

**2026 Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader  
Excellence in Ag Award Application Questions**

1. **Personal Background** (family, education, and personal interests) – *Approximately 2,000 characters*
2. **Agricultural Involvement**
  - a. Please explain the applicant's (applicants') occupation. *Approximately 2,500 characters*
  - b. Please explain the applicant's (applicants') personal involvement in agriculture/agribusiness. *Approximately 2,500 characters*
3. **Impact on Agriculture** – *Approximately 5,000 characters*

Clearly describe the efforts the applicant(s) has taken to positively promote and impact the agriculture industry. Examples may include things such as hosting farm tours, legislative visits, writing a blog, etc.
4. **Issues Facing Agriculture**
  - a. Agriculture faces important issues at the local, state, national and international levels. Explain three important issues that the industry needs to address in the next five years. Choose one issue from three of the four levels mentioned above. For example, an applicant might select ag literacy as a local issue, mental health as a state issue and rural broadband as a national issue. *Approximately 5,000 characters*
  - b. Choose one of the issues in your response to 4A and discuss how you personally have addressed, or can address, that issue and work towards a resolution. *Approximately 5,000 characters*
5. **Goals** – *Approximately 5,000 characters*

What goals does the applicant(s) have for the next five years related to their career, Farm Bureau involvement and involvement with other organizations? What steps have been made to reach these goals?
6. **Leadership Experience (from age 18 to current)**

*Note: This applies to both applicants, if applying together. Please indicate A1 and A2 when applicable.*

List Farm Bureau leadership roles, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant, including service on committees, boards or as officers. Please include years and level of involvement (county, state, national).  
*Example: A1 – Elected President of the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors (2023-2024). Approximately 2,500 characters*

**County Farm Bureau**

**State/American Farm Bureau**

List other agricultural leadership roles, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant, including service on committees, boards or as officers (i.e. Farm Credit, Soil Conservation, Farm Service Agency, farm cooperatives, adult roles in 4-H or FFA). *Example: A1 and A2 – 4-H, Serves as 4-H Livestock Club Leader (2019-present). Approximately 2,500 characters*

List other community and non-agricultural leadership roles, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant, including service on committees, boards or as officers (i.e. Chamber of Commerce, civic/service clubs, church, school, scouts, coaching, etc.). *Example: A1 – Local Elementary School, Served as Parent Teacher Association President (2023-2024). Approximately 2,500 characters.*

If you had any situations or circumstances that may have affected your leadership experience, please use this space to explain. *Approximately 250 characters.*

**Note: There are no points associated to this section and can be left blank.**