

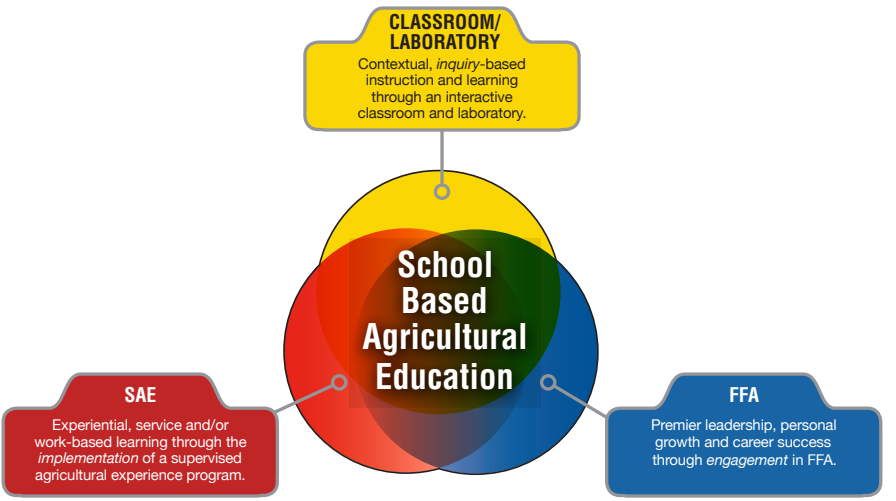
OFFICIAL FFA *Manual*

School-Based Agricultural Education Three-Component Model

When you put on an FFA jacket, you become part of a school-based agricultural education program that can connect you to exciting careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. FFA is one of three essential components of this integrated system, which work together to provide personal, academic and career experiences that help you build success.

School-based agricultural education is delivered through career and technical education in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Approximately one million agricultural education students are taught by more than 13,000 secondary, two-year postsecondary and adult instructors in more than 9,000 schools. School-based agricultural education consists of three integral core components:

1. **Classroom and laboratory instruction** that is contextual, inquiry-based and interactive.
2. **FFA**, which helps members develop premier leadership, personal growth and career success.
3. **Supervised Agricultural Experience** (SAE) programs that allow you to apply knowledge and skills through experiential, service and work-based learning opportunities.



OFFICIAL FFA *Manual*

National FFA Organization Headquarters
6060 FFA Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1370
317-802-6060
888-332-2668
FFA.org

For Members of the National FFA Organization

More than 95 years of service to youth in agriculture.

The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

Electronic text files for preparation of materials for the visually impaired can be obtained by contacting the National FFA Organization's educational resource team, 317-802-6060.

The Official FFA Manual is available on FFA.org in English and Spanish at no cost to you. The print edition is available for purchase on *ShopFFA.org*.

© 2025 National FFA Organization. All rights reserved.

Table of Contents

» FFA Mission and History ... 8
What Is FFA? ... 9
FFA Organization Structure ... 10
Supervised Agricultural Experiences ... 11
Middle School Activities ... 13
History of FFA ... 15
History of New Farmers of America (NFA) ... 16
Past National Presidents of FFA and NFA ... 17
Historical Timeline of FFA ... 19
National FFA Organization Membership by State ... 25

» FFA Traditions
Emblem ... 26
Motto ... 27
FFA Creed ... 27
Colors ... 28
Salute ... 28
FFA Official Dress ... 28
Proper Use of the FFA Jacket ... 28
FFA Code of Conduct ... 29
Types of FFA Membership ... 32
FFA Degrees ... 33
Procedure for Equating Hours Worked With Dollars Earned (American FFA Degree) ... 36

» FFA Ceremonies
Opening and Closing Ceremonies ... 37
Discovery FFA Degree Ceremony ... 39
Greenhand FFA Degree Ceremony ... 40
Chapter FFA Degree Ceremony ... 42
State FFA Degree Ceremony ... 43
American FFA Degree Ceremony ... 44
Honorary Degree Ceremony ... 46
Ceremony for Installing Officers ... 47

» Chapter Operations
National Quality FFA Chapter Standards ... 49
Program of Activities ... 50
Chapter Officers ... 52
Becoming a State or National Officer ... 54
Chapter Meetings ... 54
Planning Chapter Meetings ... 54
Arranging the Meeting Room ... 54
The American Flag ... 55
Order of Business ... 55
Parliamentary Procedure ... 56
Use of the Gavel ... 56
Summary of Parliamentary Motions ... 57
Chapter Banquet ... 58
Public Relations ... 59
Tips for Social Networking ... 60
FFA Resources ... 61

Career-Based Resources 62

» FFA Programs, Events and Platforms

Teacher Outreach 63
Living to Serve 63
National Days of Service 63
National FFA Week 63
Agricultural Literacy and Advocacy 64
FFA in the USA Program 64
Leadership Conferences 64
Career Conferences 64
State FFA Officer Leadership Continuum 65
State FFA Officer Enrichment Programs 65
National FFA Convention & Expo 66

» Awards and Recognitions

Agriscience Fair 67
Career and Leadership Development Events 67
National Chapter Award Program 67
National FFA SAE Awards Program 67
Honorary Awards 68
Star Awards 68

» Financial Assistance

Give the Gift of Blue Program 71
Scholarships 71
SAE Grants 71
Living to Serve Grant Series 72
Student Engagement and Travel Assistance Grants 72

» Endorsed Activities and Designated Events 72

» National FFA Alumni and Supporters 73

» National FFA Foundation 74

» National FFA Policies

National FFA Organization Constitution and Bylaws 76
FFA Federal Charter 89
Official Board Policy on FFA Trademarks 93

National FFA Organization

DELIVERY OF THE FFA MISSION AND VISION

FFA Mission	Components of mission	Platforms for delivery of mission
Premier Leadership	• Action • Relationships • Vision • Character • Awareness • Continuous improvement	• Agricultural advocacy • Agricultural knowledge • Agricultural literacy • Career exploration • Food security • Inclusion • Leadership concepts • Service engagement
Personal Growth	• Physical growth • Social growth • Professional growth • Mental growth • Emotional growth • Spiritual growth	
Career Success	• Communications • Decision making • Flexibility/adaptability • Technical/functional skills in agriculture	

This document connects the FFA mission to the FFA vision and explains how we deliver premier leadership, personal growth and career success. Over the years, the FFA mission has remained constant. How the mission is delivered has changed, and it will continue to do so in order for FFA to remain relevant in the future.

