

CDE UPDATES- AUGUST 2026

Important Dates

WORLD DAIRY EXPO DAIRY CATTLE CDE: Tuesday, Sept 29th (Dairy Cattle only)- CDE Qualification will only occur during Heat 1 at WDE. If you want your team to qualify, you have to register your team for the 8:00am Heat 1 contest. Please remember, that the contest at WDE is one qualifying event. There are other opportunities to qualify at spring regional contests. However, each chapter is only allowed one Dairy Cattle Evaluation team to compete at a qualifying event, and you may only attempt to qualify one time. If your team is not ready to qualify in the fall, please do not use your qualifying opportunity at WDE. If you have a strong team and want to qualify in the fall while you are already at WDE, then WDE is a great opportunity to expose your students to the best of the best cattle.

REGIONAL DATES:

Platteville: Thursday, March 18th

Mid-State: Tuesday, March 23rd

FVTC: Friday, April 2nd

UWRF: Saturday, April 3rd

South Central (Janesville): Awaiting date confirmation

STATE DATES:

State CDE Registration will OPEN on Wednesday, March 10th at Noon and CLOSE on Friday, April 9th at 5 p.m. - this date will be a FIRM closing as for it is only 7 days before the Day 1 CDE occurs.

Day 1 CDE's will be on April 16th - Might see a slight change in CDE events offered that day, but the Horse CDE will occur on this date.

Day 2 CDE's - Will MOST likely be on Friday, April 23, 2027 with the Spring Dairy Showcase. There could be minor changes to which CDE's will be offered on this date, but Dairy and Livestock CDE's would be on this date.

Addition of Individuals Competing at State

NEW in 2027: The top 1 individual from each regional CDE will be invited to compete at State CDE's, as long as they meet the following requirements:

1. Not on an advancing team
2. Must place in the top 10 individuals

NEW for 2027

There will be an additional chapter fee applied to State CDE's when registering in 2027. This is a one time fee applied to all state competing teams. However, this fee will be waived for WAAE members. The advisor completing the team registration on Judging Card must be the WAAE member in order to receive the fee waiver.

The qualification plan for 2027 will be changed to reflect the percentage of top teams rather than exact numbers from each to be determined at a later date. Please note that teams who are on the bubble of qualifying will have to have their teams on standby until possibly the week that State CDE registration is due.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Diane Morgan- CDE Coordinator
Ken Engelke- Assistant CDE Coordinator
Katie Reider- CDE Committee Co-Chair
Nelda Bailey- CDE Committee Co-Chair

2026 Fall CDE EVENTS

Including the WI FFA State Land Judging Career Development Event

Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Location: UW-Platteville Campus & Farm - Platteville, WI

Address: Campus - 1 University Plaza Farm - 29200 College Farm Road

Time: Registration - 8:15 a.m. with 9:00 a.m. Start, Awards/Conclusion- 1 p.m.

Events:

1) **Jr & Sr Land Judging** - [Link to Soil Registration here](#). Details for the State Soils CDE here. For 2027 there will be a Homesite Evaluation CDE event held with the State Soils CDE. Awards will be given to the top teams and individuals. Top 5 Sr. teams will advance to the National Land Judging Event. The 2026-2027 Wisconsin FFA Student Waiver must be completed electronically on the [Wisconsinaged.org](https://www.wisconsinaged.org) website by Thursday, Oct 1st.

2) **Floriculture CDE Workshop**- Participants will be guided by State CDE Supt, Lisa Belisle, to learn floral design techniques to prepare them for Regionals and State 2027. Basic design skills and wedding themed designs will be practiced. Information regarding how to prepare for the Floriculture CDE will be shared. Resources, hands on skills and plant identification will be included. Students interested in learning about this CDE or advancing their floriculture skills are highly encouraged to attend this workshop. Each participant should bring floral pruners, ribbon scissors, wire cutter, jewelry pliers. This workshop is limited to the first 40 students who register. The cost of this workshop will be used to purchase supplies to get flowers in the hands of the participants and they will take all designs with them. This workshop will take place on UW-Platteville Campus.

3) **Meat Science CDE Workshop**- FFA Members in grade 7-12th that are interested in learning the components of the WI Meats CDE are welcome to participate in this workshop. This CDE will consist of learning about meat placing classes, carcass yield and quality grading, how to identify retail meat cuts and meat problem solving activities. This workshop will take place on UW-Platteville Campus.

4) **Wildlife Ecology Workshop**- FFA Members in grade 7-12th that are interested in learning the components of the WI Wildlife CDE are welcome to participate in this workshop. This CDE will consist of learning about the many parts that make up the Wildlife Ecology CDE. How to identify wildlife species, questions that make up the exam portions and hands-on activities related to the 2027 focus areas - Whitetail deer and Furbearers. Individuals are encouraged to sign up and pay the \$12.00 fee to participate in this workshop. This workshop will take place at UW-P farm.

5) **Vet Science**- FFA Members in grade 7-12th that are interested in learning the components of the WI Vet Science CDE are welcome to participate in this workshop. This CDE will consist of learning about the parts of the Vet Science CDE. How to identify animals, tools, diseases and other species relating to veterinary science careers. Some hands-on activities and practicums related to this CDE event will be introduced and practiced. Individuals are encouraged to sign up and pay the \$12.00 fee to participate in this workshop. This workshop will take place on UW-Platteville Campus.

How to Register: All registrations and payment need to be made in [Judging Card](#) by Oct 1st. Workshops are limited and will be first paid/first to participate.

Cost: \$15 per contestant in each Soils event & \$12 per person for Homesite and Workshops EXCEPT Floriculture - \$25 per person.

Important dates to Remember: Registration is Sept 1, 2026 now and will close on Oct 1. After Oct 1st registration is CLOSED. The 2026-2027 Wisconsin FFA Student Waiver must be completed by Oct 1st.

If you have questions - Please contact Diane Morgan, Ken Engelke, Tracy Brunton or Dr. Chris Baxter.