

**Educators' Note: State participants will receive passes and all contest information directly from the Coordinator.**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY INDIVIDUAL PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST**  
Rhodes Center West Auditorium, Wednesday, July 25  
Judy Villard Overocker, Assistant Superintendent

**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

1. A member who was a winner in the county or preliminary level contest in 2017 is eligible to participate in 2018 providing he or she was not a State level winner in 2017. An eligible member may participate in any of the preliminary contests.
2. Participation will be based on the number of participants meeting the minimum score and recommended by judges for up to four senior and up to four junior participants from each preliminary area in Ohio. Subbing is not recommended. Minimum score of 70 is required. If the three senior and/or three junior individual division limit is not achieved in a preliminary area, additional individuals could be involved from other areas based on scores.
3. Junior division contestants shall be 4-H members who are eight years old and enrolled in the third grade to 13 years old on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. Senior division contestants shall be 4-H members who are 14 years of age or over on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
4. Each contestant must bring to the state event a legibly written or typed copy of their talk (to be written by contestant), and a completed single page biographical form (provided by mail along with state fair admission ticket). No written/typed materials will be required for the preliminary contests.
5. Contestants are to select a topic of human health or safety that affects family living, whether it is in the home, on the farm, on the highway, or in public places. A local example and supporting statistics (with sources cited) are required. Speeches should be written/prepared by the 4-H member giving the speech. Contestants shall not include music, singing, or dancing as part of their speech. Contestants who do so will be penalized 5 points.
6. Senior division contestants' speeches are to be 4.0 to 5 1/2 minutes in length. Senior division speeches under 4.0 or over 5 1/2 minutes will be penalized 10 points. Junior division contestants' speeches are to be 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 minutes with a 10 point deduction if under 2 1/2 minutes or over 3 1/2 minutes. There will be no time allotted or credit given for questions from the audience.
7. Prompters (scripts, note cards, verbal cues, signaling) and props may not be used when the contestant is speaking. No visual aids or props are permitted. Trademarked or "brand names" of products should not be used or mentioned in the presentation. Gestures should be used carefully and minimally. Note cards will not be permitted in the junior or senior divisions at the preliminary or state contests.
8. Appropriate dress is required for all 4-H Public Speaking participants. The use of costumes is not permitted. All participants must wear shoes. A five point deduction will be made for dress or shoe infractions.
9. All contestants will be required to use a microphone when giving their speeches at the state level. Microphones will not be used at the preliminary level. Failure to use the microphone at the state level will be a 10 point deduction.
10. Verbal profanity or inappropriate words written on clothing or visual aids/props is forbidden.
11. Contestants will be introduced by number and title of talk. Re-introduction is not encouraged.
12. Judges will evaluate all individual participants based upon the following criteria: 30% Content; 30% Organization; and 40% Delivery. NOTE: Refer to score sheet for more specific information.

**AWARDS**

1. The top Junior and Senior contestants at the county level can receive a special recognition certificate and advance to the preliminary level event. A county elimination contest is encouraged, but not required. Counties may send an unlimited number of individual participants to the preliminary contest.
2. All Junior and Senior contestants at the preliminary level will receive a special participation/recognition award and certificate.
3. The top Junior and Senior contestants at the preliminary level will receive a preliminary award plaque and will advance to the State event (as per #2 above).
4. All Junior and Senior contestants at the State event will receive a special participation/recognition award.
5. The top five Senior and top five Junior participants at the state level will receive an "Outstanding of the Day" award.
6. The top three Senior contestants at the State event will receive a clock trophy and may receive a trip to a National 4-H Youth Event.
7. The top three junior contestants at the State event will receive a clock trophy.

All Preliminary and State level awards are sponsored by **The Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc.**

**2017 CLASS WINNERS**

Seniors: Jacob Klopfenstein, Paulding  
Amelia Ruggles, Huron  
Matt Slyder, Darke

Juniors: Caleb Kline, Coshocton  
Emily Mitchell, Erie  
Luke Metzger, Mahoning