FFA is the premier youth development organization for school-based agricultural education students that provides life-changing experiences for its members. Those experiences are driven by a strong mission and a compelling vision.

To learn more, visit FFA.org.

Delivered through

- Awards and recognition
- Competitive events
- Conferences
- Conventions
- Educational resources
- Experiential learning
- Online experiences
- State association activities/events
- Local chapter activities/events

College/career-ready students prepared for

- Agriculture:
  - Agribusiness
  - Agricultural Technology and Automation
  - Animal Systems
  - Food Science and Processing
  - Plant Systems
  - Water Systems
- Energy and Natural Resources:
  - Clean and Alternative Energy
  - Conservation and Land Management
  - Ecological Research and Development
  - Environmental Protection
  - Resource Extraction
  - Utilities

FFA Vision

Growing the next generation of leaders who will change the world.

©2025 National FFA Organization

The FFA Vision

Growing the next generation of leaders who will change the world.

The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

To accomplish this mission, FFA:

- Develops competent and assertive agricultural leadership.
- Increases awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
- Strengthens agriculture students' confidence in themselves and their work.
- Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career.
- Encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience (SAE) programs.
- Encourages wise management of the community's economic, environmental and human resources.
- Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communication, human relations and social interaction.
- Builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism.
- Promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people.
- Promotes healthy lifestyles.
- Encourages excellence in scholarship.

FFA Mission Precepts

Components of premier leadership, personal growth and career success:

Premier Leadership

Definition: Influence.

Action
Do you have the skills and competencies needed to achieve the desired results?

Relationships
Can you build a constituency through listening, coaching, understanding and appreciating others?

Vision
Have you set a clear image of what the future should be?

Character
Do you possess a collection of virtues by which to live your life?

Awareness
Do you have a quest for purposeful understanding?

Continuous Improvement
Have you shown the pursuit of learning and growth?

Personal Growth

Definition: The positive evolution of the whole person.

Physical Growth
Are you striving to remain healthy by understanding, respecting and managing your body's needs?

Social Growth
Can you have successful interaction that respects the differences of a diverse and changing society?

Professional Growth
Do you have an awareness and application of skills necessary for career success?

Mental Growth
Are you developing the effective application of reasoning, thinking and coping?

Emotional Growth
Have you experienced the development of healthy responses to your feelings?

Spiritual Growth
Do you have the reflective inner strength to allow you to define your personal beliefs, values, principles and sense of balance?

Career Success

Definition: Continuously demonstrating those qualities, attributes and skills necessary to succeed in, or further prepare for, a chosen profession while effectively contributing to society.

Communications
Have you developed the oral, written and verbal means whereby interaction takes place?

Decision Making
Do you have the ability to analyze a situation and execute an appropriate course of action?

Flexibility/Adaptability
Do you have the traits that allow you to be capable of and willing to change?

Technical/Function Skills in Agriculture
Do you have the knowledge and skills needed for a career in agriculture and related industries?

THE COUNCIL
A national partnership for excellence in agriculture and education.

The National Council for Agricultural Education (thecouncil.ffa.org)

The National Council for Agricultural Education creates an intentional direction for the Agricultural Education Model by connecting leaders, fostering collaboration and driving action.

Its mission is to lead the future school-based agricultural education by identifying opportunities and resources, providing a forum for thought and direction and focusing on academic and career success for all students.

The Council's strategic priorities are:
- Recruit, prepare, retain and support educators.
- Include all people and leverage diverse approaches.
- Engage and transition students to be leaders and advocates in and for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and related industries.
- Develop collaborations within and beyond our agricultural education community.



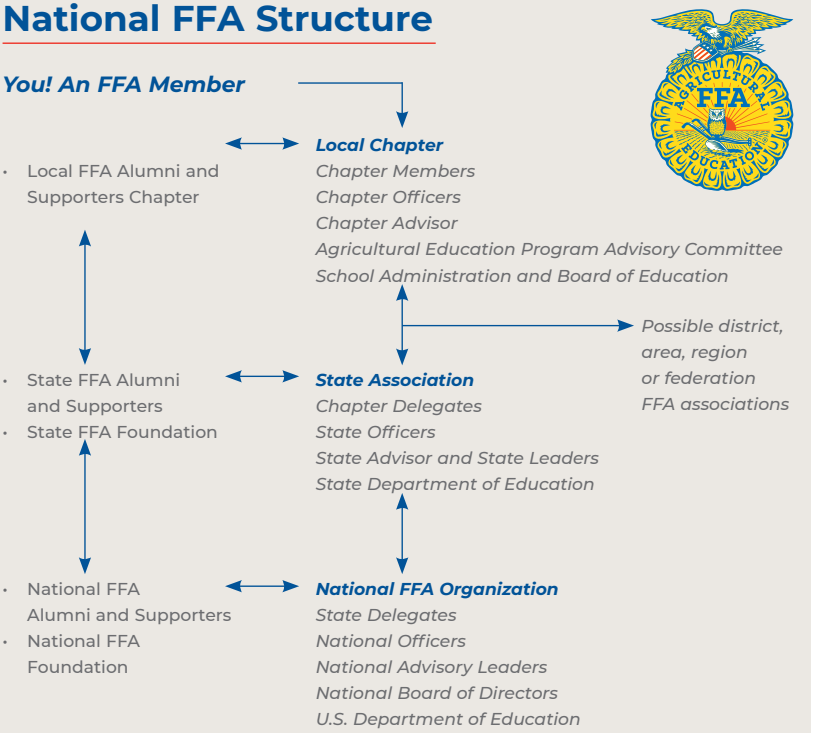
The following make up The National Council for Agricultural Education:
- Agricultural Education Division of the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE).
- American Association of Agricultural Educators (AAAE).
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).
- Leadership Executives of Agricultural Education & FFA Development (LEAD)
- Minority in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS).
- National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE).
- National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE).
- National FFA Foundation.
- National FFA Organization.
- National Farm & Ranch Business Management Education Association (NFRBMEA).
- National Professional Agricultural Student Organization (National PAS)

What Is FFA?

