

# New Mexico FFA 2026 State Officer Selection Process

## *Nominating Committee Member Handbook*

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

**\*THE COMMITTEE** will consist of two members from each district for a total of 12 members. Three adult advisors will be appointed to oversee the scoring process. The past state president and secretary will serve as Nominating Committee Co-Chairs and organize, prepare, and facilitate the entire process.

**\*ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE:** Nominating Committee members will meet in Las Cruces, NM; New Mexico State University, Gerald Thomas Hall at 8:00 AM, Friday, April 24, 2026.

**\*HOTEL INFORMATION:** Nominating Committee Members will be provided with hotel rooms in Las Cruces, NM for Friday-Sunday. Hotel TBD.

**\*TRAINING** will take place on Friday with the Nom Com Chairs. It is important that committee members be ready to learn and be dedicated to understanding the scoring process. *Chairs reserve the right to call a Zoom meeting prior to the process to offer training.*

**\*SATURDAY-SUNDAY** will be very busy, long days. However, your service to the New Mexico FFA Association will help select the 2026-2027 FFA State Officer Team. Please bring an unbiased opinion, a positive attitude, and a willingness to work hard.

**\*MEALS AND SNACKS** will be provided Friday-Sunday. All other materials for the nominating committee members will also be provided.

**\*OFFICIAL DRESS** will be worn during **ALL** rounds with candidates. Business Casual is expected for Friday's training.

*Business Casual Dress Code- Pants should be nice dress pants that are not tight. Shirts should always be ironed and tucked in with a belt. Nice, closed-toed shoes should be worn with a casual team dress (no sandals). Shoes and belts should be similar throughout the team. Decide prior to each event which items of team dress will be required for the event.*

**\*PHASES:** The process will be conducted in two phases. All candidates will complete Phase 1 on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Scores will then be tabulated for phase 1; the top two highest-scoring candidates for each district presidency, state secretary, and state president will be announced

as finalists on the evening of Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Only finalists will proceed to Phase 2 of the process.

**\*ELECTION PROCESS:** Of the final two candidates, one must receive a majority (51%) vote of the official voting delegates to be elected. The candidate *not* elected to the office of State President may choose to 'roll down' and be considered for the office of State Secretary, in which case there may be a run-off election among three total candidates. ***Candidates who are seeking the office of State President and/or State Secretary are not eligible to be considered for a State Vice President/District President position.***

**\*IF COMPETING** double-check times and ensure there are no schedule conflicts. If so, please inform one of the Nominating Committee Co-Chairs.

**\*RECOGNITION** of nominating committee members will be recognized during the seventh General Session of the State Convention during the nominating committee report.

**\*CONFIDENTIALITY- Nominating Committee proceedings including, but not limited to: Results, scores, discussions, and deliberations are never to be disclosed outside of Nominating Committee activities or to Members/Individuals of which are not members of the Nominating Committee or Advisory Staff.**

**\*Committee members who engage in disclosing Nominating Committee Information/Proceedings are subject to disciplinary action/possible suspension of membership.**

**Members of the Nominating Committee are not allowed to speak on behalf of ANY candidate running for a New Mexico FFA State Officer Position.**

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<b><i>Friday, April 24, 2026</i></b>		<b><i>Location</i></b>
8:00 AM	Nominating Committee Arrives	GTH*, NMSU
8:00PM – 5:00PM	Training	GTH, NMSU
5:00PM – 6:00PM	Dinner	GTH, NMSU
6:30PM – 8:00PM	Training	GTH, NMSU
8:00PM	Hotel Check-In	Holiday Inn
<b><i>Saturday, April 25, 2026</i></b>		<b><i>Location</i></b>
8:00 PM	<b>PHASE 1:</b> Rounds 1-4 (All Candidates) <i>Personal Round I, One-On-One, Stand &amp; Deliver</i>	GTH, NMSU
6:00 PM	Dinner with Committee & Candidates	TBD
8:00 PM	Advancement	GTH, NMSU
<b><i>Sunday, April 26, 2026</i></b>		<b><i>Location</i></b>
8:00 AM	Nominating Committee Day 2	GTH, NMSU
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM	<b>PHASE 2:</b> Rounds 5-7 (Finalists Only) <i>Facilitation, Round Robin Issues &amp; Media, Personal Round II Lunch &amp; Dinner Provided</i> Facilitation Prep Rooms: Fountain, Quay, Senate Chambers	GTH, NMSU

\*Gerald Thomas Hall, NMSU

## **ROUNDS & PHASES**

### ***PHASE 1: Rounds 1-4***

All candidates will complete Phase 1 on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Round #1 – Personal Round I**

**6 minutes**

*\*This is the candidates' first chance to "introduce" themselves to the committee. It is important to make a positive and memorable first impression. Candidates will be asked three to four interview questions to elaborate on their goals, motivations, and/or desire to serve as a state officer.*

#### **Round #3 – One-on-Two Interviews**

**30 minutes**

*\*Each candidate will be interviewed by two members of the nominating committee in a one-on-two setting for 5 minutes each. This round builds rapport with the candidates and will give an opportunity to evaluate key competencies.*

#### **Round #4 – Stand & Deliver Practicum**

**20 minutes to prepare;  
5 minutes for the speech &  
5 minutes for questions**

*\*One topic regarding FFA current events and issues will be selected from the 10 topics that are listed on the NMFFA website in the State Officer Resource Page. Twenty minutes will be provided to prepare a 5-minute speech regarding the topic and 5 minutes will be used to answer questions from the nominating committee.*

### ***PHASE 2: Rounds 5-7***

The top two highest-scoring candidates for each district presidency, state secretary, and state president will be announced as finalists on the evening of Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Only finalists will proceed to Phase 2 of the process.

#### **Round #5 – Facilitation Practicum**

**20 minutes to prepare;  
10 minutes to present**

*\*The facilitation round will measure the candidate's ability to influence through presentation in front of a live audience. Candidates will have 20 minutes to plan, prepare, and organize a workshop, and will present the first 10 minutes to the nominating committee. MATERIALS WILL BE PROVIDED! One workshop theme will be pulled from the 10 topics that are listed on the NMFFA website in the State Officer Resource Page.*

**Round #6 – Round Robin Issues Conversation/Media** **30 minutes**

*\*Candidates will be scored on their ability to carry on a conversation with various stakeholders influenced by the New Mexico FFA Association. Stakeholders will be portrayed as administrators, agriculture instructors, sponsors, media, and parents. There will be three 10-minute interviews that will be scored by the nominating committee. In the media round, candidates will be scored on their ability to conduct themselves in the media. The format in which the interview will be conducted (a Skype call, TV interview, conference call, panel, etc.) will be decided by nom com co-chairs/the nominating committee. Like the round robin, the candidate will be given time to read the scenario and then conduct the interview.*

**Round #7 – Personal Round II** **10 minutes**

*\*This round includes the final set of questions asked by the nominating committee to address the competencies of character, passion for success, influence, and team player. This round will last 10 minutes and will be with all of the six nominating committee members.*

## SCORING

Nominating committee members will score candidates on the competencies of *communication, team player, areas of knowledge, organization, character, passion for success, influence, and critical thinking*. Each round will emphasize different competencies and will be explained in more detail on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

<b><u>Competency</u></b>	<b><u>Weight</u></b>
<b>#1 – Communication</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>#2 – Team Player</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>#3 – Areas of Knowledge</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>#4 – Organization</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>#5 – Character</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>#6 – Passion for Success</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
<b>#7 – Influence</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
<b>#8 – Critical Thinking</b>	<b>10%</b>