

**Vermont Farm Bureau
2018 Young Farmer Achievement Award**

GENERAL INFORMATION

The VFB annually conducts a Young Farmer Achievement Award Program. County Farm Bureaus are encouraged to promote this activity in their own county. Selection of the winning Young Farmer individual or family is based on their efforts in both their chosen occupation and leadership achievement. Participation in this program with individual recognition and the resulting publicity will help build the organization. Vermont Farm Bureau provides, as part of the recognition and award, an expense-paid trip to the AFBF Annual Meeting held in January. Appropriate recognition will be given to all the county winners in attendance at the Vermont Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. The Farm Bureau Young Farmer Committee and the AFBF Organization Division will coordinate the program at the national level.

ELIGIBILITY

Contestants must meet the following criteria to compete:

- 1) Contestants shall be voting Farm Bureau members between the age of 18 and 35 years of age. They shall not have reached their 36th birthday by December 31st prior to the AFBF annual meeting at which the national level contest is held. (Note: To compete on the national level, AFBF has rules that the contestant – either spouse if married, shall not have reached their 36th birthday by December 31 prior to the AFBF annual meeting.)
- 2) Past winners of the VFB Young Farmer Discussion Meet are not eligible to compete.
- 3) Forms must be properly signed with no additional pages used.

Each county may submit one entry to be considered for state recognition. County Farm Bureaus are encouraged to use the standard report form in their countywide program. Applications of each county winner must be submitted using this application and entry form. Scrapbooks or other visual additions and letter of recommendation will be terms for disqualification. Counties have permission to reproduce the attached application form.

STATE JUDGING

A panel of qualified judges will select the state winners. The application and entry form of each county winner will be coded upon being received at the VFB office. The applicant's name and county will not be revealed to the judges until they are finished judging the application. Please do not list the contestant's name or county on application pages 1 through 11.

The same judges hold the right to interview the top applicants at the AFB Annual Meeting to clear up any “gray areas” which may arise from the written applications. Interviews, if needed, will be no longer than 15 minutes and will be held on November 8, 2014 at the Vermont Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at Double Tree by Hilton Burlington, Vermont.

Values used in judging the applications will be:

Farm Operation	30%
Growth & Financial Progress of Operations	25%
Farm Bureau Leadership	30%
Other Leadership	15%

Judging is based on the application forms sent to the VFB by the County Farm Bureaus and the interview, if needed, held at the VFB Annual Meeting. (Note: On the AFBF level of the contest, judging of the applications is based as follows: Farm Operation 25%, Growth & Financial Progress 25%, Farm Bureau Leadership 25% and Other Leadership 15%.)

Information contained in the application and entry form is considered confidential.

DEADLINE

This application must be completed and returned to VFB by **October 1, 2018** for the county Young Farmer winner to be eligible to compete for the VFB Award. County Farm Bureaus are encouraged to recognize winners at their county annual meeting. Please allow county winners adequate time to complete an award-winning application. Color slides will not be used in the judging process, but will be used in the Awards and Recognition Program during the VFB Annual Meeting.

Mail Completed Application to:

Chris O’Keefe
Vermont Farm Bureau
117 West Main Street
Richmond, VT 05477

**VERMONT FARM BUREAU 2018 ENTRY FORM
YOUNG FARMER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

NOTE: The applicant should carefully read through this entry form and application before filling out any part of it. The county winner's application and entry form must be in the office of the Vermont Farm Bureau by **October 1, 2018**. If applying as a couple, please include information on husband and wife. Redoing the form on a computer or word processor is allowed, as long as the integrity of the page is maintained and type smaller than 10 point is not used. Uses only face pages. No additional pages/photos may be added to this application.

(Please Type)

- 1) Name _____
(as it will be used in the program)
Phonetic Pronunciation _____
- 2) Address _____ Phone _____
- 3) City & State _____ ZIP Code _____
- 4) Date of Birth H _____ W _____ Age H _____ W _____
- 5) Education/Degree H _____ W _____
College Major _____
Short Course or Other Specialized Study _____
- 6) Number of Children _____ Age(s) _____
- 7) Briefly describe your operation (include unique characteristics):

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements, made to the best of our ability:

Applicant

Applicant

I hereby certify that the above-named applicant is the county winner in our Young Farmer Achievement Award Program and is eligible to be entered and considered for the VFB "Farm Bureau Young Farmer Achievement Award" for 2018.