



2026 COMPETITOR

AWARDS INFORMATION

THE ROAD TO WORLDS STARTS HERE.

Know the ceremony, Golden Ticket and Team Texas requirements before Sunday.

AWARDS CEREMONY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 | 10:30 AM | GRAND STAGE

NO AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED BEFORE THE OFFICIAL CEREMONY.

CEREMONY REQUIREMENTS

- The Head Cook must attend the Sunday Awards Ceremony.
- No awards will be released before the 10:30 AM ceremony.
- If a competitor leaves early, any earned physical award will still be given.
- Official competition results will be posted after the Awards Ceremony.

HEAD COOK ATTENDANCE REQUIRED

AWARDS + GOLDEN TICKETS

- Grand Champion and Reserve Champion in each standard category receive custom awards and Golden Tickets.
- Pitmaster and Live Fire competitions award 1 Golden Ticket per qualifying turn-in/category.
- Junior competitions advance additional winners to World Food Championships.

GOLDEN TICKET = ROAD TO WORLDS

WORLD FOOD CHAMPIONSHIP

- Winning a Golden Ticket automatically earns a position on Team Texas to advance to World Food Championships.
- Competitors must acknowledge whether they will accept a Worlds position BEFORE the Awards Ceremony.
- If a qualifier cannot or will not advance, the Golden Ticket rolls down to the next eligible finisher.

ALL TEAM TEXAS SPOTS WILL BE FILLED

GOLDEN TICKET ROLL-DOWN

- A declined Worlds position does not stop the competitor from receiving an earned TFC physical award.
- The Worlds position continues down the results until the available Team Texas position is accepted.
- Acceptance must be finalized before the Awards Ceremony.

DECLARE YOUR WORLDS INTENT BEFORE 10:30 AM

AFTER YOU ACCEPT A GOLDEN TICKET

Golden Ticket recipients become part of Team Texas and are required to remain available following the ceremony for official Team Texas photos, participation in the Team Texas podcast, and the TFC Champagne Toast in Champions Club.

ACCEPTING A GOLDEN TICKET = COMMITTING TO TEAM TEXAS ACTIVITIES.

SUNDAY AWARDS CHECKLIST

WORLDS DECISION SUBMITTED | HEAD COOK AT GRAND STAGE | CEREMONY AT 10:30 AM

RESULTS POSTED AFTER CEREMONY | TEAM TEXAS WINNERS REMAIN FOR POST-AWARDS ACTIVITIES

GRAND CHAMPION + RESERVE CHAMPION: CUSTOM AWARD + GOLDEN TICKET

PITMASTER + LIVE FIRE: 1 GOLDEN TICKET PER QUALIFYING TURN-IN / CATEGORY

WIN HERE. REPRESENT TEXAS. ADVANCE TO WORLDS.

TEAM TEXAS GOLDEN TICKET ACCEPTANCE MUST BE CONFIRMED BEFORE THE AWARDS CEREMONY.