

Tennessee State FFA Officer Selection Competencies

Communication

1.1 - Non-verbal Skills

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating non-verbal skills when communicating with others by using appropriate tone, giving full attention (eye contact), refraining from distracting mannerisms, and using effective and purposeful gestures (hand signals, facial expressions, body language).

1.2 - Listening Skills

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying listening skills when dialoguing with others by recalling information, showing attentiveness, utilizing appropriate wait time, listening for understanding, and finding connections in the conversation.

1.3 - Writing Skills

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating writing skills when communicating with others by using correct spelling and grammar, delivering a clear and concise message, using various forms of written communication appropriately (including formal letters, thank you notes, and emails), and varying writing style based on the audience.

1.4 - Speaking Skills

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating speaking skills in a variety of settings (including classrooms, board rooms, auditorium, arena, small groups or one-on-one) and audiences (including business/industry, parents, school officials, FFA members, elementary and secondary students) by using appropriate examples, engaging and motivating various audiences, speaking articulately without notes, and speaking extemporaneously with comfort and ease.

1.5 - Facilitation Skills

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating facilitation skills in a group setting by accommodating different learning styles through various teamwork techniques, seeking to make the experience meaningful and enjoyable, gauging teammate understanding and readiness throughout the exercise and addressing it appropriately.

Team Player

2.1 - Work in Teams

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating the ability to work in a team pursuing a common goal by easily transitioning between a leader and follower role, seeking to be a positive influence on the group, being aware of personality styles, and successfully managing team dynamics.

2.2 - Acceptance of Differing Viewpoints

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating the acceptance of differing viewpoints during group or individual interactions by fostering a safe and open environment, valuing diversity of opinion, and showing respect and empathy toward others.

2.3 - Putting Team Before Self

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating the ability to put team before self by empowering others, displaying a spirit of humility, sharing success with team members, and assuming responsibility for undesirable outcomes.

Areas of Knowledge

3.1 - Agriculture Knowledge

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating knowledge of the food, fiber, agricultural, and natural resources industries and their current issues by having the ability to connect facts and issues and articulate how they impact agriculture locally and globally, and discussing key and emerging trends with related statistics. Candidates should also be familiar with government officials on the state and national level who make decisions impacting agriculture.

3.2 - FFA Knowledge

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating knowledge of the FFA and its current issues by having the ability to connect facts and issues and articulate how they impact FFA on a local, state, and national level, discussing key and emerging FFA issues with related statistics, recalling historic FFA events and understanding their significance, reciting and explaining the FFA mission, demonstrating comprehensive understanding of the opportunities available within FFA, explaining the organizational structure of FFA and its partner organizations, and promoting the organization's ability to develop and to foster leaders for the agricultural industry.

3.3 - American Education/ Agricultural Education

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating knowledge of America's education system and its current issues by articulating the role of the FFA as an intra-curricular component of Ag Ed, and understanding the relationship between the FFA and United States Department of Education, Career and Technical Education, federal funding, and the issues connecting them.

Organization

4.1 - Efficient Time Management

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating efficient time management by having and using a time management tool, handling multiple tasks with competing timelines, being able to prioritize, and meeting deadlines while producing quality results. Candidates should demonstrate the ability to plan presentations within the given preparation time limit and then present the work they have done while wisely using the presentation time they have been given.

4.2 - Organizational Skills

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating organizational skills by locating necessary information or items quickly and easily and being detail-oriented.

4.3 - Planning and Prioritization

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating an ability to plan and prioritize by handling both large and small tasks with ease, breaking down large tasks into manageable components, having defined long-term and short-term goals, and having the ability to prioritize and delegate.

Character

5.1 - Positive Attitude

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying reliability, integrity, and trust among others by doing the right thing, even when it causes discomfort, taking responsibility for his/her actions, doing what he/she commits to and more.

5.2 - Sincerity/ Compassion

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying sincerity and compassion toward others by being sensitive to the genuine welfare of others, communicating true self with tact (passion or vulnerabilities).

5.3 - Maturity

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying maturity by demonstrating an appropriate demeanor for the situation, using mature language and mannerisms.

5.4 - Coachable/ Lifelong Learning

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying coachable, life-long learning tendencies by seeking constructive feedback and using it in a proactive manner.

5.5 - Work Ethic

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying strong work ethic by demonstrating a sense of ownership and a strong desire/drive for completion on all projects regardless of the circumstances.

Passion for Success

6.1 - Self-Confident

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying self-confidence by demonstrating a strong desire to achieve in a fast paced environment, showing willingness to take risks to grow even when success is not guaranteed, having the desire to step outside of comfort zone, sticking to convictions and beliefs while demonstrating consideration towards others, and being well poised.

6.2 - Commitment to FFA

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying commitment to the FFA by supporting and advancing the FFA mission daily through his/her words and actions.

6.3 - Energetic

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in demonstrating an energetic disposition by maintaining and displaying a high level of energy even in a stressful environment, generating a positive buzz, and having the stamina to maintain a consistent level of performance during continuous activity.

6.4 - Initiative

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in displaying initiative in completing a task by recognizing the appropriate time to take action, being quick to respond to new tasks (i.e. volunteering for tasks readily), showing a willingness to act on tedious or less glamorous activities, and being aware of necessity to take action.

Influence

7.1 - Supports and Motivates FFA Members/ Partners

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in supporting and motivating FFA members and partners by communicating the value of being a member and the opportunities available in FFA and demonstrating support of individuals and groups through recognition, awards, letters, and personal notes.

7.2 - Mentors and Coaches Others

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in mentoring and coaching others by generating ideas for professional improvement for members and officers, and serving as a role model.

7.3 - Member Representation

Candidates will produce evidence of proficiency in committing to member representation by carefully weighing impact of decisions on FFA and its members, and not being afraid to make tough decisions for the good of the organization.

Appearance

8.1 - Official Dress

Official FFA jacket zipped to the top
Official FFA tie or scarf
Correct number of pins displayed
Skirts of appropriate length
Appropriate footwear

8.2 - Posture/Presence

Candidates should use proper posture throughout the interview process. They should appear alert, interested, and professional. Candidates should also create a positive presence with movements and overall effect.