

**TEXAS FARM BUREAU  
FREE ENTERPRISE SPEECH CONTEST  
2018 RULES AND AWARDS**

**PURPOSE**

To provide selected young people an opportunity to organize and present their knowledge of Constitutional Government and the Free Enterprise System. They will also improve their ability to orally communicate the advantages of these systems and develop their abilities of leadership.

**ELIGIBILITY**

- A) All contestants must have attended the 2018 TFB Youth Leadership Conference.
- B) Each contestant must have presented at least five (5) speeches concerning free enterprise during a period of **June 18 - September 21, 2018** (Speeches to be verified by the county Farm Bureau president.)
- C) Contestants must be a part of a Texas Farm Bureau member family in accordance with the Texas Farm Bureau Membership guidelines. The membership and contestant's residence must be within the district of competition. Contestants who reside outside the district where they are members shall compete in the district of their membership with the approval of the state director of the district of their membership.
- D) Exceptions – Texas Farm Bureau employees, dealers and/or servicing agents' families are not eligible for district or state contest participation. County Farm Bureau employees' families are eligible to compete in district and state level contests.

**PROCEDURE**

- A) To enter the district contest, the entry form must be completed, signed by the county Farm Bureau president and submitted to the address or fax number listed on the form by September 21, 2018. District contests will be conducted during the month of October, 2018. Contestants will be notified of the date, location and time for the district contest by their **County Farm Bureau**.
- B) THE DISTRICT AND STATE CONTESTS CONSIST OF EACH CONTESTANT DELIVERING AN INFORMATIVE SPEECH CONCERNING FREE ENTERPRISE. The prepared speech must be no more than six minutes in length. Contestants exceeding six minutes will be penalized 10 points per judge.
- C) Students are not to identify themselves or their county during the speech.
- D) The contestants will be judged on the following criteria:
  - 1) 20 POINTS - Organization: Did there seem to be logical order to speech?
  - 2) 10 POINTS - Language: Desirable sentence structure, clear enunciation.
  - 3) 10 POINTS - Voice: Expression, tone, rate, enthusiasm, etc.
  - 4) 10 POINTS - Use of notes: Was the material read? Were the notes more of a crutch than an aid?
  - 5) 10 POINTS - Eye Contact: Were all parts of the room given equal time?
  - 6) 10 POINTS - Overall persuasiveness.
  - 7) 30 POINTS - Was the speech relevant to the Free Enterprise topic?
- E) One (1) student will be selected as the district winner to compete in the state contest, and one (1) student will be selected as the district runner-up.
- F) A state winner, one (1) runner-up and (4) finalists will be selected from the field of contestants.

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**AWARDS**

**A) District Winners**

- 1) Texas Farm Bureau will pay mileage or public transportation, meals and lodging for each district winner and one **parental** escort to the Texas Farm Bureau Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas, December 1, 2018.
- 2) Each district winner will be awarded a \$1,500 college scholarship by Texas Farm Bureau. The scholarship certificate will be mailed to all winners following the state contest.
- 3) The district winner must compete in the state contest in order to receive the district level scholarship. Exceptions to this rule include emergencies, such as illness (verified by a physician) or act of God. In the event the district winner is unable to compete in the state contest (other than for above reasons), the district runner-up will become the district winner with all privileges and awards.

**B) State Winners**

- 1) The college scholarship for the state finalists will be increased to the amount listed. The amount is determined by their placing in the finals.

Four (4) finalists .....	\$2,000 each
Runner-up.....	\$3,000
Winner.....	\$6,000

- These scholarships are not in addition to the \$1,500 district scholarship. Scholarships for the Runner-up, Winner and Four finalists are increased to the amount specified.

- 2) Four finalists, one winner and one runner-up will receive a four-day, three-night expense paid trip to Washington, D. C. to visit with elected officials, witness the legislative body in session and visit historical sights. Chaperones will be provided by Texas Farm Bureau. The trip will occur during the Summer of 2019.

- C) Contestants winning more than one Texas Farm Bureau Scholarship will receive all scholarships earned.

- D) Contestants winning scholarships will not receive cash. The scholarship is payable directly to the college or university in two (2) or more payments. The certificates (scholarships) will be mailed to all winners following the state contest. The scholarship certificate must be signed and returned to Texas Farm Bureau in order for the award to be validated.