

2026 Practicum Areas – Spring Career Development Events

2026 AGRICULTURAL SALES CDE

- **Requires a four (4) member team.**
- **Attire** – Official Dress
- **Written Exam – 100 points**
 - Twenty-five questions
- **Individual Sales Activity – 150 points**
 - The Sales Call scorecard in the New Jersey FFA CDE Handbook will be used by the judge.
- **Team Activity – 175 points**
 - The Team Sales Situation scorecard in the 2026 New Jersey FFA CDE Handbook will be used by the judge.
- **2026 Product**
 - Students will act as salespeople for **Rimol Greenhouses and is based out of New Hampshire**. Rimol Greenhouses have spent 30 years designing greenhouses that are intensely rugged, uniquely attractive, and easier to construct than anything else on the market. Their products are the opposite of “cookie cutter” greenhouse structures. They design and construct the perfect greenhouse to meet all your growing needs. For information on why Rimol Greenhouses will get you the most value from your investment, see <https://rimol.com/>.
 - Students should focus on the following industries:
 - Vegetable - <https://rimol.com/industries/vegetable/>
 - Garden Centers - <https://rimol.com/industries/garden-centers/>
 - Educational - <https://rimol.com/industries/education/>
 - Homesteaders - <https://rimol.com/industries/homesteaders/>
 - Controlled Environment Agriculture - <https://rimol.com/industries/cea/>
 - Students will receive their customer profiles during the Team Activity.
- **Notes**
 - Students need to bring the following materials with them for the event:
 - Non-programmable Calculator (cell phone calculators are not permitted)
 - Clipboard
 - Two No. 2 Pencils
 - 1-inch binder containing the product information and any other information gathered by the participant. **Other information does not include product samples or other props.**

2026 AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY AND MECHANICAL SYSTEMS CDE

- **Requires a four (4) member team.**
- **Attire** - Please **DO NOT** allow students to wear official dress for the event. They will need to wear appropriate shop clothes and work shoes (long pants, boots, etc.); no sneakers, mesh, or open-toed shoes. Students who don't adhere to these rules will be disqualified.
- **Written Exam – 50 points**
 - Twenty-five questions
- **Practicum Areas** – Students will be evaluated in each of the five areas listed in the handbook. The specific activities occurring in each area will not be publicized prior to the event; however, the list of skills and competencies have been narrowed down for each area (see below).
 - **Machinery/Equipment Systems Competencies**
 - Identify parts and functions of hydraulic systems
 - Adjust and/or calibrate chemical application, seeding, fertilizing, harvesting, processing and materials handling machinery
 - Select tools and materials for specific repair jobs

- Select and use appropriate safety equipment
 - Operation and interpretation of circuit diagrams and flowcharts for electrical, hydraulic, fuel, oil, cooling, intake and exhaust systems
 - **Electrical Systems Competencies**
 - Use appropriate standards for agricultural applications, including the National Electrical Code (NEC), Electrical Testing Laboratory (ETL), Factory Mutual, Underwriters Laboratory (UL), Canadian Standard Association (CSA) and/or OSHA standards.
 - Determine volt, amp, and ohm relationships (Ohm's and other application laws).
 - Select motors based upon type of application
 - Interpret electric motor nameplate data
 - Identify electric motors and motor parts
 - Select appropriate wire sizes and protection devices for specific loads and lengths of circuits
 - Read schematics and sketch wiring circuits
 - **Compact Equipment Systems Competencies**
 - Interpret wiring diagrams/schematics
 - Conduct equipment pre-operation inspection
 - Perform recommended periodic service jobs (as found in operator's manuals)
 - Use measuring tools and test instruments such as: Micrometer and telescoping gauges, dial indicator, compression tester, torque wrench, VOA (volt-ohm-amp) meter, DMM (digital multi-meter), timing devices, tachometer, and dynamometer for determining test procedures
 - Test and service batteries, charging, lighting, warning, and cranking systems
 - **Environmental and Natural Resources Systems Competencies**
 - Conduct land surveying practices
 - Select irrigation systems for specific conditions
 - Select irrigation equipment and techniques
 - Lay out grade stakes for cut/fills
 - Use water-testing equipment
 - Assemble turf irrigation equipment
 - Install components of irrigation systems for specific applications
 - **Structures Systems Competencies**
 - Determine the size, specifications and layout of building
 - Develop a bill of materials
 - Interpret plans and working drawings
 - Select arc welding machines and accessories
 - Read drawings and welding symbols
 - Read metal working plans and prints
 - Operate power tools such as nibblers, drills and saws
 - Operate hand tools such as saws and files
 - Cut and assemble plastic pipe
 - Solder copper fittings, tubing and copper wire
 - **General Cluster Skills**
 - All competencies listed in the handbook
 - **Safety**
 - Students will be evaluated on safety at each practicum site.
- **Notes**
 - Components of the event will be outside rain or shine. Make sure students are prepared for the weather.
 - Students need to bring the following materials with them for the event:
 - Safety glasses (see the handbook for specifications)
 - Non-programmable Calculator (cell phone calculators are not permitted)
 - Leather Work Gloves
 - Clipboard

