

**TEXAS YOUNG FARMERS STATE AWARDS**  
**RULES, ELIGIBILITY, CRITERIA**

**General Rules**

1. Applications must be typed and can be submitted either electronically via e-mail to Bob Young at [bytxyfa@gmail.com](mailto:bytxyfa@gmail.com) or mailed to:  
The State Association of Young Farmers of Texas  
1990 T K Parkway, Axtell, Texas 76624
2. The Chapter submitting the application will explain to the committee why there member should receive this award. This will be in the form of an essay or story at least 300 words but not more than 750 words. Application must contain 4 pictures with explanation caption and may contain up to six pictures. Pictures may be black & white or color, will be accepted but are limited to 3x5, 4x6, or 5x7. Captions will consist of not more than 50 words.
3. Emphasis should be placed on activities of the immediate past membership year but may include additional information.
4. Each chapter may submit one application to the state for consideration. A committee will select the State winner.
5. The State office must receive the application by the deadline date: **November 1**.
6. The chapter of the applicant must have submitted its dues, roster, and program of work on the appropriate forms to the state office on or before November 1.
7. Applications not conforming to the rules will be rejected.

**Eligibility**

1. The applicant must have been a member for at least two years and currently be a paid, active member of a chapter in good standing with the Area and State associations.
2. State winners are eligible to reapply after 5 years.
3. A member applying for this award is not eligible to apply for any of the following individual recognition awards in the same year. Sundowner, Family of the Year or Star Young Farmer.

**Awards/Criteria**

1. **Sundowner**- The applicant must receive less than 50% of his/her annual NET income from agriculture. This award is designed for an individual who derives their major portion of income from non-agricultural sources, but has an additionally source of income from an agricultural source. Ideally, he/she should work at one occupation most of the time and conduct the agricultural activities "after 5:00 pm" and on weekends.

2. **Star Young Farmer/Agribusiness-** The applicant must receive more than 50% of his/her annual NET income from agricultural related career.
3. **Outstanding Member-** The purpose of the Outstanding Member Award is to honor those Young Farmer members who exemplify and promote the ideals of the State Association of Young Farmers of Texas and the agriculture industry.
4. **Family of the Year-** The purpose of the Young Farmer Family of the Year Award is to honor family units who are involved in their community and exemplify the traditional values of family life. In addition, the Young Farmer family promotes the ideals of the State Association of Young Farmers of Texas and the agriculture industry. Does not have to be Husband/Wife, Could be Brothers, Sisters, Dad/Son, Etc.
5. **Young Farmer Newcomer-** The purpose of the Newcomer Award is to recognize first or second year members of the Young Farmers who have shown participation in the Texas Young Farmers at the state level as well as with their local chapter.
6. **Outstanding Chapter-** Report of the chapter's accomplishments shall cover the period of September 1 to August 31 of the previous membership year.
  - aa. Educational- any activity that will provide information or training to benefit the membership and/or agricultural students. Ex: Student of the Month, Sponsor student to attend camps or conferences, children's barnyard, monthly educational meetings, adult short courses. *Highest emphasis.*
  - bb. Community Service- activities sponsored or con-sponsored by the chapter that provides service to the community. The chapter must be recognized as a sponsor. Ex: Community-wide promotional activities, beautification projects, fund raising for charities. *Second highest emphasis.*
  - cc. Leadership- activities with the purpose of developing and/or improving the leadership ability of members. Individual participation in non-Young Farmer activities shall not be reported UNLESS the individual is the designated representative of the Young Famer chapter. Ex: Participation in conferences, conventions, and contest. *Third highest emphasis.*
  - dd. Recreational- activities sponsored for the entertainment of the members. *Fourth highest emphasis.*