

LEAD Society at PSU

2022 Teach Ag Essay Contest Handbook



LEAD Society
AT PENN STATE

Introduction

Welcome to the 2022 Penn State LEAD Society Teach Ag Essay Contest!

The Teach Ag Essay Contest was created by LEAD Society members to spark interest in the career of school-based agricultural education. The contest provides high school agricultural education students with an opportunity to teach a lesson to their peers and reflect upon their experience. Our hope is that this contest inspires the students of today to become the agricultural educators of tomorrow.

Our contest theme for 2022 is “Unity”. In a world of increasing division, we believe agricultural education represents a true opportunity for unity through the bonds we share in agriculture. We look forward to reading your thoughts on this topic and hope you find encouragement in the theme just as we did.

As we reflect on the National FFA Mission Statement, we hope to provide students with a chance to develop **premier leadership** skills, experience **personal growth**, and engage in meaningful opportunities for **career success** in the noble career field of agricultural education. We look forward to reading your lessons and reflections, and wish you well as you participate in the contest.

Best of luck!

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Participant Eligibility

Any Pennsylvania secondary agricultural education student who has not previously placed first in the Teach Ag! Essay Contest is eligible to apply.

Materials for Submission

All materials will be submitted through the [2022 Teach Ag Essay Contest Submission Form](#). All contest submissions are due by 11:59pm on Friday, April 15th.

1. Student must develop a lesson plan on an agriculturally related topic approved by their agricultural educator. An example lesson plan template is provided in this packet. While students must submit a lesson plan, they are not required to use the provided template. After completing their lesson plan and developing all necessary activities, students must instruct a class session during the school day. This lesson can be done either virtually or in-person. **Students will upload their lesson plan file on the Submission Form.**
2. To reflect on their teaching experience, students must record a video discussing their experience. While the reflection video content is up to the student, some recommended discussion points include favorite part of the lesson, most challenging part of the teaching process, and overall learning outcomes. Videos may be no longer than 3 minutes and must be uploaded to YouTube. **Students will submit the link to their video on the Submission Form.**
3. In addition to the lesson plan and reflection video, students will submit an essay related to the theme of Unity. The essay prompt is as follows: “How can agricultural education help to achieve unity?” The essay should be no more than 300 words. **Students will upload their essay file to the Submission Form.**
4. Students are encouraged to upload two photos on the Submission Form. **Photo 1 is of the student with their agricultural educator, and Photo 2 is of the student teaching their lesson.**

Evaluation

Following the contest deadline on April 15th, LEAD Society members will evaluate the submissions. Names will be removed from all applicable application components and the judging panel will rank the submitted Lesson Plans, Unity Essays, and Reflection Videos (in that order). Points will be assigned to each component based on ranking. After all components have been ranked and scored, the scores will be compiled and an email will be sent to all participants announcing the top 4 finalists. At the 2022 PA FFA State Convention, the placings of the top four individuals will be announced.

Contest Awards

All participants will receive a 2022 Penn State Teach Ag Essay Contest T-Shirt!

The contest finalists will receive the following prizes.

- 1. First Place** - \$100.00 Gift Card to National FFA AND Free Registration to one PA FFA Event.
- 2. Second Place** - \$75.00 Gift Card to National FFA
- 3. Third Place** - \$50.00 Gift Card to National FFA
- 4. Fourth Place** - \$25.00 Gift Card to National FFA

Sponsors & Partners

Penn State LEAD Society extends our sincere thanks to several partners that donate their time and money to create incentives for students who participate in the Teach Ag Essay Contest. Without them, we could not offer this experience.

Our sincerest thanks to...

- The Pennsylvania FFA Alumni Association
- The Pennsylvania Association of Agricultural Educators
- The Pennsylvania FFA Association
- The Center for Professional Personnel Development

Lesson Plan Template

Teacher:

Date(s)/Duration:

Class:

Subject/Unit:

<p><u>Essential Question</u> What are the MOST important concepts or skills? Include key questions (if necessary).</p>		
<p><u>Activating Thinking Strategies</u> How will you activate students' thinking to introduce the key concepts? How will you link to prior knowledge?</p>		
<p><u>Vocabulary</u> What key vocabulary must students master? How will you introduce this to students?</p>		
<p><u>Teaching Strategies</u> Include if applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • graphic organizers • checks for understanding • distributed guided practice • writing about learning • summarization strategies • extending/refining activities • collaborative pairs 		<p>Remediation/ Pre-teaching Activities:</p>
		<p>Extending Activities:</p>
<p><u>Summarizing Strategies</u> How will students summarize what they are learning, both during and at the conclusion of the lesson? (Examples: Ticket out the Door, 3-2-1, Answer the EQ)</p>		
<p><u>Adaptations/Modifications</u> Describe how you will provide for students with specific learning needs. *Address any special classroom management procedures in this section.</p>		
<p><u>PA Standards/Eligible Content Addressed</u></p>		
<p><u>Instructional Materials/Resources/ Technology Used</u></p>		