FFA is the premier school-based youth leadership development organization in the United States. FFA cultivates and nurtures future leaders who go on to change how the world grows. Through a unique combination of education, experiential learning, and service-based opportunities rooted in agriculture, FFA empowers middle and high school students to become our next generation of courageous and knowledgeable leaders.

Membership in FFA requires middle and high school students to be enrolled in a local school-based agricultural education program and involved in a Supervised Agricultural Experience. Students engaged in FFA find out who they are, who they want to become and how they can make an impact. They gain increased agricultural literacy, prepare for success in an ever-changing future, and demonstrate selflessness and citizenship

National FFA Structure



through courageous acts of service.

FFA is an acronym that stands for Future Farmers of America — the organization's original name as established in 1928. However, the national organization was officially renamed the National FFA Organization by the delegates to the 1988 National FFA Convention. Those delegates wanted the organization's name to reflect how the growth of agriculture and agricultural education encompassed more than 300 careers in the science, business, and technology of agriculture. The organization has used the FFA acronym as its primary name ever since, illustrating how FFA is an organization for all.

FFA Organization Structure

Active membership participation drives the organization. As a student-led organization, FFA is structured with three primary levels: local, state and national.

Local chapters enroll members, elect chapter officers, and engage in activities, events, and competitions related to the organization's mission. Adult chapter advisors — typically local agricultural education instructors — guide chapter and member activities. Local chapters are chartered by state associations.

State associations implement activities, events and competitions for local chapter participation; select state officers; and coordinate with state government officials to strengthen their state's overall program

of agricultural education. The associations also oversee possible district, area, region or federation associations within their states. State associations are chartered by the national organization.

The National FFA Organization is led by a board of directors and six student national officers. Together, they act upon recommendations passed by national delegates and agricultural education stakeholders to establish the vision and policy for FFA. Staff members employed by the National FFA Organization carries out policies and provides programs and services for the organization.

Supervised Agricultural Experiences

If you want to be the master of your universe, including what you learn in school-based agricultural education, your Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) is a critical component. Your SAE is one of the best ways to control what you learn, do and earn. For many SAEs, there is potential to earn cash, awards and recognition in your community, your state and nationally.

An SAE is an entrepreneurial or work-based learning experience related to your career interests and goals. It is year-round, led by you—the student—and supervised by your agricultural education instructor. An SAE consists of projects or enterprises within the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) career pathways where you apply agricultural skills and knowledge taught in the classroom to real-world experiences.

There are six types of SAEs. Your program may include any one of these types or even a combination of several types of enterprises or projects. The following are the six types of SAEs and an example of each:

1. **Foundational SAE** – Every student in an agricultural education program should start a foundational SAE. Learn the different facets of agriculture and what careers in agriculture may interest you. Start learning personal financial management and planning and how to safely live and work in agriculture. Research and create a class presentation about careers in agriculture or visit an agricultural operation or company to learn more about the industry. Shadow a worker in an agricultural career. Use this





foundational knowledge to implement one or more of the five immersion SAE types listed on the next page.

Note: Agricultural literacy and career exploration may be part of class work. Class work hours do not apply to the attainment of FFA awards or degrees.

2. **Ownership/Entrepreneurship** – You want to be the boss? Now's your chance. Own and operate an agriculture-related business or enterprise providing goods or services. Start small and watch what happens with hard work and perseverance. The basic requirements are that you own the enterprise, make the management decisions and take the financial risk with the ultimate goal of earning a profit. As part of an ownership/entrepreneurship SAE, you might own and operate a lawn care service or an agricultural website or you could produce bedding plants, flowers, crops; raise animals; or sell fish. You could cut and sell firewood or train dogs. Use your imagination; the possibilities in agriculture are endless.

3. **Placement/Internship** – If you want to experience the world of work, this is the SAE type for you. You will gain experience and knowledge through working for an agricultural employer, and you may be paid too. Your job or internship could be on a farm or ranch or in an agricultural business, school laboratory, or community facility. Track your progress by keeping records of the number of hours you work, your responsibilities and any earnings. Your placement SAE might involve working for your local farm supply store after school, hiring on as a horse groomer at a riding stable, or making and selling floral arrangements in a florist shop. This type of SAE can also include volunteering your time. You could volunteer at the local animal shelter or park or teach a gardening or animal care class.

4. **Research-Based SAE** – If you like to research, invent or analyze, this is the SAE for you. Using the scientific process, discover new agricultural knowledge or validate current knowledge and research. As a part of your research SAE, you verify and demonstrate or learn about scientific principles in agriculture. Some examples of research opportunities include researching the effects of cropping practices on wildlife populations, comparing plant growth of hydroponics and conventional methods, or investigating the perceptions of community members toward alternative agricultural practices.

5. **School-Based Enterprise** – Don't have all the resources to start a business at home? Gather some like-minded students and

start or continue one at school. This type of SAE is owned and managed by you and your fellow students using school facilities. It must take place outside of teacher-directed class instruction time; fit within the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Standards; and must provide goods and/or services that meet the needs of an identified market. A few examples of school-based enterprises include raising livestock in a school facility; renting a portion of the school land lab or greenhouse to raise plants for sale; building livestock panels; or repairing lawnmowers in the school shop. Work with your teacher to find out what facilities are available, form a cooperative, an LLC, a partnership or some other business structure, and get rolling.

6. **Service-Learning** – In a service-learning SAE, on your own or with other students, you'll conduct a needs assessment. Set the goals, objectives and budget and then promote, implement, and evaluate a service-learning project. The project may be for a school, a community organization, religious institution or nonprofit organization. It cannot be for the benefit of an FFA chapter. The project must be pre-approved by a local review committee that includes your agricultural education teacher and community stakeholders. It must be a stand-alone project, not part of an ongoing chapter project or community fundraiser. The project must align to the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Technical Standards and Career Ready Practices.

