

Advisors:

State officer selection procedures are changing in order to align with the current Texas FFA Constitution for the selection of the 2024-2025 State Officer Team. Please read through this letter thoroughly.

Candidates may not "give away", hand out, or use any items/gifts/business cards etc.

2024 State Officer Selection Procedures at the Area Level:

- Any eligible student may apply for the Area's State Officer and participate in the student's respective Area's selection process. Should an area decide to limit districts to a specific number of candidates the procedures outlined in this document should be followed at the district level.
- Texas FFA Constitution Article X. Section F. The state officers shall hold the State FFA Degree at the time of their election at the state convention and must be active members for the duration of their term in office. A candidate may be eligible to run for state office through the second convention after their graduation from high school.
- On the first business day immediately following each Area's Convention and no later than May 22, 2024, the Area's solitary State Officer's name and contact information must be submitted via email to Ashlee Laird (ashlee@texasffa.org).
- Each Area's State Officer shall be a candidate for State President and State First Vice President.
- Each Area will select its State Officer by using a standard rubric and scoring spreadsheet which will be developed and distributed to the Area Coordinators and the Area Election Officials by December 15, 2023.
- The Area Executive Committee may appoint an Area Election Official to assist the Area Coordinator in the selection process, and must submit that name and email by January 15, 2024 to Ashlee Laird. Individuals may not serve as the Area Election Official if an individual from their chapter or a relative is a candidate.
- The Area Coordinator and Area Elections Official for each Area will be tasked with administering the selection process in their respective Area no later than May 22, 2024.
- Upon completion of the selection process, all documents used in the selection process (applications, rubrics, scoring spreadsheet, etc.) must be submitted via email to Ashlee Laird by 5 pm the day following the selection process.
- Each Area's selection process will utilize the following scoring formula:
 - Popular Vote of the delegates at the Area Convention: 40%
 - Committee Process: 60%; composed of a written knowledge exam 10% and an interview score 50%.

Process Procedures:

- All State Officer candidates for each Area will take the written knowledge exam at the same date, time, and location determined and communicated by the Area Coordinator.
- All State Office candidates will be given the opportunity to participate in a personal round introduction. This round will NOT be scored but will provide the opportunity for all candidates to introduce themselves and for the Area Elections Committee, defined below, to derive questions.
- All candidates should be asked the same set of questions during the interview, clarification/follow-up questions are permitted. These questions shall be created by the Area Elections Committee upon the conclusion of the Personal Introduction Round.
- The written knowledge exam will be developed by Q-Bank and each Area will be given access to the exam link on the day that Area's State Officer candidates take the written knowledge exam. The exam will consist of questions from the Official FFA Manual, 2023-2024 Leadership Guide, 2023 Ag Issues Briefs, and 2023 Farm Facts, and Gray's Parliamentary Guide. No two Areas will have the same written exam.
- Speech Length
 - 2.5 minutes for initial speech
 - 1 minute for Thought Question
 - 1 minute for Run-off (*if applicable*)
- Speech Guidelines
 - Candidates will not use any props or other materials. Audience participation by the general corporate audience without reference to any individual is not considered use of a prop. Having a specific member or group of members identified by proper name participate is considered to be use of a prop.
 - Candidates will choose the style of microphone desired for their candidate speech at the designated stage practice and will be given an opportunity to test the microphones.
 - Candidates may use a podium or walk the stage area but may not kneel, squat, be seated on stage, or leave the stage during their candidate speech. The entire presentation must begin and end on stage.

Area Elections Committee:

- Each Area shall determine an Area Elections Committee by February 1, 2024.
- The name and contact information for each member of the Area Elections Committee will be indicated on this Google Form ([see link](#)) which shall be completed no later than 5 pm on February 1, 2024.

- The Area Elections Committee in each Area will have no less than 7 individuals (a total of 9 individuals is recommended), with at least 1 student officer representing each District within the Area. Student officers should be from the Area Officer team unless they are running for state office, in which case, the highest ranking district officer who is eligible should serve in this role. Individuals may not serve on the Area Elections Committee if an individual from their chapter or a relative is a current candidate.
- The Area Elections Committee will have no less than 1 and not more than 3 industry representatives. Aside from industry representatives, **no other adults may serve on the Area Elections Committee**. This individual shall not be a current Ag Science Teacher and shall not have any family or close personal relationship with any state office candidate from the area or any other Elections Committee member.
- The Area Coordinator for each Area, with the assistance of the Area Elections Official, appointed by the Area Executive Committee, shall be responsible for appointing the members of the Area Elections Committee.

2023 State President and First Vice President Selection Procedures at the State Level:

The State Elections Committee will be composed of the 2023-2024 State Officer team and no less than 2 industry representatives. No other adults may serve on the State Elections Committee. These individuals shall not be current Ag Science Teachers and shall not have any family or close personal relationships with any candidate for State President or other State Elections Committee member.

The State President and First Vice President selection will utilize the following scoring formula:

- Popular Vote of the delegates at the State Convention: 40%
- Committee Process: 60%; composed of a written knowledge exam 10% and an interview score 50%.

Process Procedures:

- All State Officer candidates from the Areas will take the written knowledge exam at the same date, time, and location.
- All State Office candidates will be given the opportunity to participate in a personal round introduction. This round will NOT be scored but will provide the opportunity for all candidates to introduce themselves and for the State Elections Committee to derive questions.
- All candidates should be asked the same set of questions during the interview, clarification/follow-up questions are permitted. These questions shall be created by the State Elections Committee upon the conclusion of the Personal Introduction Round.

- Further explanation of the selection process at the State Convention will be sent out in January.

Other Pertinent Information:

- We will use competencies at the Area and State Levels this year for a generalization of what committee members will be scored on, but the indicators will not be used nor shared in order to create a more objective process.
 - (1) Communication
 - (2) Team Player
 - (3) Areas of Knowledge
 - (4) Character
 - (5) Passion for Success
 - (6) Influence
 - (7) Critical Thinking
- There will be an opportunity for Area Coordinator and Area Election Officials to join a Zoom meeting to be able to ask questions and gain further clarification on the selection process. The zoom meeting will be on **December 13, 2023 at 4:00pm**. This meeting will be recorded and shared.
- The 2023-2024 State Officers will be tasked with attending their respective Area Conventions to ensure the integrity of the process is being followed. State officers should be included in all aspects of the election process during your Area Convention/ Election process.

Important Dates to Remember:

- December 15, 2023 - State Process requirements and Rubric and Scoring Spreadsheet distributed to Area Coordinators and Area Election Officials
- December 13, 2023 - Area Coordinator/Elections Official Zoom meeting
- January 15, 2024 - Name of the Area Election Official submitted
- February 1, 2024 - Area Elections Committee Google Form submitted
- May 22, 2024 - All solitary Area Candidate's names submitted (names should be submitted by the end of the day on the first business day following the Area Convention) along with all election documents
- May 24, 2024 - State Officer Candidate Zoom Meeting 4pm