Agriculture Department Information

2019-2020

January 14 –16 Agricultural Trade Show

April 24 Agricultural Scholarships Due to State Grange Office

August 1 Grange Agricultural Enterprise (formerly Farm Family) entries due to State Grange Office

MAINE STATE GRANGE AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP RULES

- 1. All applicants must be high school students in grade 12.
- 2. All applicants must be Maine residents.
- 3. Winners will be notified in writing by June 3.
- 4. The winner will receive his or her \$500.00 award after the completion of the first semester of college after providing proof of satisfactory grades of at least 2.0 in order to continue in the school program.
- 5. All applications must be completed in full and postmarked by April 24. Please send to Maine State Grange, 146 State Street, Augusta, ME 04330.
- 6. Applicants must be pursuing a career in agriculture or an agriculturally related field including, but not limited to, the following:

Forestry Horticulture Floriculture Entomology

Farm Business Management Fish & Wildlife Study

Poultry Science Biotechnology **Dairy Science** Soil & Water Science **Pomology Agricultural Marketing**

Equine Science

Agricultural Engineering **Consumer Science** Sustainable Agriculture

MAINE STATE GRANGE AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Name				
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)		
Home Mailing Address				
High School	School Phone			
Advisor or Guidance Counselor				
Date of Birth Are	you or have you ever been a	a FFA or 4-H Member?		
Are you or have you ever been a G Are you a descendant of or relate eligibility)	d to a Grange member? (No			
Month and year of high school gra	aduation			
Other Secondary Schools – Please	included addresses and dat	es attended		
List major secondary school activi	ties			
To which post-secondary school(s				
What is your intended field of stu				

Please submit the following:

(Application due by April 24; Maine State Grange 146 State St, Augusta 04330)

- 1. Three letters of reference by persons who are not related to you and who have knowledge of your agricultural interest and character.
- 2. An essay of 300 to 500 words telling how agriculture has influenced your life and how you hope to be involved in agriculture in the future.
- 3. Proof of high school grades
- 4. Any other information that you would like the selection committee to know about you and why you are an excellent candidate for this award.

GRANGE AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AWARD

RULES

- 1. Applicants must earn at least a portion of their income forum their farm.
- 2. Application forms can be completed by the applicant, family member or Grange members may assist the applicant in completing the form. We encourage local Granges to nominate and assist with the application submission process.
- 3. The application form approved by the Maine State Grange Agriculture Committee must be used. Extra pages which include pictures, newspaper articles, etc. are encouraged.
- 4. The committee reserves the right to make inquiries of the applicant to seed additional information if necessary.
- 5. The committee urges previous applicants who have not been selected to apply.
- 6. Winners will be announced at the annual Maine State Grange convention.
- 7. Entries must be received at State Grange Headquarters by August 1.
- 8. Members of the State Grange Agriculture Committee are eligible to apply.
- 9. Preference given to Grange members but nominees do not have to be a Grange member.

Completed applications are to be sent by August 1

Maine State Grange Attn: Agriculture Committee 146 State Street Augusta, ME 04330

Note: Applicant's operation can consist of most any type of commodity which is commonly

grown in Maine. Examples are:

Forestry
Floriculture
Farm Business Management
Ag. Related Computer Science
Poultry Science
Forestry
Soil & Water Science
Agricultural Marketing
Equine Science
Horticulture
Entomology

Soil & Water Science
Agricultural Marketing
Equine Science
Horticulture
Entomology
Sustainable Agriculture
Fish & Wildlife Study
Dairy Science
Pomology
Agricultural Engineering
Animal Science

GRANGE AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISE AWARD APPLICATION

(Do not need to be Grange members to apply)

Name of Applicant		Age	
(Married or unm	arried, male or fer	male, parents are eligible)	
Name of Spouse			
Names of Children	Age	School or College	
Mailing Address of Applicant			
Location of Farm Enterprise			
Years in Farming Enterprise	_		
Type of Enterprise			
	Grange Involve	ment	
Are you an Active Granger? Yes Grange Name and Number List Degrees Attained List Grange Offices Held			
List Other Organizations and Offices	s Held		
(Optional) On a separate sheet of par farming enterprise/operation. Please pertaining to your farming enterprise	include pictures,		terial



