

CDE/LDE Update

June 22, 2020

As we continue to look for ways to limit the impact that COVID-19 has had on our students we have some important updates to share with all of you regarding some CDE/LDE learning experiences for students in 2020 and changes to CDE/LDE's in 2021.

In lieu of facilitating official CDE/LDE competitions this year both New York FFA and National FFA have decided to offer multiple learning experiences relating to CDE/LDE's throughout the end of summer and fall. We will be hosting individual learning experiences via several different virtual platforms that will provide information and practice materials for contests. Our contest coordinators along with some interested FFA Advisors will be organizing these opportunities which will be available approximately in August and September. No components of this will be officially competitive or impact who qualifies for state or national CDE/LDE's next year, this will simply be activities that students can participate in to help them learn and prepare for future events. We will be providing more information about what this will look like and what CDE/LDE's this will include as we continue to develop these materials and a schedule. We encourage schools and districts to host additional activities to continue engaging with students in the meantime if able to do so.

As you know, New York and National FFA have cancelled all CDE/LDE's for 2020. Recently National FFA informed each state that for 2021 and ONLY for 2021, they will allow students who have aged out of a CDE/LDE this year to be eligible to compete in 2021 at the national level. For example, if you had a student in 9th grade who would have competed in Jr. Creed in 2020, then they are eligible to compete in Jr. Creed as a 10th grader in 2021.

The New York Association of FFA has decided to follow the lead set by National FFA and allow any student who would have aged out of a CDE/LDE in 2020 to be eligible to compete in 2021. This applies to State and National CDE/LDE's. Each student must participate in the qualification process by submitting any materials necessary, advancing through districts, substates, states for LDE's, and must be only one year older than the current rule in the handbooks. To clarify, any student who would have aged out of a CDE/LDE for the 2019-2020 membership year, may participate in a CDE/LDE for the 2020-2021 membership year. For example, if you had a vet science team made up of seniors in 2020, then they would be eligible to compete as freshman in college in 2021.

Q&A:

Q: What if my student placed at districts this year, does this mean they get to compete at sub-states in 2021?

A: None of the placings at districts in 2020 will affect the 2021 LDE competitions. All students interested in competing will start at the district level.

Q: Will students that are freshman in college need to be on my roster in order to compete in a CDE/LDE in 2021?

A: Yes. All students that want to compete must be on your roster.