



2025 AGRICULTURAL PROFICIENCY AWARD HANDBOOK UPDATES

Agriscience Research Proficiency Award Areas

2026 (previously announced that 2024 would be the final year) will be the final award of the Agriscience Research Proficiency Awards. Starting in 2027 (instead of 2025), these awards will be recognized as part of the SAE-Based Awards program.

Section Updates

How to Complete the Application Section

Added – Statements about Professional Integrity, Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for National Events, and Code of Conduct.

BASIC SET UP SECTION

PRIMARY PATHWAY – Clarified that one of the eight AFNR Career Pathways must be selected. Career Ready Practices or Cluster Skills may be selected only if applying in the Agricultural Communications or Agricultural Education award areas.

ADDED Performance Review D

Financial Status Question #1 (Entrepreneurship and Combined Only): Specifically describe the source of your assets to start this project and describe how you obtained them.

- a) Examples
- i) I borrowed money from...
 - ii) I created a barter agreement with...
 - iii) I used my personal savings...
 - iv) I was gifted money/assets from...
 - v) I already owned the (list assets) prior to becoming an FFA member because...

Financial Status Question #2 (Entrepreneurship and Combined Only): Describe how you used your financial records to make decisions about your project.

SAE Placement Section

- On the application, Foundational type SAE was removed as an option in the Pathway pull-down.
- The box for entering, “Employer or SAE Project Name” was changed to “Employer or Supervisor’s Name.”

SAE Entrepreneurship Section

- On the application, Foundational type SAE was removed as an option in the Pathway pull-down.

Financial Sections – No change for 2025.



Outcomes/Efficiencies Section – No change for 2025.

Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge Section

Clarified: The application provides the opportunity to select 10 **different** indicators: five (5) different indicators from the primary pathway you selected, two (2) different indicators from any AFNR pathway and three (3) different indicators from Cluster Skills and/or Career Ready Practices.

- Do not select the same indicator more than once including indicators used in other sections.
- Do not be repetitive. Avoid selecting the same indicator multiple times and certainly do not describe the same activity more than once.

Photos Section – No change for 2025.

Supplemental Information Section – No change for 2025.

Rubrics

- ADDED Performance Review D (Entrepreneurship and Combined Only) – 10 points.
- Added Notes in the Skills, Competencies and Knowledge Section:
 - Score each selected indicator.
 - If no indicator is selected give zero points.
 - If an indicator is duplicated, give a zero score to the entire indicator for the 2nd time the indicator is listed.
- Total possible points increased from 100 to 110 points.

