

Louisiana



FFA

Carpentry Career Development Event

Revised 2026

Carpentry Career Development Event

Purpose

The Carpentry Career Development Event is designed to provide opportunities for students to develop and showcase skills in carpentry. It is an extension of instruction given to students while enrolled in Agriscience/Agribusiness programs. This event is not designed for a national competition. It is designed for Louisiana only.

Objectives

1. To develop students' interests in the carpentry industry
2. To develop students' skills in performing tasks using common equipment in the construction industry.
3. To promote real work application of math
4. To encourage the development of safety attitudes in performing carpentry tasks.

CDE Format

1. Four individuals per school form a team. All four members will be scored and all four scores will count toward the team total.
2. There will be Carpentry CDE Area Competitions held to determine who is eligible for the State Carpentry CDE.
The top 4 teams will receive banners at area competitions and will be eligible to compete in the State Carpentry CDE.
3. Competition consists of 2 parts that run concurrently
 - a. Designed Project Blueprint (Submitted 1 week prior to Area CDE) – 125 points
 - b. Project Construction (3 hours onsite at the CDE) – 375 points

Part 1 – Designed Project Blueprint (Submitted 1 week prior to Area CDE)

- Each team will develop a Cut List and a Blueprint for their designed project that follows the specifics in a scenario announced by state staff.
 - The team should submit a drafted plan of their designed project that includes front, side, and top detail. It should also include a detail draft of any special construction components of the project.
 - The plan should include an accurate Cut List and list of Purchase Materials.
 - All blueprints will be submitted for grading 1 week prior to the event.
 - Blue and Gold teams from the same school will design different projects, and each team will submit a blueprint for their designed project.

Part 2 – Project Construction (3 hours)

- Students will work as a team to construct one project following their submitted blueprints and proper safety protocols

Rules and Regulations

1. All general rules will apply except as indicated in the specific rules for this CDE
2. A team will consist of 4 FFA members enrolled in an Agriscience/Agribusiness course.
3. Each team will submit their blueprints 1 week before their Area CDE for their projects designed according to the scenario announced by state staff.
4. Project must be designed and built within the scenario parameters given by state staff.
5. Projects cannot be designed to include pre-cut boards or designs. No pre-cut boards or designs are allowed to be brought to the event.
6. No changes can be made to the project or blueprint once submitted. The same project will be built for both the Area and State CDEs for those teams who qualify.
 - a. Revisions to the blueprint scales and drawing will be allowed to be made for State but the project must remain the same as drawn for Area.
7. All blueprints must be drafted by hand on standard grid paper. No computer drafting programs can be used for creating the blueprints.
8. Blue and Gold teams from the same school must design separate projects and submit separate blueprints for their projects.
9. Projects are limited to the following lumber: Southern Yellow Pine and Pressure Treated Pine
10. Project Blueprint and Constructed Project will make up the total team score:
 - a. Project Blueprint: 125 points
 - b. Constructed Project: 375 points

Total Possible Team Score: 500 points
11. The project scenario will be released during the fall semester.
12. Team members will be responsible for providing proper safety equipment, dress, construction materials, tools, and brooms.
13. The Project Construction practicum of the CDE will last a maximum of 3 hours.
14. Jigs may be used.
15. Participant must clean work area after completing project. Failure to do so will result in a deduction of 50 points.
16. Tie Breakers:
 - a. 1st tie breaker will be based on Designed Blueprint Score
 - b. 2nd tie breaker will be based on Constructed Project Score
 - c. 3rd tie breaker will be a visual comparison of fit and finish of final project.

Example Scenario:

The customer would like a 5 ft picnic table. The tabletop is desired to be 30" above the ground and seats 18" above the ground. The table width is desired to be 30" wide, and the seats are desired to be 11 ½" wide. The customer would prefer to use carriage bolts to attach all braces and legs together instead of screws. Finally, the customer would like a circular removeable center for placing a trash can underneath when hosting crawfish boils. They want the removable center to be no less than 18" in diameter.

Carpentry CDE – Construction Project Grading Rubric

(75 points per category | Total Possible: 375 points)

Category	Unsatisfactory (0–35 pts)	Intermediate (36–60 pts)	Exceptional (61–75 pts)
Measurement & Layout	• Multiple measurement errors • Dimensions do not match plans • Layout lines missing, crooked, or incorrect • Project not square	• Measurements mostly accurate • Minor layout or dimension errors • Plans generally followed • Slight out-of-square conditions	• All measurements accurate and consistent • Layout lines clean, clear, and correct • Dimensions exactly match plans • Project square and true
Cuts & Joints	• Cuts uneven or inaccurate • Joints loose, gapped, or misaligned • Excessive tear-out or splintering	• Cuts mostly accurate • Joints fit with small gaps or alignment issues • Minor imperfections visible	• Cuts straight, square, and precise • Joints fit tightly with no visible gaps • Clean edges with minimal tear-out
Fastening & Assembly	• Parts misaligned or unstable • Excess adhesives visible • Fasteners incorrectly placed or exposed when not allowed • Structural integrity affected	• Assembly mostly correct • Minor alignment or fastening issues • Some visible adhesives residue or fasteners	• Assembly precise and secure • No visible adhesives residue • No visible fasteners unless specified in plans • Project rigid and structurally sound
Finishing	• Rough surfaces • Visible scratches, dents, or adhesive marks • Uneven sanding or unfinished areas	• Generally smooth finish • Minor scratches or sanding marks visible • Finish inconsistently applied	• Smooth, professional-quality finish • No visible scratches, dents, or adhesive marks • Even sanding and finish throughout
Creativity and Design	-Project is missing several specified factors given in scenario. -Project shows no unique creative components and lacks attention to detail.	-Project is missing 1-2 specifications of the scenario. -Project has few simple unique creative components but leaves opportunity for possible other creative components.	-Project includes all scenario specifications. -Project is creative and visually unique has several creative components throughout the projects design.

Team Blueprint Evaluation Criteria

(25 points per category | Total Possible: 125 points)

Category	Unsatisfactory (0–10 pts)	Intermediate (11-19 pts)	Exceptional 20-25 pts)
Accuracy & Scale	• Drawings not to scale or scale not identified • Dimensions incorrect or missing • Blueprint does not match final project	• Generally, to scale • Most dimensions included with minor errors • Blueprint mostly matches final project	• Correct scale clearly identified • All dimensions accurate and precise • Blueprint exactly matches final project
Required Views	• Missing required views (front, , side, and top) Missing special views for special components of project. • Views incomplete or unclear	• Required views included but lack detail or clarity	• All required views included (front, side, and top detail as needed) • Views clearly drawn and well labeled Special views for special components of project included
Dimensioning & Notation	• Few or no dimensions shown • Poor or confusing notation • Units not identified • Key of Dimension not provided	• Most components dimensioned • Minor notation or clarity issues • Key of Dimension provided	• All parts fully dimensioned • Clear, professional notation • Units and unit symbols used correctly • Key of Dimension provided
Materials & Component List	• Full Cut List and Purchase Materials not provided. (0 pts)		• Full Cut List and Purchase Materials are provided. (20 pts)
Organization & Professionalism	• Blueprint cluttered or difficult to read • Poor layout and line quality	• Blueprint readable but lacks consistency or neatness	• Blueprint neat, organized, and professional • Straight line work and consistent spacing