



The Veteran Farmer Award of Excellence sponsored by Farm Credit recognizes one veteran who has served or is currently serving in any branch of the United States Military and is actively involved in agriculture and their community. Applications will be reviewed based on excellence in farming and community impact. This program seeks to elevate and celebrate those who have served our country and continue to do so through involvement in agriculture and the community.

Recognition:

The recipient of the award will receive \$10,000 plus reimbursement of up to \$5,000 in travel and other expenses incurred for the recipient and their guest to attend the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention to be held in San Antonio, Texas, on January 25-27, 2025.

Eligibility and Requirements:

- Must have served or currently be serving in any branch of the United States Military and;
 - In the case of a veteran, have received an ‘Honorable’ characterization of service upon discharge from the military. (Other characterizations of service may be accepted on a case-by-case basis.) Or;
 - In the case of those currently serving, provide a letter of support from their current commanding officer or designated representative attesting to their characterization of service.
- Must be actively involved, at some level, in an agricultural-related enterprise.
- Must be actively engaged, at some level, in the community.

Considerations:

- Applicants are not required to be Farm Bureau members.
- The national award recipient will be recognized by AFBF through various outlets over time and should have a willingness to share their story and represent the veteran farmer community.

The Application:

- The application, which consists of both short-answer and essay questions, is comprised of two main focus areas:
 - how the applicant has exhibited excellence in farming or agriculture, and
 - how the applicant has impacted their community in a positive way.
- The application can be submitted on behalf of a worthy recipient; if chosen, however, the recipient must be willing to be acknowledged publicly.

- Open for submission on July 11, 2024
- Due by August 30, 2024

Notification:

- The recipient of the 2024 AFBF Veteran Farmer Award of Excellence will be notified in mid-September.
- The award winner will be announced publicly on Veterans Day - November 11, 2024