Cattlemen's Congress 2027
Public Speaking Contest Proposal

The contest will be administered by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry staff members and held at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds on Wednesday, January 6, 2027 and Monday, January 11, 2027.

The goal of the event is to provide youth with an opportunity to hone their communication skills while increasing their knowledge of the agriculture industry.

Divisions
3rd – 5th Grade
6th – 8th Grade
9th – 12th Grade

- Contestants must register online by November 25.
- Contestants are not required to have cattle entered at Cattlemen's Congress.

Speech Topics

- Speech Categories
    - General Agriculture
    - Animal Science
    - Agriculture Policy (Only available for Grades 9th-12th)
    - Extemporaneous (Only available for Grades 9th-12th)
- All speeches should also highlight the importance of the beef industry to the overall agriculture economy.
- No visual aids are allowed.

Content
Speeches should be the contestant's original composition.
Time Limits:

- Junior: 3-5 minutes; 2-4 minutes for Extemporaneous
- Intermediate: 4-6 minutes for prepared; 4-6 minutes for Extemporaneous
- Senior: 6-8 minutes for prepared; 4-6 minutes for Extemporaneous
- Deductions will be assessed for speeches over or under time (1 point per 10 seconds)

Judging Criteria

- Following the contestant's presentation, judges will have up to 5 minutes to ask questions.
- Judges will evaluate speeches utilizing a scoring matrix.
- Scoring matrix will include content and accuracy, organization of material, voice, language, general presentation including poise and eye contact. Recommended attire is business professional or FFA Official Dress.