

NATIONAL OFFICER STUDY GUIDE

Online Resources



2009 Stand and Deliver Practicum Theme and Hot Topics

This round will be 30 minutes in length. Twenty minutes focused on the candidate's ability to plan, organize and prepare a spoken presentation. Five minutes focused on the candidate's ability to deliver a spoken presentation for context. Finally, five minutes focused on the candidate's ability to respond accurately to questions regarding topic and presentation.

Candidates will have 20 minutes in a private preparation room to prepare **five minutes** worth of comments on a given topic. When students arrive to the preparation room they will receive the topic and instructions regarding the setting and audience to which the comments will be directed. Candidates will have a **full 20** minutes to formulate their remarks. No materials will be allowed in the room during this time other than a pad and pen provided by the nominating committee.

Topics for the speeches will fall within one of the three areas of knowledge outlined in the competencies. Each year one of the three areas of knowledge will serve as the overall theme for this practicum round (a schedule of themes is listed below).

2008 – American Education/Agricultural Education Current Events and Issues

2009 – Agriculture Current Events and Issues

2010 – FFA Current Events and Issues

2009 American Education/Agricultural Education Current Events and Issues Hot Topics

The following is a listing of 10 "hot topics" within the theme of Agriculture Current Events and Issues to guide your preparation for this round in the 2009 selection process.

- Sustainability and environmental stewardship in agricultural production
- Diversifying the agricultural workforce
- Challenges for conventional livestock production presented by animal care organizations
- The use of biotechnology to improve production yields and feed a growing world population
- Meeting America's energy needs as well as food price/supply demands through agriculture
- Continuing government support for traditional Farm Bill payment and support programs
- Establishing fair and open trade markets around the world for American commodities
- Using a national animal identification system as a risk management practice in livestock production
- Assuring consumer confidence that America has a safe and secure food supply from farm to market
- Additional regulation and oversight to prevent volatility in commodity markets

One of the 10 topics will be selected by the nominating committee during preparation at national convention. The committee will also select the context in which the speech will be delivered. Details about the specific topic chosen and the context will be provided to candidates only when they enter the preparation room (i.e. deliver a 5 minute speech to a group of 20 legislators about FFA issues during a breakfast at State President's Conference).

For more information regarding this interview round please reference the National Officer Selection Process Handbook - Section 3.

