



VIRGINIA FFA

NATIONAL OFFICER SELECTION PROCESS HIGHLIGHTS 2019

VIRGINIA FFA NOC SELECTION PROCESS HIGHLIGHTS – 2019

Preparing for the Selection Process: Preparing for a national officer selection process will vary with each candidate. Some will prepare in isolation while others will engage others to help prepare. Some will have seemingly countless practice interviews while others will have very few. The greatest key in a successful journey of preparing yourself for the national officer selection process is knowing the beginning and the ending points. If you have a self-understanding, including knowledge, skills, attitude and talents, as well as, what is expected of and looked for in national officer candidates, then you can map your own plan for the preparation journey. The items below provide a partial list of resources (in alphabetical order) you may want to consider in creating your preparation strategy. Reference the National Officer Selection Process Handbook for further selection process information.

- Agricultural Knowledge; American Education and Agricultural Education Knowledge; Basic Knowledge; FFA Knowledge; Knowing Self; Reflective Questions for Competencies; Role-Playing Questions; and Study Questions

Expectations for All Rounds: Candidates are expected to report at the scheduled meeting time. This ensures that all candidates are in place and ready to start one time. This early arrival provides the nominating committee the flexibility to start the next grouping early should they be operating ahead of schedule. In addition, the FFA Policy and Procedures Handbook uses the following policy should a candidate arrive late for their interview or exam activity. Further, no cell phones or any other devices with access to internet or study materials are allowed in the holding, prep, and/or interview room.

Note: In the event a candidate is tardy to a round, the board superintendent and consultants will make and enforce a ruling.

Scheduling of Rounds: The creation of the interview schedule is guided by the time requirements for each round. The order of the candidate interviews within each round is determined by random assignment generated by the computer system. In addition, breaks are scheduled between the groupings to provide the nominating committee members a chance to stretch and refresh themselves. No consideration is given to FFA area, gender or ethnicity in the random assignment.

The interview schedule for each round will be posted in a designated area the morning of the round. Individual interview times will not be announced any further in advance.

Deliberation and Selection: Following the final interview round, the nominating committee will take a break to relax before beginning the daunting task of selecting Virginia's national officer candidate. Time and thought goes in to this decision. Participants are encouraged to base all decisions on evidence generated throughout the entire selection process using the data provided to them and firsthand experiences during the interview process. No outside or secondhand evidence will be discussed to provide an objective and fair view of each candidate.



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2019 Writing Exercise (Essay) Hot Topics: All candidates will complete a written essay on a topic relevant to agriculture, FFA, and/or the American education system. National FFA officers are expected to complete written correspondences with national FFA staff, students, teachers, sponsors, and state leaders they meet throughout their year of service. As an officer, the ability to communicate clearly through writing is just as critical as the ability to communicate through speech.

Often, national officers are asked to speak or write about FFA issues. This component of the national officer selection process provides each candidate with an opportunity to demonstrate their ability to effectively communicate about a given (agriculture, FFA and/or American education system) topic.

2019 Writing Exercise Hot Topics

The following is a listing of 10 “Hot Topics” within the theme of FFA Current Events and Issues (in alphabetical order) to guide your preparation for this round in the 2019 selection process.

- Consumers Are the Boss – Facilitating Consumer Trust
- Diversifying Students’ Experiences in FFA
- FFA Before and After High School
- How Agricultural Education Can Help with Other Core Academic areas (e.g. Math, Science, English and Other Areas of Study)
- Increasing FFA’s Visibility in Virginia
- Increasing the Flow of Information and Collaboration Between Educators
- International Trade Agreements and American Agriculture
- Preventing “Brain Drain” from Rural Communities
- Recruiting and Retaining Agricultural Educators in Virginia
- Relevance and Rigor of FFA Awards and Recognition

Candidates are expected to have a firm grasp of each topic and be prepared to present on each of them. For more information regarding this interview round, please reference the National Officer Selection Process Handbook. **Please note, no phones, smart watches, or related technology will be allowed in the prep room or interview room.**