

## 2026 State Officer Selection Process

### WRITING EXERCISE – Agricultural Education

In 2026, the writing exercise, media interview, and representation round will focus on one specific area of knowledge individually. The writing exercise focuses on a candidates' ability to effectively prepare and facilitate content in front of a live audience. In 2026, the writing exercise topics will focus on **Agricultural Education**.

The purpose of this round is to evaluate the candidate's ability to convey knowledge and understanding in a different way than allowed through multiple choice questions. Candidates will be given a set of key points about a topic chosen by the nominating committee. It will be the candidate's responsibility to fulfill the writing scenario (blog post, news article, etc.) in a way that effectively represents the industry and their state association.

This round will be 60 minutes in length and will be administered online one week prior to the State FFA Convention. Candidates will be given a writing prompt with key points to address and will require a proctor to ensure the integrity of the process.

Topics for the writing exercise will fall within one of the following "hot topic" areas. The following is a listing of topics to guide your preparation for this task in the interview process.

### 2026 SELECTION PROCESS HOT TOPICS

- SAE for All
- Teach Ag Campaign
- How does the philosophy of Agricultural Education connect classroom instruction, work-based learning, and leadership development

One of the topics will be selected by the nominating committee prior to the state FFA convention.

For more information regarding this interview round please reference the New Jersey State Officer Candidate Handbook.

### QUESTIONS?

Questions regarding the hot topics or general questions regarding the state officer selection process should be directed to: Jenny Allen , State FFA Specialist ([jenny.allen@ag.nj.gov](mailto:jenny.allen@ag.nj.gov)) or Abbey Goodenough, Adult Coordinator ([abbeybcffa@gmail.com](mailto:abbeybcffa@gmail.com)).