



OFA Mission Statement

OFA strives to be the premier recognition program by celebrating the diversity, productivity and efficiency of today's agricultural professionals.

The OFA Vision

OFA is dedicated to being a positive voice in agriculture by fostering strong relationships and by offering the best opportunity in education and networking while recognizing efforts in land stewardships, community involvement and modern business practices.

The National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Program

Administered by the Outstanding Farmers of America



JOHN DEERE

Sponsored by
John Deere



Founded by the United States
Junior Chamber



Supported by the National Association
of County Agriculture Agents (NACAA)
and the National Association of
Conservation Districts (NACD)



www.outstandingfarmers.com



*Honoring the outstanding achievements
of America's young agriculturalists*

The purpose of the Outstanding Young Farmers awards program is to bring about a greater interest in the farmer to foster better urban-rural relations through the understanding of the farmers' endeavors, to develop a further appreciation for their contributions and achievements, and to inform the agribusiness community of the growing urban awareness of farmers' importance and impact on America's economy.





Nominees

The National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Congress is the culmination of the intense independent judging process. Nominees from across the United States are eligible and may be submitted by anyone. Multiple nominations from any one state are permitted; however, following the judging process to determine the semi-finalists, no more than two from any state will be chosen.



Application/Qualification

The following criteria must be met during the nomination process:

- All nominees must be submitted on the official Outstanding Young Farmers Nomination Form, *found on the OFA website*, postmarked before August 1 of each year.
- Nomination forms should be completed on the form downloaded from the website, not handwritten.
- To qualify:
 1. Nominees must be between the ages of 21 and 40, not becoming 41 prior to January 1 before the National OYF Awards Congress.
 2. Nominees must be actual farm operators, deriving a minimum of two-thirds of their income from farming.
- Mail or email the completed nomination form. The submission addresses as well as additional information about the National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Congress and program can be obtained by visiting www.outstandingfarmers.com.

Judging Criteria

National winners are determined based on personal contributions in the following categories:

- Progress in agricultural career (50%)
- Extent of soil and water conservation practices (25%)
- Contributions to the well-being of the community, state, and nation (25%)

Awards

Top ten finalist couples receive:

- An all expense paid trip to the NOYF Congress
- An NOYF plaque and OFA pin
- A gift from John Deere

Four national winners receive:

- National Winner's plaque
- Cash award from John Deere
- All expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., during National Ag Week the following year

