

# California Farm Bureau Federation

## 2017 Young Farmers & Ranchers Collegiate Discussion Meet

### **Background**

The Collegiate Discussion Meet is a competitive event promoted by the California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF) Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Committee. Farm Bureau's strength depends on its members' ability to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. The competitive event is designed to simulate a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each committee member. Applicants build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems. **A successful applicant is a productive thinker rather than an emotional persuader. He/she will assist the group in creating ways to implement the solutions discussed and highlight Farm Bureau's involvement in those actions/steps.** The California Farm Bureau provides, as part of the state recognition award to the winner, an expenses-paid trip to the AFBF YF&R Leadership Conference held in 2018 in a TBD location. The AFBF YF&R Committee and the AFBF Organization Department will coordinate the program at the national level. Information about the Discussion Meet applicant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.

### **Eligibility**

- Applicant shall be a collegiate Farm Bureau member and be between the ages of 18 and 35. The individual shall not have reached his/her 36<sup>th</sup> birthday by Feb. 28.
- Applicant must be an undergraduate college student at the time of the state competition at either a junior or senior level California accredited college.
- Applicant shall not be enrolled in a graduate level program at the time of his/her state Collegiate Discussion Meet competitive event.
- Applicant must display a sincere interest in the agricultural industry.
- Applicant may only compete in one national YF&R Competitive Event per year.
- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and/or their spouse/spousal-equivalents are not eligible to compete.
- Past state YF&R Collegiate Discussion Meet winners and/or previous AFBF Collegiate Discussion Meet competitors are not eligible to compete.
- Past state YF&R Discussion Meet winners and/or previous AFBF Discussion Meet competitors are not eligible to compete.
- Current employees of county, state and/or American Farm Bureaus and their affiliates are not eligible to compete.
- Professional speakers are not eligible to compete. Professional speakers are those who have received a fee, royalty or honorarium for speaking (i.e., paid speaking appearances or speaking engagements) within 24 months prior to this annual competition. This excludes reimbursement for travel or expenses attendant to the appearance.

### **Entry Form & Application Guidelines**

- The application must be properly signed by the student's Professor (either the student's academic advisor or instructor of currently enrolled course) verifying that the student is enrolled at the indicated college.

**Note: Disregarding any of the guidelines listed above will result in disqualification.**

### **Competition**

- The participants will discuss pre-selected topics with four, fundamental bases for the general discussion: cooperation, constructive criticism, problem solving and communication.
- The competitive event will consist of four rounds: two Round Robins, Elite Eight and Final Four.
  - All competitors will compete in the first two rounds. The top eight competitors based on judges' scores will move on to the Elite Eight round.
  - The top two competitors in each of the third round rooms will move on to the Final Four round in order to determine the winner.
- Each round will begin with a 30-second opening statement and end with a one-minute closing statement by each participant.
- Participants will have 20-25 minutes of open discussion dependent upon the number of contestants, followed by one minute of quiet time.

**Note: More detailed information regarding the competitive event can be found in the CFBF Collegiate Discussion Meet Manual.**

**California Farm Bureau Federation  
Young Farmers & Ranchers Collegiate Discussion Meet  
2017 Entry Form Application**

Applicant\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Will be used in the program and for recognition*

Phonetic Pronunciation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of College: \_\_\_\_\_

**College Residence:**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent Address:**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Where should scholarship money be sent?       Permanent Address       College Residence

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify the information on this entry form to be accurate and true statements. **CFBF DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY BY A COLLEGE OR A COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFICE.** CFBF reserves the right to use my photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of the undersigned contestant may also be available to sponsors of Farm Bureau events. By participating in the Event, I warrant that I fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the YF&R official contest rules and the decisions of the YF&R Committee, which are final and binding.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the above named applicant(s) is a fulltime undergraduate student at the above named college and is eligible to be entered in and considered for CFBF's Young Farmers & Ranchers Collegiate Discussion Meet for 2017.

Professor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Professors Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion Meet participants will be required to register for the YF&R Leadership Conference. Please visit <http://www.cfbf.com> for more information about the YF&R Leadership Conference.

**All Collegiate Discussion Meet Applications must be received at the CFBF office by February 10, 2017.**

Please submit completed applications by one of the following methods to:

Mail: CA Farm Bureau Federation  
Attn: Young Farmers & Ranchers  
2300 River Plaza Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Fax: 916-561-4507

Email: [yfr@cfbf.com](mailto:yfr@cfbf.com)