



2021 Bedford County Fair Youth Leadership Scholarship Contest

Contest Components

The goals of the Bedford County Fair Youth Leader and Scholarship Contest are to:

- Recognize superior leadership characteristics among Bedford youth
- Encourage and develop leadership and speaking skills among youth so they will be able to better serve their local communities
- Develop necessary skills for the workforce and future job placement
- Foster a sense of pride in the Bedford community and the future of agriculture

Contest Rules

1. Contestants must be age 14 to 19 as of January 1 of the contest year.
2. In order to compete, contestants must have actively participated in the Bedford County Fair in some capacity.
3. A letter of reference from a community member must be submitted with the application, résumé, and essay. The letter should stress the applicant's leadership abilities and specific contributions to their community .
4. Contestants must be present on the designated contest day to participate. Contestants should wear professional attire and conduct themselves accordingly during the entire contest period.
5. In case of a tie for any placement based on numerical scores, the judging panel will be informed and consulted to break the tie after the completion of the contest.
6. Contest results will be announced in a presentation after judging is completed. Finalists will receive monetary awards and further instructions by mail after the contest.
7. The first place winner will receive a cash prize and have the opportunity to sit on the Fair Board the following year. In addition, the highest scoring female will have the opportunity to proceed to the Miss Virginia Association of Fairs Pageant to represent the Bedford County Fair.
 - a. Cash Prizes:

- i. First Prize: \$750 Cash Scholarship
- ii. Second Prize: \$500 Cash Scholarship
- iii. Third Prize: \$250 Cash Scholarship

Areas of Contest

1. The application and other written components must be submitted with the appropriate signatures by the deadline listed on the front page of the contest rules packet. Additional attached pages are acceptable. Written components to be included are the written application, a resume, a letter of recommendation and an essay.
 - a. Resume must be less than two pages.
 - b. Letters of Recommendation should highlight applicants' community service.
 - c. Essays should be less than two pages typed and will be judged based on content, relevance and creativity.
2. On contest day applicants will compete in an interview and a give brief speech on the provided topic. Speeches will be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes. Judges then may ask up to five minutes of questions.