Middle School Activities

Middle school agricultural education/FFA offers experiential, hands-on activities that middle school students need and enjoy. FFA offers these students the opportunity to start developing self-discipline, organizational and leadership skills, and a high regard for teamwork. Through participation in FFA, middle school students also:

- Gain a sense of belonging and of being a part of something larger than themselves.
- Increase their opportunity to learn and explore important issues and career opportunities related to agriculture.

For more information on middle school programs, go to *FFA.org* and search middle school FFA programs.






FFA

History

FFA

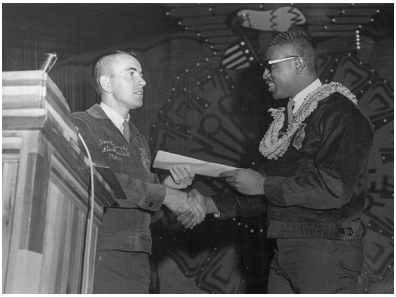
The original idea for the organization of FFA developed after courses in vocational agriculture were established by the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act in 1917.

In the early 1920s, Virginia formed a Future Farmers club for boys in agriculture classes. This innovation caught fire across the country, and the national organization was established in 1928 at the Baltimore Hotel in Kansas City, Mo. National dues to the Future Farmers of America were set at 10 cents per member.

Membership grew, and the following year's convention was distinguished by the selection of the national colors and the naming of the first Star Farmer of America. As the years went by, the organization began providing services to support its expanding membership. In 1939, a national FFA camp was founded on the grounds of the original national center in Alexandria, Va.

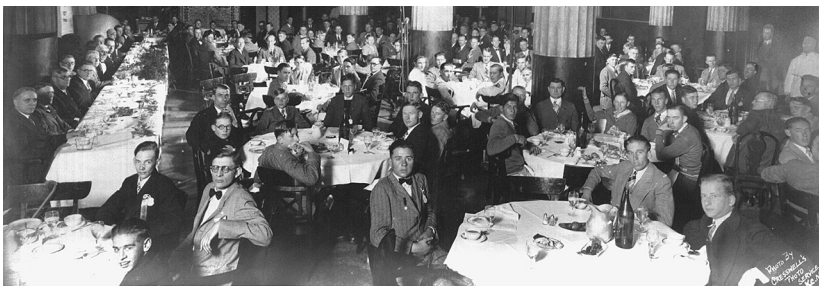
The National FFA Foundation, Inc., was created in 1944 to provide funds from business and industry to support new programs. Public Law 740, passed by Congress in 1950, granted FFA a federal charter. The year 1952 marked the establishment of The National Future Farmer magazine.

A consolidation of FFA and the New Farmers of America, the organization for African-American students that started in 1935, took place in 1965. More new members were admitted in 1969 when the delegates voted to allow girls to become members of the national organization.





The 1970s and '80s would bring a host of new programs and changes, designed to keep pace with the evolving membership and the rapidly changing needs of the industry of agriculture. In 1969 the delegates voted to establish an alumni class of membership. By 1971, nine states had chartered state alumni associations, and the National FFA Alumni Association was up and running. Public Law 740 was revised in 1979. In 1988, the delegates voted to change the official name from the Future Farmers of America to the National FFA Organization. Another name change occurred in 1989, when the magazine changed its name to FFA New Horizons. In 1998, to ensure that the constitution was



not in conflict with the FFA Federal Charter, a technical amendment was passed by the delegates at the 71st National FFA Convention clarifying that the name of the organization is the Future Farmers of America, but the organization shall be known as and shall do business as the National FFA Organization. Also in 1998, Public Law 740 underwent technical revision and became Publication 105-225 by the 105th Congress.

The National FFA Center was dedicated in Indianapolis in 1998. It houses the National FFA Organization, including its alumni and supporters staff and the National FFA Foundation. On June 1, 1998, the Agricultural Education National Headquarters opened its doors in Alexandria, Va. This office housed the National FFA Headquarters Operations Office, along with the national FFA advisor/board chair and national FFA executive secretary until 2019.

In 2019, the 116th Congress reviewed and passed additional amendments to the FFA Federal Charter as Public Law 116-7. In addition to the changes to the FFA Federal Charter, the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws were amended at the 92nd National FFA Convention in October 2019 and ratified by the National FFA Board of Directors on Nov. 11, 2019.

The National FFA Organization is a driving force in developing leadership in today's youth. Active participation in career and leadership development events, chapter meetings, award and recognition programs, committees and service and community projects provide FFA members with opportunities to develop personal leadership skills. The organization motivates young people to make positive contributions to their homes, schools, communities, country and the world.

NFA

The New Farmers of America started in 1935 at the Tuskegee Institute as an agricultural organization for African-American students prior to the merger of NFA with FFA in 1965, as a result of the 1964 Civil Rights Act signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Like FFA, the NFA was founded in Virginia. Three individuals who were instrumental in starting



the organization were G.W. Owens and J.R. Thomas, teacher educators in agricultural education at Virginia State College who co-wrote a constitution and bylaws for the New Farmers of Virginia, and Dr. H.O. Sargent, a federal agricultural education official who conceived the idea of the New Farmers of America organization.

The first state meeting for the New Farmers of Virginia was in May 1927. Other states soon established similar groups and formed regional organizations. In August 1935, a national conference was held in Tuskegee, Ala., and the New Farmers of America officially came into existence. In the early days of the NFA, the national convention rotated from state to state on the campuses of the 1890 land-grant colleges of the South. Later, the national convention was held every year in Atlanta, Ga., in the municipal auditorium.

There were many similarities between the NFA and FFA. The NFA Creed had six paragraphs and each paragraph began with "I Believe." The emblem had the outline of a boll of cotton instead of an ear of corn; otherwise, it was the same as the FFA emblem. The colors were Black and Old Gold as were their corduroy jackets. National NFA Week was celebrated during the week of April 5, the birthday of Booker T. Washington. The NFA also had an award called the H.O. Sargent Award, which was the most prestigious award for their organization. The award honored a young man who had been out of school from three to 10 years and was established in farming.

