



PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES: DIVISIONS & QUALITY STANDARDS

What is an Activity?

An Activity is a single, specific action or task undertaken as part of a larger program or goal. An Activity is often smaller in scale and focused on a particular objective.

Examples of Activities:

- Hosting a leadership workshop for a small group of members.
- Conducting a survey to identify community needs.
- Distributing agricultural literacy materials to local schools.

In contrast, an Event is a broader, organized gathering or occasion involving multiple Activities or efforts aimed at achieving a significant goal or impact. Events are typically, larger in scope and may involve multiple stakeholders. Events are often the culmination of planning and several Activities.

Examples of Events:

- A full-day career fair featuring workshops, guest speakers, and booths.
- A community clean-up drive involving multiple teams and stations.
- An agricultural festival with demonstrations, educational sessions, and exhibits.

Key differences between an Activity and an Event:

- Scale and Complexity: Activities are individual tasks or initiatives, while Events are comprehensive gatherings that might include multiple interconnected Activities.
- Purpose: Activities often serve as steps toward accomplishing the broader objectives of an Event.

The National Chapter Award program application is designed to collect information about one Activity related to each of the quality standards. If multiple Activities are included in the Activity Description for an Activity, no points will be given for the Activity Description line of the Application Rubric.

Each chapter builds its Program of Activities around three major areas called divisions. Divisions focus on the types of activities a chapter conducts. The three divisions include growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture. Each division has five quality standards.

Fundraisers benefiting the chapter, such as fruit sales, plant sales, and meat sales, are **not** part of the National Chapter Application, as there is no quality standard that aligns with this type of activity. Activities such as benefits or charity events that benefit community members or the community should be used under the Citizenship Quality Standard.

Growing Leaders:

Example Activities	Quality Standards
Leadership conferences, public speaking experiences, team demonstrations, team and individual leadership competitions, new member mentor program, state leadership camps, chapter officer leadership trainings (COLT), hosting international students, 212° and 360° conferences, Washington Leadership Conference, state, and national conferences	Leadership: Activities that help the individual develop technical, human relations and decision-making skills to grow leaders.
Substance abuse prevention and education, personal wellness choices and consequences, personal image projection, diversity/inclusion programs, recreation/leisure activities	Healthy Lifestyle: Activities that promote the well-being of students mentally or physically, in achieving the positive evolution of the whole person.
Scholarship awards, tutoring, elementary reading programs, school, and college tours, FFA scholarships, leadership conference scholarships, study skills seminars for members, chapter/school honor roll and recognition for students across school departments, academic mentoring	Scholarship: Activities that develop a positive attitude toward lifelong learning experiences.
Time management activities, self-help workshops, facing your fears, money management, financial planning, anti-bullying, diversity/inclusion programs, personal organization skills, member degrees	Personal Growth: Activities conducted that improve the identity and self-awareness of members. These activities should reflect members' unique talents and potential by reinforcing their human and employability skills. The activities should strive to enhance the quality of life and contribute to members' life goals and development.
News stories, career day, guest speakers, displays of exemplary programs, facility tours, mentor programs, international seminars, shadow experiences, agricultural skills and judging events, test plots for the school agriculture department, agriscience fairs, science fairs for elementary students, computer literacy activities, SAE tours, SAE fairs	Career Success: Activities that promote student involvement and growth through agriculture-related experiences and/or entrepreneurship and promote career readiness.

Building Communities:

Example Activities	Quality Standards
Urban and rural conservation programs, collaborative efforts to raise game for release/biological control, water and air quality programs, green practices, provide water testing, recycling programs, National FFA Living to Serve Grants	Environmental: Activities conducted to preserve natural resources and develop more environmentally responsible individuals.
PALS (Partners in Active Learning Support), special populations involvement, at-risk programs, cultural awareness, and diversity programs, provide an after-school program for younger children, set up a community garden, food/toy drives, National FFA Living to Serve Grants, Farm to School Initiative	Human Resources: Activities conducted to improve the welfare and well-being of members and citizens of the community.
Volunteerism, community service, civic duties, internships with government agencies, roadside/area cleanup, legislative breakfasts, work with local chamber of commerce, organize a charity concert, networking with governmental agencies	Citizenship: Activities conducted to encourage members to become active, involved citizens of their school, community, and country.
Working with another entity to strengthen agriculture — for example, Corn Growers, Young Farmers, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, Grange, chambers of commerce, service clubs, extension, fair boards, local advisory committee, parent-teacher organization participation, etc. (Cannot include alumni and supporters)	Stakeholder Engagement: Activities conducted to develop teamwork and cooperation between the local chapter and stakeholders.
Member entrepreneurship, community scavenger hunt, enhanced tourism, international development, historical preservation and community relations, SAE economic impact	Economic Development: Activities conducted to improve the economic welfare of the community.

Strengthening Agriculture:

Example Activities	Quality Standards
Any activities with FFA Alumni and supporters dedicated to supporting active FFA chapters	Support Group: Activities conducted to develop and maintain positive relations among FFA, parents and community leaders interested in supporting agricultural education.
Career class visits, agricultural demonstrations, visits to lower grades, program information mailings, petting zoos, member barbeques, National FFA Week exhibits, new member picnics, camping and fishing trips, create a mentor program for new members, a complimentary subscription to <i>FFA New Horizons</i> magazine	Chapter Recruitment: Activities conducted to increase in engagement or enrollment in agricultural education and/or FFA membership and encourage greater participation.
Firearm safety programs, ATV safety, equipment operation safety, mock crashes, general farm safety, texting and driving campaigns, safe animal handling demonstrations, pesticide application safety awareness activities, producer and consumer safety programs, personal safety programs	Safety: Activities that enhance safety in the community.
Agriculture issue presentations, National Agriculture Day activities, parent/student orientations, advocating for agricultural legislation, Teach Ag! campaigns, engaging policy makers to promote action on hunger, engage in policy supporting agricultural education as an ideal delivery method for STEM, student representation on influential agriculture boards, interacting with local media to promote agriculture and FFA, use of social media to support agricultural causes, encouraging animal welfare practices, advancements in biotechnology and technology in agriculture	Agricultural Advocacy: refers to actively supporting, promoting, and defending agriculture to various audiences. Agricultural advocates work to influence public opinion, shape policy, and gain support for agricultural practices and policies. The purpose of agricultural advocacy is to build trust, address misconceptions, and secure support for the agricultural industry. Students within the chapter might target their efforts toward policymakers, consumers, industry stakeholders, and the general public. ## .
Food for America, Agriculture in the Classroom, Food Checkout Day, activities centered around national food promotions (i.e., dairy month), agriculturally related educational events and/or displays, educating consumers about hunger, food cost and food safety, Our Food Link activities, Food, Land & People, partnering with local fair or festival boards to include food-related educational components in events, alternative fuel education, product awareness as it relates to agriculture (i.e., clothing, medicines, paper, etc.)	Agricultural Literacy: refers to the understanding of basic concepts related to agriculture, including its processes, history, and importance to society and the economy. The purpose of agricultural literacy is to educate individuals, especially those with little or no direct connection to agriculture, about how agriculture impacts their daily lives. Students within the chapter might target their efforts toward other students, educators, consumers, and the general public. ##

Agricultural advocacy often builds upon agricultural literacy. Agricultural advocates rely on a foundation of agricultural literacy to effectively communicate the importance of agriculture, address misconceptions, and promote informed decision-making among their audiences.

For more information on the Program of Activities development, review the [POA Resource Guide](#).