OFFICIAL RULES – Kentucky Golden Owl Award® Contest

These are the Official Rules of the Ohio Golden Owl Award® Contest ("Contest"). The Contest is co-sponsored by the Kentucky FFA Foundation, PO Box 8, Flemingsburg, KY 41041; and Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company ("Sponsors"), One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

NO PURCHASE IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.

ELIGIBILITY

Nominees must be Kentucky-licensed educators currently teaching agricultural education courses at the secondary (middle/high school). **No purchase is necessary**.

Nominations can be submitted by the general public, current or former students, parents, fellow educators, school administrators and community members.

PREVIOUS WINNER ELIGIBILITY

Previous Golden Owl Award winners may be nominated each year during their ineligibility period; however, they are not eligible to be selected as a winner during that time.

Regional Golden Owl Award winners are ineligible to receive the Regional Golden Owl Award in the year immediately following their win but may be nominated and selected again in subsequent years.

State Golden Owl Award winners are ineligible to receive the State Golden Owl Award for five years following their winning year but may be nominated each year during that period. They become eligible to win again beginning in the sixth year following their win.

TEACHERS MAY NOT SELF-NOMINATE.

The Golden Owl Award Winner (Kentucky's Agricultural Educator of the Year) will be Kentucky's representative for the NAAE Outstanding Teacher Award. If the winner is not a paid member of the Kentucky Association of Agricultural Educators or does not meet the national requirements, the next placed finalist that is a paid member will move to national level.

Employees, affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising and promotion agencies, and any entity involved in the development, production, implementation, administration or fulfillment of the Contest (all of the foregoing, together with Nationwide, and KY FFA Foundation collectively referred to as "Promotion Entities") and their immediate family members and/or those living in the same household of such persons, whether related or not, are not eligible to enter the Contest.

HOW TO ENTER

The Nomination period begins September 17, 2026 and ends November 30, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. PST ("Nomination Period").

To enter, provide your and the ag teacher's contact information and provide essay responses to the three main application questions.

Nominations can be completed online at: www.kyffa.org or www.teachagky.org

Entry constitutes consent to participate in the Contest and for the KY FFA Foundation to obtain, use, and transfer the entrant's name, address and other details for Contest administration purposes. KY FFA Foundation will not be responsible for lost, incomplete, illegible, late, misdirected, stolen, or mutilated entries; technical or mechanical malfunctions; errors in the Official Rules, in any related ads or materials; or processing errors. KY FFA Foundation can void the entry of any Entrant who it believes has attempted to tamper with or impair Contest administration, security, fairness, or proper play.

HONOREE DETERMINATION

Twelve (12) Honorees will be selected by an established committee.

An established committee will evaluate nominations received and select 12 Regional Honorees as defined by KY FFA's regions.

Nominations will be judged based on the following criteria:

1. Teacher's dedication to agriculture education
2. Teacher's impact on his/her student(s)
3. Teacher's impact on their local community

In the event of a tie, the teacher receiving the highest number of nominations shall be selected as Honoree, as determined by the selection committee.

12 Regional Honorees will be announced by March 31, 2027.

GRAND PRIZE WINNER DETERMINATION

Each of the 12 Regional Honorees will be required to complete a supplemental nomination form, one of whom will be chosen as the overall State winner. This completed form will be due by May 1, 2027.

Ahead of the 2027 Kentucky FFA State Convention, the committee will review supplemental nomination forms submitted and select the winner of the Kentucky Agricultural Educator of the Year. That individual's name will not be released until the 2027 Kentucky FFA State Convention held June 2027 in Lexington, KY. There the new Kentucky Agricultural Educator of the Year will be announced.

If a Prize winner is not eligible to win, or if KY FFA is unable to contact the winner after a reasonable effort, the prize will be forfeited, and an alternate winner may be selected.

SPONSORS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAVEL-RELATED EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH PRIZE ACCEPTANCE.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

1. One (1) Grand Prize Winner: Trophy and $3,000 cash prize to winner
2. Twelve (12) Honorees: Plaque and $500 cash prize to honoree

Prizes are non-transferable, and no substitution will be made except as provided herein at the Sponsors' sole discretion. Sponsors reserve the right to substitute a prize for one of equal or greater value if the designated prize should become unavailable for any reason. Winners are responsible for all taxes and fees associated with prize receipt and/or use.

If requested, winners must execute and return an Affidavit of Eligibility, Liability Release and (where legal) Publicity Release within three days of notification. Failure to do so may result in disqualification, forfeiture, or award to alternate winner.

GENERAL RULES

The Contest is governed by and subject to the laws of the United States and the state of Ohio.

All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. Void where prohibited by law. Prize Winners may receive an IRS 1099 form for the value of their prizes. By participating in the Contest and/or accepting any prize, Entrants grant the Promotion Entities permission to use their name, likenesses, and image in connection with the Contest for purposes of advertising, publicity and promotion purposes, without further compensation to the entrant, unless prohibited by law. Entrants agree to be bound by the Official Rules and the decisions of the judges, which are final and binding on all matters relating to the Contest. The Promotion Entities are not responsible for any typographical or other errors in the printing of the offer, administration of the Contest or the announcement of the prizes, or for lost, late, misdirected, damaged, incomplete or illegal entries.

The Promotion Entities reserve the right at their sole discretion to disqualify any Entrant found to be (a) tampering or attempting to tamper with the entry process or (b) violating the Official Rules.

By participating in the Contest and/or accepting any prize, Entrants grant Sponsors permission to use their name, likenesses, and image in connection with the Contest for purposes of advertising, publicity and promotion purposes, without further compensation to the entrant, unless prohibited by law.

DISPUTES/GOVERNING LAW

Except where prohibited, as a condition of participating in this Contest, Entrant agrees that any and all disputes that cannot be resolved between the parties, and all claims and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Contest, or any prize awarded, or the determination of winner shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action. Further, in any such dispute, under no circumstances will Entrant be permitted to obtain awards for, and hereby waives all rights to claim punitive, incidental or consequential damages, or any other damages, including attorneys' fees, and Entrant further waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased.

All issues and questions rights and obligations of Entrant in connection with this Contest shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of Ohio, without giving effect to the conflict of laws rules thereof.

PRIVACY

By entering the Contest, you agree to the terms and conditions described in the Nationwide Privacy Policy, located at http://nationwide.com/nw/privacy.

By entering this Contest, you agree that the Kentucky FFA Foundation may use any content submitted in any Kentucky FFA Foundation or Kentucky Agriculture Education communications/publications, including but not limited to: in-person, in print, and online.

WINNER LIST

To view a list of Kentucky's finalists and the winner, please visit the teachagky.org website to view the Hall of Owls or contact Cassidy Hutchison at cassidy.hutchison@kyffa.org.