When FFA and NFA merged in 1965, NFA lost its name, charter, constitution, bylaws, awards, emblem, jacket, Creed, flag, banner, colors, financial assets and adult leadership. Only FFA symbols remained in usage, thus wiping away the significant contributions of an organization that had contributed significantly to America's agricultural and African-American history. At its closure, NFA had grown into a national organization with more than a thousand chapters. NFA brought more than 58,000 members to FFA in 1965.

Past National Presidents

National FFA Presidents

1928-29	Leslie Applegate, New Jersey
1929-30	Wade Turner, North Carolina
1930-31	Leslie Fry, Missouri
1931-32	Kenneth Pettibone, Oregon
1932-33	Vernon Howell, Oklahoma
1933-34	Bobby Jones, Ohio
1934-35	Andrew Sundstrom, South Dakota
1935-36	William Shaffer, Virginia
1936-37	Joe Black, Wyoming
1937-38	J. Lester Poucher, Florida
1938-39	Robert Elwell, Maine
1939-40	Ivan Kindschi, Wisconsin
1940-41	D. Harold Prichard, Mississippi
1941-42	Irvin J. Schenk, Indiana
1942-43	Harold Gum, West Virginia*
1942-43	Marvin Jagels, Idaho*
1943-44	Robert Bowman, California
1944-45	Oliver H. Kinzie, Oklahoma
1945-46	J. Glyndon Stuff, Illinois
1946-47	Gus R. Douglass Jr., West Virginia
1947-48	Ervin Martin, Indiana
1948-49	Doyle Conner, Florida
1949-50	George Lewis, Illinois
1950-51	Walter Cummings, Oklahoma
1951-52	Donald Staheli, Utah
1952-53	Jimmy Dillon, Louisiana
1953-54	David H. Boyne, Michigan
1954-55	William D. Gunter Jr., Florida
1955-56	Daniel Dunham, Oregon
1956-57	John M. Haid Jr., Arkansas
1957-58	Howard Downing, Kentucky
1958-59	Adin Hester, Oregon
1959-60	Jim Thomas, Georgia
1960-61	Lyle Carpenter, Colorado
1961-62	Victor Butler Jr., Florida
1962-63	Kenny McMillan, Illinois
1963-64	Nels Ackerson, Indiana
1964-65	Kenneth Kennedy, Kentucky
1965-66	Howard Williams, North Carolina
1966-67	Gary Swan, New York
1967-68	Greg Bamford, Colorado
1968-69	Jeff Hanlon, Oregon
1969-70	Harry Birdwell, Oklahoma
1970-71	Dan Lehmann, Illinois
1971-72	Tim J. Burke, Iowa
1972-73	Dwight O. Seegmiller, Iowa
1973-74	G. Mark Mayfield, Kansas
1974-75	Alpha E. Trivette, Virginia
1975-76	Bobby Tucker, Texas

1976-77	C. James Bode Jr., Oklahoma
1977-78	J. Ken Johnson, Texas
1978-79	Mark Sanborn, Ohio
1979-80	Douglas C. Rinker, Virginia
1980-81	Mark Herndon, Oklahoma
1981-82	Scott Neasham, Iowa
1982-83	Jan Eberly, California
1983-84	Ron Wineinger, Kansas
1984-85	Steve Meredith, Kentucky
1985-86	Rick Malir, Kansas
1986-87	Kevin Eblen, Iowa
1987-88	Kelli Evans, Nebraska
1988-89	Dana Soukup, Nebraska
1989-90	Donnell Brown, Texas
1990-91	Mark Timm, Indiana
1991-92	Lee Thurber, Nebraska
1992-93	Travis D. Park, Indiana
1993-94	Curtis C. Childers, Texas
1994-95	Corey D. Flournoy, Illinois
1995-96	Seth Derner, Nebraska
1996-97	Corey Rosenbusch, Texas
1997-98	Hillary Smith, Georgia
1998-99	Lisa E. Ahrens, Iowa
1999-00	Chris Vitelli, Florida
2000-01	Trent McKnight, Texas
2001-02	Dane White, California
2002-03	Tim Hammerich, California
2003-04	Javier Moreno, Puerto Rico
2004-05	Jackie Mundt, Wisconsin
2005-06	Travis Jett, Oklahoma
2006-07	Beau Williamson, California
2007-08	Zach Kinne, Missouri
2008-09	Paul Moya, New Mexico
2009-10	Levy Randolph, California
2010-11	Riley Pagett, Oklahoma
2011-12	Ryan Best, New Mexico
2012-13	Clay Sapp, Florida
2013-14	Brian Walsh, Virginia
2014-15	Andy Paul, Georgia
2015-16	Taylor McNeel, Arkansas
2016-17	David Townsend, Delaware
2017-18	Breanna Holbert, California
2018-19	Luke O'Leary, California
2019-20	Kolesen McCoy, Ohio
2020-21	Doster Harper, Georgia
2021-22	Cole Baerlocher, Washington
2022-23	Andrew Seibel, Virginia
2023-24	Amara Jackson, Michigan
2024-25	Thaddeus Bergschneider, Illinois

**Harold Gum resigned his office to join the military, and vice president Marvin Jagels replaced him as national president.*