SUGGESTIONS FOR WORKING ON DISPLAYS AND FAIR BOOTHS

- 1. Have a planning meeting to select theme, to determine work schedule, source of materials, being sure everyone knows his/her responsibilities.
- 2. Use a simple theme. (Something that draws the display together and others understand.)
- 3. Make sure the exact size is known and use the available space wisely. Do not clutter the display area or have too much unused space.
- 4. When planning, consider how color will be used. Use not more than three complementary colors in backgrounds, signs, etc.
- 5. Make detailed plans so there is a good balance in the display. It is recommended to exhibit like items together.
- 6. Plywood or lattice work makes an excellent sturdy background. It can be reused if stored properly. But keep the pieces small enough to handle easily 4' x 4' max.
- 7. Plan your exhibit for the benefit of non-members. Plan so a spectator who knows little or nothing about Grange will stop and look, and leave with an understanding of your exhibit theme and how it relates to the Grange.
- 8. Consider having everyone bring what you need for the display to a meeting, at which time best examples are selected for use.
- 9. For displays using agricultural and garden products, select best available samples for the exhibit. Uniformity, good coloring and fresh appearance are important. Use things relative to the theme.
- 10. When fresh items (fruits, flowers, vegetables) are displayed, use appropriate uniform containers/plates. Replace fresh items as often as necessary to keep a fresh, crisp look in the display at all times. As long as new people will be viewing the display, keep it fresh. Do not use fresh dairy products use substitute items.
- 11. Keep exhibit areas tidy at all times. Have it checked regularly and often when display is open to the public.
- 12. Labeling should be uniform and readable from the front of the booth. All lettering (signs, posters, etc.) should have a professional look. (It may mean paying someone to make signs, posters, do lettering, etc., but consider that an investment for Grange since the items may be used again if stored carefully.)
- 13. Make sure any mechanical parts and lights are always working. Check thoroughly prior to installation and often during the display time.
- 14. When using unusual and/or antique items, be sure they will be safe and secure from people touching them.
- 15. When parts are used more than one year (such as risers or backboards), be sure they are cleaned and repainted if necessary well in advance of placement in the exhibit. (*Paint does not dry well in hot humid conditions.*)
- 16. If the exhibit permits, see that Grange name, number and location are visible.

- 17. Consider planning an exhibit that can be used in whole or part at other times and places. Examples: At a mall, in store windows, at a library, during Grange month and/or other times.
- 18. If using Grange literature, have the very latest available. Display small quantities at a time, replenishing often, rather than having an untidy area. Write the National Grange for brochures at 1616 H Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006 or call them at 1-888-4-GRANGE. You may also look for information on the web site: www.nationalgrange.org. Allow a few weeks for delivery. You may contact Maine State Grange 207-623-3421 for availability of information.
- 19. If appropriate, have the exhibit manned at all times, but especially when crowds will be in attendance.
- 20. If possible and permitted, have something to give out with Grange identification on it, as a gift to persons stopping at your display. There are companies which sell such items at a fairly reasonable cost. Consider it a promotional investment.
- 21. Allow plenty of time for assembling your display. Putting the exhibit up usually takes longer than anticipated. Take all your tools, supplies and a stepstool with you, don't rely on using someone else's, they need to use it too.
- 22. Plans from the beginning should include taking down the exhibit, what to put items in and where are they going and cleaning up the area.
- 23. If there are reusable parts, see that the Grange knows where they are stored. (A list given to the Grange Secretary as part of the committee's report at a meeting is one way to keep track of things.)
- 24. Have a committee meeting after the display to assess the results.



FAIR JUDGING GRANGE EXHIBIT SCORE SHEET MAINE STATE GRANGE

- 1. Score Sheet Set-up: List all of the Granges on one sheet with comments on the backside.
- 2. Over All Appearance 100 points: More Variety, neatly displayed but not overcrowded, the higher the score, color, theme, labeling, etc.
- 3. Bible and Flag 25 points: The US flag should always be displayed left of center from the viewers standpoint.

