

**Tennessee Cattlemen’s and Tennessee Cattlemen’s Youth Association  
2025 Outstanding Youth Award**

**Award Overview:** The Outstanding Youth Award competition is designed to recognize a junior (ages 12-16) and senior (ages 17-21) member of Tennessee Cattlemen’s Youth Association (TCYA) for their involvement in the cattle and agriculture industries, leadership, and community service. Participants will be judged based on the magnitude of their involvement and accomplishments in the cattle industry and agriculture, leadership involvement and participation in cattle/agriculture related groups, and participation in their communities. The Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association will administer the program and choose a panel of judges to review the applications and select the winners.

**Conditions of Eligibility:**

- **Applicant must be a paid member of the Tennessee Cattlemen’s Youth Association.**  
(Definition of a Youth Member: a paid, Tennessee resident under the age of 21 as of January 1, 2025. Youth are eligible to participate in TCYA programs up until December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year they turn 22.)
- Junior applicants must be between the ages of 12 and 16, and Senior applicants must be between the ages of 17 and 21, as of January 1, 2025.
- Former Outstanding Youth Award Recipients are eligible to compete; however, you are only allowed to win one time in each age division.

**Application Procedures:**

- **Applications must be submitted online using the link on the TCA website.**
- Complete the online application and provide thorough answers to the questions listed below.
- Applications must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a County Extension Agent, Agriculture Education Teacher, or County Cattlemen’s Association President.
- The application period will run from **September 1, 2025 to December 1, 2025.** The applicant will be notified by late-December if they were chosen.
- Awards will be presented on Saturday, January 24, 2026, during the TCA Youth Awards Banquet held at the Lane Agri-Park in Murfreesboro, Tennessee

**Award:** The Senior level winner will receive a \$1,000 cash award and a Belt Buckle. The Junior level winner will receive a \$250 cash award and a Belt Buckle. ***Belt buckles sponsored by Oakdale Farms.***

**Judging:**

- Applications will be judged using the following criteria:

Application Form	10 points
Question A (Involvement in the Cattle/Agriculture Industry)	20 points
Question B (Future Plans for Involvement)	20 points
Leadership Experience	20 points
Community Involvement	20 points
Letter of Recommendation	<u>10 points</u>
Total	100 points

**Deadline:** Application must be received before 11:59 p.m. CST on Monday, December 1, 2025. Applications must be submitted online using the link on the TCA website.

**Questions? Contact the Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association at [info@tncattle.org](mailto:info@tncattle.org) or (615) 896-2333.**