



# 2026 GOLDEN BUCKLE AWARDS PROGRAM

FOR COUNTY FARM BUREAUS

The 2026 Golden Buckle Awards Program for County Farm Bureaus is designed to recognize and reward CFBs for excelling in ag promotion.

County Farm Bureaus will be presented a Golden Buckle Award score sheet that runs concurrent with TFB's membership year: November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026.

Counties will be divided into seven categories based on October 31, 2025 membership numbers:

- Division 1 Under 617
- Division 2 617-994
- Division 3 995-1,523
- Division 4 1,524-2086
- Division 5 2,087-3,168
- Division 6 3,169-4,235
- Division 7 Over 4,235

Points will be based on the Golden Buckle Award score sheet. In the event there is a tie in points, the tie will be broken by the first tie breaker under the Membership Acquisition section. If a tie is still in place, the tie will be broken by the second tie breaker which is the total number of AGFUND cabinet members in all of the county. This number will be calculated by the TFB home office. The state winner will receive \$10,000 and a prize package; first runner-up, \$5,000; second runner-up, \$2,500.

In addition to the state winners, the top two counties in each category will receive \$1,000 to help with expenses of attending the 2026 TFB Annual Meeting. Counties must attend the Annual Meeting to receive the prize money.

Forms must be completed by November 6, 2026. Keep up with photos throughout the year. The top two counties in each membership category will submit photos at the end of the contest.

Credit for attendance or participation must be by a County Farm Bureau board member and not a state director, member of the agency force, or a county employee.

COUNTY FARM BUREAU	POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
1. Hold a minimum of 6 regular board meetings with a quorum present	100	_____
2. Prepare and follow a budget; Field Representative participates in the preparation, and it is approved by the board of directors prior to the start of the fiscal year	10	_____
3. Develop a Program of Work	10	_____
4. Hold annual meeting of membership prior to TFB Annual Meeting:		
* All officers in attendance	5	_____
* Majority of board in attendance	5	_____
* Elect county directors per bylaws	5	_____
* Policy discussion	5	_____
* Present financial statement and previous year's minutes	5	_____
* Elect voting delegates to TFB Annual Meeting	5	_____
5. Enter complete County Committee Survey Form, including committee chairs, by January 1	10	_____
6. Conduct annual bylaw review	10	_____
7. Board participation in professional development/leadership training	30	_____
8. President qualifies as Proficient President	50	_____
<b>COUNTY FARM BUREAU TOTAL:</b>	<b>250</b>	_____

MEMBERSHIP ACQUISITION	POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
1. 50% of board qualifies as TFB Star Recruiter (2 new members brought in per board member)	50	_____
2. 100% of board qualifies as TFB Star Recruiter (2 new members brought in per board member)	200	_____
3. Minimum of 1 board member qualifies as TFB Platinum Recruiter (10 new members brought in per board member)	100	_____
4. Membership and or Health Plan Appeal to outside groups (Board member(s) must be present) (Number of appeals _____)	100	_____
<b>MEMBER ACQUISITION TOTAL:</b>	<b>450</b>	_____

POLICY DEVELOPMENT	POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
1. Policy Development Committee conducts a meeting where members discuss issues and make recommendations for possible resolutions at county annual meeting	50	_____
2. TFB Commodity Advisory Committee applicant	50	_____
3. Submit a TFB Resolutions Committee volunteer to State Director	50	_____
<b>POLICY DEVELOPMENT TOTAL:</b>	<b>150</b>	_____

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES	POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
1. Attend a meeting with State Representative/staff to discuss Farm Bureau policy in the district	50	_____
2. Attend a meeting with State Senator/staff to discuss Farm Bureau policy in the district	50	_____
3. Attend a meeting with U.S. Representative/staff to discuss Farm Bureau policy in the district	50	_____
4. AGFUND Contributions:		
* 100% of board contribute to AGFUND (minimum \$5)	50	_____
* 50% of board contribute to AGFUND Cabinet	50	_____
* 100% of board contribute to AGFUND Cabinet	100	_____
<b>LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES TOTAL:</b>	<b>350</b>	_____
YOUNG FARMER & RANCHER	POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
1. Young farmer and rancher attends a CFB or TFB YF&R meeting	25	_____
2. Host an event that emphasizes participation by young farmer and rancher members to promote YF&R contests, programs, events, and meetings	50	_____
3. TFB YF&R Advisory Committee applicant	30	_____
4. Appoint a young farmer and rancher (age 18-35) as chair of the county YF&R committee and list on County Committee Survey Form	20	_____
5. Donate a livestock or poultry animal through Farmers Feeding Families program	50	_____
6. Donate money, time, or other food through Farmers Feeding Families program	25	_____
<b>YOUNG FARMER &amp; RANCHER TOTAL:</b>	<b>200</b>	_____
AG EDUCATION	POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
1. TFB AITC programs		
* Garden Grant applicant	5	_____
* Farm From School participant	5	_____
* Ag Literacy program participant	5	_____
* Purchase AITC materials	5	_____
2. Sponsor AITC promotional/appreciation event for educators	30	_____
3. Participate in ag educational event (example: ag day, school visit, MLB, Ag on the Go event)	50	_____
<b>AG EDUCATION TOTAL:</b>	<b>100</b>	_____

YOUTH OUTREACH
1. Award CFB scholarship
2. TFB scholarship applicant
3. Involvement in local livestock show
4. Student Success Series Participant
* Thrive
* Engage
* Jumpstart or Activate
5. Activity involving 4-H/FFA (example: ag day, annual meeting, contests)
6. Submit name(s) of qualified member(s) that have agreed to serve as a judge for TFB contests, prior to February 13th, 2026.
<b>YOUTH OUTREACH TOTAL:</b>

POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
10	_____
10	_____
10	_____
15	_____
10	_____
5	_____
20	_____
20	_____
<b>100</b>	_____

AG PROMOTION
1. Board member(s) present program to other groups on Farm Bureau and agriculture
2. Participate in a Food Connection Activity
3. Enter TFB County Communications Awards Program
4. Sponsor Ag Promotion Activity (examples: ag marketing meeting, adult ag tour, CEU meeting, small landowner meeting)
5. Entry in AFBF County Activities of Excellence (CAE) program
6. Conduct new activity (or elevate existing activity) that promotes Farm Bureau and agriculture
<b>AG PROMOTION TOTAL:</b>

POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
100	_____
10	_____
10	_____
30	_____
50	_____
100	_____
<b>300</b>	_____

ATTENDANCE BY BOARD MEMBERS
1. Representation at TFB Annual Meeting
2. Representation at TFB District Caucus
3. Representation at TFB Presidents' Conference
4. Representation at National Affairs Awards Trip
5. Representation at Summer Conference
6. Representation at District Policy Development Meeting
7. President or Vice President attend District Presidents' Caucus
<b>ATTENDANCE TOTAL:</b>

POINTS	YOUR COUNTY SCORE
50	_____
50	_____
50	_____
50	_____
50	_____
50	_____
50	_____
<b>350</b>	_____

Tie Breaker 1–Total number of membership/Health Plan appeals  
Tie Breaker 2–Total number of AGFUND cabinet members in all of the County Farm Bureau as of Oct 31  
*(Number confirmed by TFB home office)*

**GOLDEN BUCKLE TOTAL: 2250**

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