

**Missouri Cattlemen's Association
Missouri Cattlemen's Association
Missouri's Cattlemen Foundation
FFA Public Speaking Contest**

The Missouri Cattle Industry Public Speaking contest is designed to develop individual public speaking skills and to promote interests and awareness of the various aspects of the cattle industry.

Instructions for Entry

The Missouri Cattle Industry Public Speaking Contest will be open to all active FFA members who are regularly enrolled in agricultural education classes and who are active members of chartered FFA chapters in good standing with the MO State FFA Association. Each local FFA chapter will determine the local representative to compete at the area contest.

Winners of the area contests will advance to compete at the district contest level. There will be no more than six contestants in each district contest. The FFA Public Speaking Contest Committee chairman and District Supervisors of Agricultural Education will arrange for a time and place for the district contests. MCA staff will select district judges from each of the respective six contest regions. The district contests will be held in November. Each of the six FFA districts may send one representative to the state contest. The Missouri Cattle Industry Public Speaking Contest will be held in conjunction with the annual Missouri Cattle Industry Convention held January 7-10, 2027, at Margaritaville Lake Resort in Osage Beach. Contestants shall be required to wear official FFA dress when competing in the contest. Props or equipment are not to be used. Podium provided if desired. A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, however deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.

Time Limit

Each speech shall be a minimum of six minutes and a maximum of eight minutes in length. Each contestant will be allowed five minutes additional time at the conclusion of their speech in which he/she will be asked questions relating to their speech and/or the cattle industry. A one-point deduction will be assessed for every second over or under the specified time period on the Prepared Public Speaking Score Sheet document.

Scoring

Scoring for the contest will be in accordance with the scorecard used in the Advanced Prepared Public Speaking Division of the State FFA Career Development Contests.

Preparation & Bibliography

Each contestant's manuscript must be the result of his or her own efforts. Topic/subject area for the content of the speech is at the discretion of the entrant as long as it reflects some facet of the cattle industry. The speech should be prepared on double spaced typewritten pages of white 8 ½" x 11" paper. Contestants should complete an accurate bibliography giving credit to others where direct quotes, phrases, or special dates are used in the manuscript. District FFA contest winners will submit five copies of their speech to the MO Cattlemen's Executive Director at least two weeks prior (December 11th) to the state contest.

MO Cattlemen's Association
Attn: FFA Speaking Contest
2306 Bluff Creek Drive, #100
Columbia, MO 65201

Awards

A \$100.00 first place award will be presented by the sponsor(s) of the contest to each of the district winners who participate in the state contest. Each district winner will be granted a one-year junior membership in the MO Cattlemen's Association with that membership start date commencing immediately following the state contest. Additional cash awards will be presented to the top three individuals at the State FFA Missouri Cattle Industry Public Speaking contest.

First Place - \$400.00
Second Place - \$300.00
Third Place - \$200.00

Expectations for 1st place winner **The first-place winner agrees:**

1. To present their winning speech to attendees at the MCA State Convention Foundation Award Banquet, January 8, 2027.
2. To participate in activities during one day of the 2027 MO State Fair at the Beef House and the Beef Showcase as determined appropriate by MCA staff for a mutually agreeable date. Contestants shall contact the MCA staff by August 1, 2027, to arrange work assignments for a mutually agreeable date.
3. To allow their picture and content of their speech to be printed in the MO Cattlemen's magazine.

Expectations for 2nd and 3rd place winners **The 2nd and 3rd place winners agree:**

1. To attend the MCA State Convention Foundation Awards Banquet, Friday, January 8, 2027, to be introduced.

2. To volunteer at the MO State Fair Beef House and Beef Showcase in 2026. Contestants shall contact the MCA staff by August 1, 2026, to arrange work assignments for a mutually agreeable date.
3. To allow their picture and content of their speech to be printed in the MO Cattlemen's magazine.

*Top three winners will each receive two complimentary tickets for the Annual Banquet: one for themselves and an additional guest. Additional tickets may be purchased the day of the event at the registration desk.

*Convention Registration will be waived for the six district winners. Parents and advisors will not be waived.