if selected as a winner.*
4. Entry forms received at the state Farm Bureau will be evaluated solely on the contents of the entry form by both district and state judges.
5. By submitting an entry, county Farm Bureaus and their representatives agree to participate in the publicity efforts of Michigan Farm Bureau. Submission of entry does not guarantee publication.
6. Michigan Farm Bureau will announce district winners by **August 16, 2019**. District Directors will award winner(s) at county annual meeting(s). State winners will be announced and awarded at the MFB President's Conference, **Date TBD**.
7. One award winner per category will be selected in each district and will receive a \$350 county grant. State award winners (one per category) will be selected from district award winners and will receive a \$1,000 county grant.
8. Only one county Farm Bureau per award category will be selected as a district winner. District winner(s) will then be forwarded to compete at the state level.
9. It is the responsibility of the individual submitting the application to retain a copy for their records.

Judging

1. Award applications received by **July 1, 2019** will be forwarded to each district for judging.
2. The state Young Farmer and state Promotion and Education chair will submit one representative to be placed in a pool of judges.
3. District level (33): Three judges for each district, comprised of a representative from the pool, MFB regional representative and MFB staff, will review each entry in all award categories of another district as assigned by MFB. Judges shall remain impartial and not judge a district in which they hold a membership.
4. State level (12): There shall be at least three judges reviewing each entry in each of the award areas. Judges, comprised of one representative from the pool, one MFB staff member and a representative from an outside agricultural entity will judge applications by each award category as assigned.
5. Judges will receive electronic copies of entries for their review. If necessary, judges will confer via electronic means or via telephone to agree on designation of awards.

Entry Deadlines

Electronic forms must be received at Michigan Farm Bureau via champawards@michfb.com no later than **July 1, 2019**.

Announcement of district winners will be made no later than **August 16, 2019**.

Announcement of state winners will be made at the MFB Council of President's Conference, **January 29-30, 2020**.

Questions on the Champions of Excellence Award Program should be directed to:
Deb Schmucker (517) 679-5440 or
Sara Miller (517) 679-4781.

Applications must be emailed to: champawards@michfb.com



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Entry Deadline

Forms must be received by the state Farm Bureau office no later than **July 1, 2019**.

Announcement of winners will be made no later than **August 16, 2019**.

Entries are limited to three single-sided pages. Electronic submission is required.

This PDF form is enabled to save application content, please retain an electronic copy.

INNOVATION

County Farm Bureaus continue to do amazing activities year in and year out. This award area will focus on a new event or activity that the county Farm Bureau implemented in the past 12 months. It can be any type of activity (new or old) as long as there was a new or innovative twist to the activity/event. The key to this category will be your innovation in creating a new program and providing ideas to share with other counties that may want to use your idea in the future.

County Information:

County Farm Bureau: _____ County #: _____ District #: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE AN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF INNOVATIVE EVENT/ACTIVITY: (less than 75 words)

1. What new program/activity/technology did you implement in your county Farm Bureau? (20 pts)

2. What made it innovative? (15 pts)

3. What were the results? (20 pts)

4. How did you engage uninvolved or new Farm Bureau members in the program/local agriculture event? How many new or uninvolved members did you engage in the event? (15 pts)

5. How did you engage members in carrying out this project? Describe the leadership roles filled by members. (20 pts)

6. How did it benefit the county/state Farm Bureau? (10 pts)