



WASHINGTON FFA ASSOCIATION

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Washington FFA Association
State Degree Application Hints
DUE: March 1, 2012

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Washington State FFA Degree Hints 2012

Several items about the Degree:

New Requirement for the State Degree:

A member must show, on page 12 Part VII; 25 hours of Community Service in three different activities. This can be an accumulation of the ten hours a member may have earned earning the Chapter degree and another fifteen toward the State degree. All together there must be 25 hours of Community Service earned by the applicant in three different activities. Refer to the National FFA website under degrees for more information. Example: Participation in a sport (baseball, Football) is not a community activity. Serving as a coach for Little league, soccer, etc. would be considered a community activity. A Community Activity must accomplish six things to be considered:

The activity has tangible community involvement.

Students have an opportunity to gain skills and competencies or apply skills and competencies learned in the classroom setting.

The activity has a demonstrated positive impact on the community, or individuals who live and work in the community.

The student gives of his/her time, energy or knowledge through activities focused on helping others, improving community resources or improving community infrastructure.

The community service activity can be organized by the FFA chapter; however, it must be performed outside of classroom time.

Activities listed as community service cannot be duplicated in the FFA activities section of the application. Student may only list the activity in one section of the application.

Applications must have an e-mail address. Put it on the same line as the telephone number or home address. Do not use the Advisors e-mail address.

If you are using a Mac Computer you will have trouble using the drop down on two of the questions on the WA Cover B page. Just print the page and use white out and write in the appropriate answer. You can also try filling out the question on the American Degree page and see if it transfers to the State Degree page. This should work for both types of computers.

It is important the Chapter Advisor checklist (page 13) is completed by the Chapter Advisor and the application is signed by the Chapter Advisor. The number received with this two problem alarmed both the State Executive Secretary and the

State Advisor. The first thought at the State level when those are missing is the application is unworthy of the degree. After all if the Chapter Advisor neglects to complete the checklist and sign the application of what value is it?

Now regarding some other items concerning the State Degree:

*Make sure the applicants grade Transcript and Resume are attached to the application. This allows verification of the correct number of hours in Agriculture Education courses.

*The financial requires that the dollars must be EARNED and INVESTED. This is \$1000 for the State Farmer Degree and \$2000 for the State Agribusiness Degree. Make sure the applicant knows the difference between the two so they meet the requirements.

*An applicant may have an investment in a SAE when entering Ag Ed. The inventory will show this fact. If an applicant still has the same inventory three or four years later, even if the amount exceeds the requirement; the records must show the required amount of increase EARNED and INVESTED over and above the beginning inventory. An applicant with four years of a market animal project must have good records reflecting the INVESTED.

*Beginning and ending inventories must match.

*Check beginning and ending financial statements.

* Check line 29 and 30.

* The written SAE listing of what the SAE project was each year must reflect the records and inventory in the application.

*All non cash inputs, in-kind trades etc. must have a value and must be reflected in the records of the project. (Work for feed. The feed has a value.)

*Records do not have to be complicated or extensive but they should be able to show earned and invested, accurate inventories, inventory changes, hours worked and the records must reflect the project.

*Placement projects are fairly easy as far as records except when it comes time to show EARNED and INVESTED. A good question to ask about the INVESTED in a placement application is: "Will it produce a return for the applicant?"

*Gifts have value on the financial statement. The question is are they earned or do they result in the programs calculations being met on the checklist. Remove the gift and find out. Gifts are not considered earnings for the project.

*Regarding hours in a placement project. The applicant is a student, is involved in other activities, family, community, etc. Are the hours recorded in the project reasonable or did the applicant go without sleep for several years.

*Be careful of vehicles (cars, trucks, motorcycles, 4-wheelers, etc.) purchased with SAE earnings. They must show investment along with operating expenses in the application. A vehicle purchased with no operating expenses whether non cash or cash is a red flag. (License, fuel, insurance, maintenance, etc.)

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Applications for the FFA State Degree are due to the FFA State Office March 1, 2012.
Send to WA FFA Association P.O. Box 2938 Olympia, WA 98507

Thanks for all you do for your students as they complete another step toward the
highest Degree FFA can award a member.