NFA Presidents

1935-36	David Simmons, Alabama
1936-37	Elbert Pettiford, North Carolina
1937-38	E. Porter, Tennessee
1938-39	Lester Albert, Florida
1939-40	Jethro Hill, Arkansas
1940-41	James Warren Jr., North Carolina
1941-42	Henry Revels, Louisiana
1942-43	Lawrence Reddick Jr., Florida
1943-44	Amos Henry, Arkansas
1944-45	Ollie Hines, Virginia
1945-46	Sam Horton, Florida
1946-47	Lawrence Price, Texas
1947-48	James Bryant, North Carolina
1948-49	Rupert Seals, Kentucky
1949-50	Dudley DeRouen, Texas
1950-51	Calvin I. James, North Carolina
1951-52	Curtis Cooper, Georgia
1952-53	Oliver Hunter, Texas**
1952-53	John Johnson, Kentucky
1953-54	Frances Thompson, Maryland
1954-55	William Jones, South Carolina
1955-56	Cecil Strickland, Texas
1956-57	Marvin Roundtree, North Carolina
1957-58	John Knox Jr., Alabama
1958-59	Martin Goodson, Alabama
1959-60	Robert Mack, Virginia
1960-61	Harley Blane, Kentucky
1961-62	William Love, Texas
1962-63	Samuel Tate, North Carolina
1963-64	Robert Boone, Tennessee
1964-65	Adolphus Pinson, Texas

**Resigned



Historical Timeline of FFA

1917
- The Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act, (both Senator Hoke Smith and Representative Dudley Hughes were from Georgia) establishes vocational agriculture courses.

1925
- Virginia Tech agricultural education teacher educators Henry C. Groseclose, Harry W. Sanders, Walter S. Newman and Edmund C. Magill organize the Future Farmers of Virginia (FFV) for boys in agriculture classes. The FFV serves as the model for the Future Farmers of America.

1926
- The First National Congress of Vocational Agriculture Students assembles for a National Livestock Judging Contest at the American Royal Livestock and Horse Show in Kansas City, Mo.

1927
- H.O. Sargent, a federal agent for agricultural education for African Americans at the U.S. Office of Education, and G.W. Owens, a teacher-trainer at Virginia State College, write the first constitution and bylaws for the New Farmers of Virginia, an organization for African-American agriculture students. The organization holds its first state rally that same year.

1928
- Future Farmers of America is established in Kansas City, Mo., on Nov. 20.
- First National FFA Convention is held in Kansas City, Mo.: 33 delegates from 18 states are in attendance.
- Leslie Applegate from New Jersey is elected first national FFA president.
- First sectional gathering of New Farmers of America (NFA) members is held.

1929
- National blue and corn gold are adopted as official FFA colors.
- Carlton Patton from Arkansas is named the first Star Farmer of America. This is one of the first awards created by FFA, and it was sponsored until 1949 by the Kansas City Star.
- First National Chapter Contest is launched and sponsored by Farm Journal magazine.
- At the Second National FFA Convention in November, 33 states are represented by 64 delegates.
- Thirty-five state associations with approximately 1,500 chapters and 30,000 members are affiliated with the national organization.

1930
- Official FFA Creed, written by E.M. Tiffany, is adopted.
- Edward Drace from Missouri wins the first National Public Speaking event.
- First Official Dress uniform is adopted: dark blue shirt, blue or white pants, blue cap and yellow tie.
- Delegates restrict FFA membership to boys only.
- First FFA Manual printed by The Farm Journal of Philadelphia.

1931
- The National FFA Radio Program on NBC is launched.

1932
- A charter is granted to the Puerto Rico FFA Association.

1933
- Blue corduroy jacket is adopted as Official Dress.
- A group of FFA officers and members make a pilgrimage to Washington, D.C., where they are greeted on the White House lawn by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

1935
- NFA is founded as a national organization at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.
- David Simmons of Alabama is elected as the first national NFA president.
- Active FFA membership exceeds 100,000 members.

1937
- During the National FFA Convention, action is taken to establish a national FFA camp and leadership training school in Washington, D.C.

1939
- 28.5 acres of land is purchased near Alexandria, Va., for the first FFA-owned national headquarters; the land was once part of George Washington's estate.
- Identical twins Albert and Arthur Lacy from Hondo, Texas, become the only

members ever to share the title of Star Farmer of America.
- The H.O. Sargent Trophy Award is created to honor H.O. Sargent's commitment to helping NFA members achieve success and leadership in agriculture.

1942
- FFA members join in the war effort. Three former FFA members—Robert Gray from Texas, Travis Hoover from California and Melvin Jordan from Oklahoma—serve with then Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle and participate in the famous air raid on Tokyo.
- During World War II, delegates revise FFA membership rules so time served in the armed forces will not count in determining a member's period of eligibility.
- During the war years, national conventions are streamlined events, attended only by delegates and award winners. In 1942, just 217 people attend the convention.

1944
- The Future Farmers of America Foundation is formed in Washington, D.C., to raise money for FFA programs and activities.
- 138,548 FFA members serve in the Armed Services in World War II.
- The first National FFA Agriculture Proficiency Award is presented for agricultural mechanics.

1946
- Attendance at the National FFA "Victory Convention" is 12,500. Those in attendance honor the 260,450 FFA members who served and the 7,188 who paid the supreme sacrifice, losing their lives in the war.

1947
- The first National FFA Band performs at the National FFA Convention.
- National FFA Officers go on the first Goodwill Tour, visiting business and industrial firms and organizations.

1948
- The first FFA Chorus and National FFA Talent program is held at the National FFA Convention.
- National FFA Supply Service begins operation.
- Record jump in membership from 238,269 in 1947 to 260,300 in 1948. So many members (10,000) attend the 20th National FFA Convention that a folding-cot hotel is set up in the basement of the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo.
- First FFA Week is celebrated during the week of George Washington's birthday.

1949
- The first International Exchange Program for FFA members begins with Young Farmers Club of Great Britain.

1950
- The 81st U.S. Congress passes a bill that grants a federal charter to Future Farmers of America. President Harry S. Truman signs the bill on Aug. 30, and it becomes Public Law 81-740.
- The Rhode Island FFA Association, with five chapters and 82 members, is chartered—FFA is in all 48 states, plus then Territory of Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

1952
- The FFA Code of Ethics is adopted.
- First issue of The National Future Farmer magazine is published.

1953
- The U.S. Post Office Department issues a special 3-cent postage stamp—the cost of mailing a first-class letter then—to celebrate the 25th anniversary of FFA. The first stamps are released in Kansas City, Mo., during the National FFA Convention.
- President Dwight D. Eisenhower speaks at the National FFA Convention — the first U.S. president to do so — and receives an Honorary American Farmer Degree.
- FFA membership reaches 363,369 members.

