
From: Tamara Whitcomb
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 2:56 PM
To: WAAE
Subject: [Waae] 2022 WA State FFA Degree - Important Updates!!

Good Morning Washington State Ag. Teachers,

Over the last year the FFA Board of Directors has approved several changes to the State FFA Degree process and requirements to assist your FFA members earn a State FFA Degree. Changes #1 and #2 will be a permanent part of the process, and Changes #3 and #4 will apply as part of our COVID solutions for the 2022-2023 State Degree review years. It is important to remember that FFA members that wish to qualify for an American Degree will still be subject to the requirements for an American Degree application.

There are also 2 attachments to this email to assist with the District Review process including: Modified State Degree Checklist (2022-2023 only) and a List of Acceptable/Unacceptable Community Service Activities (provided by the National FFA). One of the requirements on the checklist still includes a recent copy of the students Transcript, so be sure to attach one and highlight the agricultural education courses to make it easier to review. Another requirement is for FFA members to have 24 months of FFA membership. This does **NOT HAVE TO BE** during the immediate past 24 months. If this creates an issue with the Met/Not Met section in the application, please know that Denny Wallace has confirmed that FFA members just need to have 24 months of FFA membership.

Below is a list of changes/adjustments that will take effect starting this year:

#1 - State Degree Resume - Students will no longer have to include a Resume as part of the State FFA Degree application process. It was **Approved by the FFA Board on 3/17/21** to do away with the resume since it was not to industry standard. Students will need to include their leadership service as a chapter officer or committee chair in their State Degree Application. For this year if they are an AET user then simply journaling their "Time in Leadership Roles" is a great way to add this to their application. For Non-AET users I would find a way to describe it in the activities they are involved in to make sure it is included in their State FFA Degree application.

#2 - State Degree Family Contributions - State Degree Applications that have family contributions will not subtract from their productively invested income amount. This was **Approved by the FFA Board on 7/7/21**. At this time an additional column has not been added to the State FFA Degree to help designate these contributions, but it is a work in progress and will be updated as soon as possible. Please take this into account when evaluating applications this year at the district level.

#3 - 5 Different Activities above the Chapter Level - FFA members must have 5 activities total above the chapter level, within 3 different categories (ex: 2 livestock judging events, 2 meats events, 1 public speaking). **Approved by the FFA Board on 12/15/21.**

-This would allow students to double dip on some activities, which is different from the normal requirements of 5 different activities (each activity cannot count more than once) above the chapter level.

-All activities that students participated in virtually above the chapter level would count if they registered and participated in the event.

-While having a minimum requirement is acceptable for a state degree, students would still need to have a full list of 5 different activities above the chapter level to be eligible for a State Star.

-This adjustment will be in effect for the 2022 and 2023 State Degree Years only. This guideline will be reevaluated in the Fall of 2023.

#4 - State Degree Community Service Hours Required - Community Service Hours will be lowered to **20 total hours** in at least 2 different areas instead of the normal 25 hours. **This was Approved by the FFA Board on 12/15/21.**

-Please check the list of acceptable and unacceptable community service attached to this email. This comes directly from National FFA.

-Remember it is often the wording your students use to describe the activity. I would encourage them to list the name of the activity and give a description vs. just a name for the group and no description to help someone decide if it is an acceptable community service activity.

-While having a minimum requirement is acceptable for a State Degree, students would still need to meet the 25 hour requirement to be eligible for a State Star.

-This adjustment will be in effect for the 2022 and 2023 State Degree Years only. This guideline will be reevaluated in the Fall of 2023.

If you have questions or need assistance please contact Denny Wallace, Dany Cavadini, Lisa Baser or myself. We look forward to helping your students earn their State FFA Degree this year.

Thanks,

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