- Two No. 2 Pencils

2026 AGRONOMY CDE AND PRACTICUM AREAS

- **Requires a four (4) member team.**
- **Attire** - Travel Official Dress (see handbook for explanation)
- **Written Exam – 240 points**
 - Sixty questions
- **Identification – 200 points**
 - 50 specimens to be identified from the weed and/or crop plants and/or seeds lists in the current 2026 New Jersey FFA CDE Handbook
- **Soils – 200 points**
 - identify soil structures and/or analyze web soil survey
- **Pest Management – 200 points**
 - Disorders – 100 points
 - Insect identification – 100 points
- **Team Activity Written Component – 250 points**
 - As a team, students will prepare a written statement in response to a scenario.
- **Notes**
 - Components of the event will be outside rain or shine. Make sure students are prepared for the weather.
 - Students need to bring the following materials with them for the event:
 - Non-programmable Calculator (cell phone calculators are not permitted)
 - Clipboard
 - Two No. 2 Pencils

2026 ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES CDE AND PRACTICUM AREAS

- **Requires a four (4) member team.**
- **Attire** – Travel Official Dress (see handbook for explanation)
- **Identification – 100 points**
 - 50 specimens to be identified from the identification lists in the current 2026 New Jersey FFA CDE Handbook
- **Objective Written Exam – 100 points**
 - Fifty questions
- **Two Practicums – 100 points each**

Two of the following will be conducted

 - Data Interpretation
 - Soil Profile
 - Waste Management
- **Team Activity Written Statement – 200 points**
 - As a team, students will prepare a written statement in response to a prompt on the following topic: *“Protecting drinking water supply while managing public forest land in Northwestern New Jersey..”*
- **Notes**
 - Components of the event will be outside rain or shine. Make sure students are prepared for the weather.
 - Students need to bring the following materials with them for the event:
 - Non-programmable Calculator (cell phone calculators are not permitted)
 - Clipboard
 - Two No. 2 Pencils
 - GPS Unit (see handbook for specifications) **Team members are NOT permitted to share GPS units between teammates or among any other contestants.**