1955
- Photo of American Star Farmer Joe Moore is on the cover of Time magazine.

1957
- Former President Harry S. Truman speaks during the National FFA Convention.

1958
- The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis presents NFA with a Certificate of Appreciation.

1959
- First National FFA Center is dedicated in Alexandria, Va., on land that was once part of George Washington's estate. An FFA camp had been located here earlier.
- FFA holds its first National Leadership Training Conference for state officers in Washington, D.C.

1964
- FFA sells its 1-millionth FFA jacket.

1965
- Due to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which mandated the end of segregation, NFA merges with FFA, resulting in the end of NFA after 30 years of providing agricultural leadership development for rural Black male youth.

1966
- First FFA National Agricultural Career Show (now called expo) is held at the National FFA Convention to highlight educational and career opportunities in agriculture.

1967
- Elmer J. Johnson helps develop the FFA archives at the National FFA Center.

1968
- Presidential candidate Richard M. Nixon speaks at the National FFA Convention. Nixon is elected U.S. president the following month.

1969
- FFA opens membership to females, making it possible for them to hold office and participate in competitive events at regional and national levels.
- Ken Dunagan from Arizona is named the first American Star in Agribusiness.
- The Washington Conference (now Washington Leadership Conference — WLC) begins.
- The delegate body of the National FFA Convention establishes alumni class of membership as part of the constitution.

1970
- New York's Anita Decker and New Jersey's Patricia Krowicki become the first two female delegates to the national convention.

1971
- The National FFA Alumni Association is established.
- The Building Our American Communities (BOAC) program begins.

1973
- FFA Official Dress standards are created.
- National FFA Secretary Fred McClure from Texas is the first African American elected to a national FFA office.

1974
- President Gerald Ford speaks at the National FFA Convention. The speech is carried live on network television.

1975
- Food for America program launches.
- Jimmy Carter, former Georgia governor and a former member of the Plains (Ga.) FFA Chapter, speaks at the National FFA Convention. Carter was elected U.S. president the following year.
- First FFA Student Handbook is published.

1976
- Julie Smiley from Washington is elected national FFA vice president and is the first female to hold a national FFA office.
- Alaska becomes the last of the 50 states to obtain a national charter.

1978
- President Jimmy Carter speaks at the 51st National FFA Convention again, this time as a U.S. president.
- The commemorative marker noting the site of the organization's founding is unveiled in Kansas City, Mo.

1979
- Christe Peterson from Wisconsin wins the first Extemporaneous Public Speaking Event.
- Public Law 740 is revised.

1980
- The National FFA Foundation raises $1 million in one year for the first time.

1982
- Jan Eberly from California becomes the first female national FFA president.

1983
- The Ag Ed Network, the organization's computerized information service, launches.

1984
- The first FFA TV public service announcements air.
- National FFA Scholarship Program begins.

1986
- The first Agriscience Teacher of the Year Award is presented to Steven McKay from Boonville, Calif.

1987
- The first national television satellite broadcast of the National FFA Convention airs.
- Vice President George H.W. Bush speaks at the National FFA Convention. Bush is elected U.S. president the following year.

1988
- The Future Farmers of America changes its

name to the National FFA Organization to reflect the growing diversity in agriculture.
- Seventh and eighth grade students are permitted to become FFA members.
- The Agriscience Student Recognition Program is introduced.
- President Ronald Reagan speaks at the National FFA Convention via a prerecorded message.

1989
- The National Future Farmer magazine changes its name to FFA New Horizons.

1990
- The Partners in Active Learning Support (PALS) program launches.
- National convention delegates vote to raise the number of official voting delegates to 475 based on proportional representation.
- Delegates vote "no" to a new FFA Creed during the 63rd National FFA Convention.

1991
- FFA chapters in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam and five chapters in Micronesia are chartered.

1994
- Corey Flournoy from Illinois is the first African American to be elected national FFA president; he is also the first national president from an urban environment.

1996
- H.O. Sargent Award is reinstated, promoting diversity among chapters.
- FFA announces its decision to move the National FFA Center from Alexandria, Va., to Indianapolis.
- FFA announces its decision to move the National FFA Convention from Kansas City, Mo., to Louisville, Ky., in 1999.
- The official website for FFA, *FFA.org*, debuts.

1997
- The first Agri-Entrepreneurship Award is presented.

1998
- The National FFA Center in Indianapolis is dedicated on July 20.
- The Agricultural Education National Headquarters is dedicated in Alexandria, Va.
- The National FFA Convention is held in Kansas City, Mo., for the last time.
- Jose Santiago from Puerto Rico is elected national FFA vice president. He is the first member from Puerto Rico to serve as a national FFA officer.
- Public Law 81-740 is revised through the 105th Congress and replaced by Public Law 105-225 on Aug. 12.

1999
- The National FFA Convention is held in Louisville, Ky., for the first time, with 46,918 in attendance.
- Michael Van Winkle from Arkansas wins the first National Creed Speaking event.

2000
- The National FFA Archives at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) opens.
- Delegates at the National FFA Convention approve the Discovery FFA Degree for middle school students.

2001
- Steven Offer from Wisconsin is named the first American Star in Agriscience.
- Nicholas Streff from South Dakota is named the first American Star in Agricultural Placement.

2002
- The 75th National FFA Convention is held in Louisville, Ky. To celebrate this special event, the time capsule from the 50th National FFA Convention is opened. Special guest Muhammad Ali is recognized at Reflections to honor the growing diversity of the National FFA Organization.
- Karlene Lindow from Wisconsin is named American Star Farmer. Lindow is the first female to receive this award.
- Official Dress standards are revised.

2003
- Javier Moreno from Puerto Rico is elected national president; he becomes the first person with a native language other than English and the first Puerto Rican elected to this office.
- "Only Blue Will Do!" launches. The campaign focuses on restoring the official FFA jacket colors to the true national blue and corn gold, as well as providing a superior-fitting jacket.
- "FFA Live!" launches on RFD-TV.