PRPOPER DISPLAY OF FLAGS AND BIBLE (when facing exhibit)







State of Maine Flag or Grange Flag if used

- 4. Labeling 50 Points: Uniform labels can be easily read from the front of booth, and are of the same design.
- 5. Dairy Products (Representation) 30 Points: Do not use real dairy products. Use substitute items unless otherwise listed in the fair book. (*This is to keep a more attractive looking exhibit and keep the flies away.*)
- 6. Cooked Food: With people starving all over the world, the fact that some cover the items and others do not, plus children have a tendency to touch items that are close, it is in the best interest not to have these items in the exhibit. If your Grange puts items in, they would be considered with points under "Other Agriculture Items". (Cooked food should be sprayed to keep flies out.)
- 7. Miscellaneous Crafted Items 200 points: Examples: Toys, Photography, Art Work, and Jewelry.
- 8. Agricultural Exhibit: Fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, jams, jellies, pickles and relishes, other canned items. Representation of Dairy products, eggs, honey and maple syrup. Herbs, grains, and grasses. Other Agricultural items, would include: compost, forestry products wood, wood display, nursery items, seeds, seedlings, floral arrangements, hay, straw, and silage.
- 9. "Variety" score for each item in the agricultural exhibit is based on what seems to be most common in that fair. More variety, more points. Those that stand out above the others, can be rewarded by extra points under "Overall Appearance."
- 10. Domestic Exhibit: Knit, Crochet, Sewn items and other needlework. Quilts and Quilted items. Crafted Wood items and Misc. Crafted items.

Grand Total 1630 Points.



GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL GRANGE FAIR EXHIBITS

In keeping with Grange Tradition and Heritage, Grange displays should follow an agricultural theme and attempt to communicate an understanding of the Grange to the general public. We in no way want to abandon the agricultural theme; particularly since these exhibits are placed at Agricultural Fairs! If your Grange has exhibited in the past, think of this as "repackaging" and "updating."

To assist Granges in developing a display and to provide criteria for judges, the following categories will be considered. It is not necessary for the display to have separate sections for each category. The intention of the display is to capture the interest of passer's by and create awareness and understanding of Grange and our activities.

At first glance, these guidelines may seem a bit broad and perhaps even "vague". But judging is that: judging. Instead of focusing on what items are in a booth, we want to focus on how well we communicate with people whose only exposure to Grange may be walking by our displays at the Fair. The overall question exhibitors and judges should ask themselves is "how well are we doing explaining the Grange, its purpose, its members, its activities?"

OVERALL APPEARANCE OF DISPLAY

This includes the use of a theme, proper placement of Flag and Bible, neatness and "attention getting".

Judges will consider:

- Does the display have an "inviting" look? Will people stop? (100 points)
- Will people (especially non-members) leave the display with a better understanding of what the Grange is and why they might want to join? (100 points)
- Does the display suggest that being a Grange member is fun and has practical benefits? (100 points)
- Does the display have a clear informational or educational theme and made a statement about the Grange, its heritage, membership and values? (100 points)
- Does the display incorporate most or all of the aspects of Grange? (160 points)

The US flag should always be displayed left of center from the viewers standpoint.

PRPOPER DISPLAY OF FLAGS AND BIBLE

(when facing exhibit)

United States Flag

Bible

 \searrow

State of Maine Flag or Grange Flag if used

2020 Maine Agricultural Fair Dates

Monmouth June
Northern Maine June
Houlton July
Ossipee Valley July
North Waterford July
Pittston July

Bangor July August

Topsham August Skowhegan **August** Union **August** Maine Farm Days August **August** Acton Piscataquis Valley August Windsor **August** Blue Hill **August** Springfield **August August** Harmony

September Clinton Litchfield September Oxford September **New Portland** September Farmington September Common Ground September September Cumberland Fryeburg Sept October

(They would like Grange volunteers to man the Grange booth during the fair.)

Big E – Eastern States Exposition, in

Springfield, Massachusetts September

(They would like volunteers during the fair to help in the store-Maine usually helps 1st weekend)