2026 POULTRY EVALUATION CDE AND PRACTICUM AREAS

- **Requires a four (4) member team.**
- **Attire** – Official Dress
- **Live Poultry – 150 points (tentative)**
 - Market Broilers
 - Egg-type Hens
 - Oral Reasons (one class)
- **Ready-to-Cook Poultry – 100 points**
 - Carcass Grading
 - Carcass Placing
- **Shell Eggs – 150 points**
 - Interior Grading
 - Exterior Grading
 - Written Factors
- **Further Processed Poultry – 150 points**
 - Boneless Further Processed
 - Bone-In Further Processed
 - Carcass Parts Identification
- **Written Exam – 100 points**
 - Twenty-five questions
- **Team Activity – 150 points**
 - The team activity can include, but is not limited to, data collection and summary, analyzing current events pertaining to the poultry industry and evaluating other practicum materials pertaining to sections in the Poultry Science Manual for National FFA Career Development Events. The scores will derive from responses to an appropriate number of questions including calculations. Team members may be asked to utilize provided materials in their responses.
- **Notes**
 - Components of the event will be outside rain or shine. Make sure students are prepared for the weather.
 - Students need to bring the following materials with them for the event:
 - Non-programmable Calculator (cell phone calculators are not permitted)
 - Clipboard with blank paper
 - Two No. 2 Pencils

2026 VETERINARY SCIENCE CDE AND PRACTICUM AREAS

- **Requires a four (4) member team.**
- **Attire**
 - All participants must wear either scrubs (solid-color tops and bottoms) or a polo with slacks for the practical application of the event. All participants must wear closed-toe, closed-heel and flat shoes (no clogs, sandals or flip-flops). For safety and sanitary reasons, jewelry will be limited to stud earrings, a plain wedding band, and a medical alert bracelet or necklace. Bracelets, necklaces, and dangling earrings are prohibited during the competition. Wrist watches are permitted.
- **Scenario**
 - All portions of the event will center around **one** of these scenario topics with small animals in mind:
 - **Emergent Care in the Canine and Feline Patient**
 - **Enrichment, Behavior, and Welfare of Animals in a Laboratory/Research Setting**
- **Individual Activities – 300 points**
 - Students will respond to questions presented in mini scenarios that relate to the overall topic. Questions can include the following:
 - **Identification** – items to be identified from the identification lists in the current 2026 New Jersey FFA CDE Handbook

- **General Knowledge** – may include questions about behavior, disease, medical records, medical terminology, anatomy/physiology, body condition score, regulations, patient management, facility management, practice management, genetics, nutrition or husbandry
 - **Math Applications** – may include conversions, dose calculations dilutions, cost calculations and invoices
- **Clinical Application** – Students will cycle through 2 practicums that related to the overall topic
 - One Handling/Restraining – **30 points**
 - One Clinical Procedure – **50 points**
- **Additional ID** – Students will identify additional items related to the clinical applications that are not part of the individual activities.
- **Team Activity – 200 points**
 - Students will utilize the information they gathered from the scenario presented during the individual activities to complete the team activity. The team will have 40 minutes to respond to the prompts and finalize their findings.
- **Resources**
 - 2026 National Veterinary Science CDE Focus Area
<https://ffa.app.box.com/v/2026-Vet-Science-Focus-Areas>
 - **DISCLAIMER:** The material presented is provided as an additional resource for the 2026 event and should be used **IN ADDITION** to those provided in the 2026 Veterinary Science handbook.
 - 2026 National Veterinary Science CDE Scenario Resource Guide
<https://ffa.app.box.com/v/Vet-Sc-Scenario-Resource-Guide>
 - **DISCLAIMER:** The material presented is provided as an additional resource for the 2026 event and should be used **IN ADDITION** to those provided in the 2026 Veterinary Science handbook. **The Practicums listed in this resource are not the only practicums that may be used.**
 - Watch this video for an explanation of the format
<https://ffa.app.box.com/s/818tit96sscu65kelffrcfja6kqg859g/file/1248362969158>
- **Notes**
 - NO live animals will be used during the event.
 - Students need to bring the following materials with them for the event:
 - Non-programmable Calculator (cell phone calculators are not permitted)
 - Clipboard
 - Two No. 2 Pencils

PLEASE NOTE

All events will be using the updated 2026 New Jersey FFA Career Development Event rules, identification lists, score cards, etc. located on the State Activity Guide.

https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/activity/index.html

Visit the National FFA Website for the updated National FFA CDE Handbook.

<https://www.ffa.org/participate/cde-lde/>