

Official Guidelines for West Virginia SAEs and State and American FFA Degrees

Qualifying SAE Determination Statement

If the skills and experiences from the SAE activity cannot be found within the title and content of our 42 current West Virginia Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources courses or the National FFA Proficiency award descriptions, it will not count as an SAE. Those skills and experiences must be performed within an agriculture, food and natural resources context. (For example: If the activity is performing maintenance on an engine, then that engine must be in a tractor or other piece of agricultural equipment.) If a student touches, prepares, sells or communicates about anything related to agriculture, food or natural resources, the experience will count as a legitimate SAE in West Virginia.

Important notes and suggestions concerning WV State FFA Degree application details and AET...

- Provide as much detail as possible concerning the SAE experiences by making journal entries in AET. For example....if your application only says..."Worked at Subway", the reviewers are challenged to know the specifics of what tasks and skills were actually completed. Be sure to write everything you do at Subway in AET. The goal should be to enter as many unique skills and experiences as possible.
- Be sure to provide as much detail using the breeding and market manager features of AET.

Five Activities Above the Chapter Level Clarification

National Level - *The only national activities that will count for above the chapter level will be activities hosted and sponsored by the National FFA Organization and any national level event to which our state sends state winners (Big E, National Land and Homesite, Mid-Atlantic Grasslands, National Envirothon, WHEP National Contest)*

State Level - *The only state activities that will count for above the chapter level will be the activities listed on the Important Dates document created and shared each calendar year (September – August) – See Attached*

Regional Level – *An activity will count as a regional level activity if two or more chapters coordinate an event or coordinate the attending of an event and then attend the activity together. This must be explained in AET and in the title and description of the event on the state FFA degree application and at least one of the other participating chapters must be listed in the description as well.*

(Example: The Ohio Farm Science Review no longer counts as a state or national event based on our definitions above, but, will count as a regional level activity if two or more chapters coordinate their plans and attend this event together.

- One specific event can only be counted up to two times at the same level and no more than two activities that occur at the same venue can count.
- To count as an activity above that chapter level it must be an activity that involves more than one chapter and be an activity that involves members interacting with one another in person.
- Chapter fundraisers at any level, will not count as an activity above the chapter level.

- An activity conducted only by a high school FFA chapter and its feeder middle school FFA chapter will not count as an activity above the chapter level.
- For a market livestock show and sale and/or a local HBE show and sale to count as an activity above the chapter level, more than one FFA chapter from different schools must be participating.

Community Service Clarification

- The National FFA guidelines for community service will be followed in determining qualified community service on State and American FFA Degree applications in West Virginia.

In addition to the National FFA guidelines, the following will also be followed in determining qualified community service....

- No fundraisers will count if money is for the FFA or other school organization or sports team. If the purpose of the fundraiser is to raise money for a cause (cancer research, flood relief, etc.) those experiences will count.
- No time spent working on the FFA chapter banquet or other special school function (prom, sports events, homecoming, etc.) will count as community service.
- No community parade will count unless the student assisted with the organization of the parade....be sure to be as specific as possible.

Revised and adopted by WV FFA Advisory Council on April 3, 2019