

## **STATE FFA DEGREE APPEAL PROCESS**

Currently there is an appeal process in place for Wisconsin Association of FFA State Degrees that are not initially approved by the State FFA Board of Directors reviewing the applications. This means that advisors may appeal the rejection of their member's State FFA Degree if they feel there was an error in reporting the information.

There are, however, minimum qualifications that need to be met when the State FFA Degree is initially submitted before an appeal will be considered. There are certain minimum requirements that are not appropriate for appeal based on the nature of the requirement for the State FFA Degree application:

### **ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED FOR APPEAL**

1. The application has not been completed to a level that exhibits that an effort was made to make sure the application was ready for proper submission. In addition, obvious "error" messages appearing that have not been resolved before submission will not be allowed for appeal. Any application that is submitted with "Draft" on the application will not be considered for an appeal.
2. Redefining a member's SAE. If a member's SAE is not found to be acceptable for receiving the State FFA Degree, the member will not be allowed to change their SAE in order to qualify for the State FFA Degree. If a student has a question regarding the qualification of their SAE, this must be done before the submission of the State FFA Degree.
3. Month and Year of Membership Start Date  
This must be accurate when reported on the State FFA Degree. It cannot be allowed to readjust the membership start date since there is a requirement of at least 24 months of active membership at the time of applying for the State FFA Degree. If the advisor can show proof of membership on a chapter roster for the date that the student started as a member, an exception can be considered.
4. Five activities above chapter level have to be defined at the time of applying. If a student doesn't list at least 5 activities, they cannot be allowed to update those after the application is submitted. If an advisor of the review panel has a question regarding an activity listed as above the chapter level, clarification may be obtained.

An advisor and member may potentially appeal the items above if proper records, documentation and verification can be presented to defend the information provided.

### **APPEAL PROCESS INTERVIEW**

If a State FFA Degree Application is rejected for not meeting minimum qualifications, the advisor reviewing the application along with the State FFA Executive Director and State FFA Advisor will make a determination if the requirements not met will require an interview with the candidate if they wish to appeal. If the candidate then submits their application for appeal, a panel of SAE Committee members and state staff will have a scheduled interview to review the degree application to see if it will meet minimum qualifications after revisions. The panel has the right to question the accuracy of the information that is being included in the application. They will ask for record books and documentation to verify that the information provided a second time is accurate.

### **ITEMS FOR APPEAL THAT DO NOT REQUIRE AN INTERVIEW**

1. Signature missing
2. Clarification of class hours in Ag Education – Requires a transcript for verification.
3. Information that the computer created problems in inputting such as pull down menus, etc.
4. Further detail is needed to describe the SAE that does not alter the information provided further in the application.
5. Parliamentary Procedure abilities, speech title clarification, clarification of above the chapter level activities, community service activities, unless the Executive Director requires the Appeal Panel to provide additional verification of the activity/information.

If the member is in their last year of potentially earning their State FFA Degree, all efforts will be made to assist the member in determining minimum qualifications.