2004
- The first live webcast of the National FFA Convention premieres on *FFA.org*.

2005
- National FFA launches Seeds of Hope, a fundraising campaign to rebuild Gulf Coast states' agricultural education and FFA programs following Hurricane Katrina;

$835,699 in donations is distributed to affected programs.
- The National FFA Foundation tops the $10 million mark in raising money in one year for FFA programs and services.

2006
- The 79th National FFA Convention is held in Indianapolis for the first time, with 54,589 in attendance.
- The National FFA Foundation announces its first $1 million contribution from the Ford Motor Company.

2007
- The FFA Merchandise Center opens in Indianapolis.
- FFA membership exceeds the half-million mark with 500,823 members in 7,358 chapters.
- FFA New Horizons adds online feature—*FFAnewhorizons.org*.

2008
- The FFA member networking site, FFA Nation (now defunct), launches.
- The FFA board of directors makes the decision to rotate the National FFA Convention between Louisville and Indianapolis, beginning with Louisville in 2013.

2009
- FFA celebrates 40 years of women in the organization.

2010
- Dr. Larry Case retires after 26 years as national FFA advisor.
- FFA celebrates the 75th anniversary of the founding of NFA.
- Six college-age FFA members travel to Zambia for the FFA Global Outreach: Africa program.

2011
- FFA celebrates Native Americans in FFA, agriculture and agricultural education during the 84th National FFA Convention.
- Dr. Steve A. Brown is named national advisor/board chair.

2012
- FFA members and supporters pack 1,005,048 meals during the national convention and expo's FFA Rally to Fight Hunger.
- FFA celebrates Latinos/Hispanics in FFA, agriculture and agricultural education during the national convention and expo.

2013
- Sherene Donaldson is named first female national FFA executive secretary.
- Ram Truck's "So God Made a Farmer" Super Bowl commercial exceeds 18 million views on YouTube; the company donates $1 million to FFA.
- FFA Today Radio Show debuts on SiriusXM's RURAL RADIO channel.

2014
- Five FFA jackets are donated to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.
- The Give the Gift of Blue Program begins.

2015
- FFA announces the national convention and expo to move to Indianapolis from 2016-24.
- First Lady Michelle Obama gives video greetings to attendees at the national convention and expo.
- The organization's official website, *FFA.org*, is updated to include a new look, a personalized dashboard, the resource My Journey, the FFA Resume Generator© and the FFA Brand Center. The FFA emblem is also newly refreshed to modernize the FFA brand.

2016
- National FFA Alumni membership jumps to 225,891 members, up from 62,705 in 2015.
- FFA, Discovery Education and AgCareers.com partner to create AgExplorer, a career website to help students explore unique careers in agriculture.

2017
- Convention delegate recommendations to alter Official Dress and the opening ceremony get approval from the National FFA Board of Directors.
- Breanna Holbert from California is the first African-American female to be elected national FFA president.

2018
- The board of directors votes to rename the National FFA Alumni Association to National FFA Alumni and Supporters and change its bylaws to operational policies. The National FFA Alumni Council becomes the National FFA Alumni and Supporters Advisory Committee.
- Platinum sponsor John Deere commemorates 75 years of partnership with FFA.
- FFA announces that the National FFA Convention & Expo will stay in Indianapolis

through 2031.
- The inaugural FFA Blue Room launches at the national convention and expo, showcasing cutting-edge technology, research and innovation in agriculture.
- President Donald Trump speaks at the national convention and expo.

2019
- FFA celebrates 50 years of female membership in the organization.
- H.R. 439, the National FFA Organization's Federal Charter Amendments Act (also known as Public Law 116-7), becomes law.
- Dr. Steve Brown retires as national advisor and board of directors chair.
- Washington Leadership Conference celebrates its 50th anniversary.
- The National FFA Delegates amend and the National FFA Board of Directors ratifies the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws.
- The National Council for Agricultural Education names Dr. James Woodard the board of directors chair and national advisor.
- The National FFA Board of Directors names Cheryl Zimmerman executive secretary of the National FFA.
- The National FFA Foundation celebrates its 75th anniversary.
- The National FFA Foundation receives a record $23.4 million in support for FFA.
- The estate of Emmaline S. Eichelberger donates more than $2.5 million to the National FFA Organization, the largest single unrestricted donation in the organization's history.

2020
- The first virtual National FFA Convention & Expo is held due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Forever Blue Network is launched.
- For the first time in 50 years, the Washington Leadership Conference is canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021
- FFA celebrates 50 years of alumni membership.
- National FFA Board of Directors grants the U.S. Virgin Islands a new charter.
- National delegates pass and the National FFA Board of Directors ratify the FFA Value Statements.
- Vice President Kamala Harris gives videotaped greetings at the 94th National FFA Convention & Expo.

2022
- Dr. Travis Park is named director of agricultural education, FFA board chair and national advisor.
- The board of directors ratified the approved constitutional amendment by the delegates to include fifth and sixth grade students as FFA members.
- The 15,000th jacket is gifted through the Give the Gift of Blue program.

2023
- Convention delegate recommendation to revise the terminology of official FFA ceremonies, adding the option of officer position (Last Name) in addition to Mr./Madame, gets approval from the board of directors.
- The 96th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis has a record attendance of 72,954 members, advisors, supporters and guests.

2024
- Student membership hits an all-time high, exceeding 1 million members in 9,235 chapters.
- Alumni and supporters membership hits an all-time high with 760,152 members in 2,033 chapters.
- FFA members earn a record 4,805 American FFA Degrees.
- The reporter program FFA in the USA is launched.

2025
- A record-breaking more than $1.6 million is raised on Give FFA Day during National FFA Week.

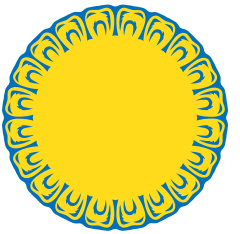
National FFA Organization Membership by State

Assoc. Name	Year Chartered	Order Chartered	2022-2023 Chapters	2023-2024 Chapters	2022-2023 Members	2023-2024 Members
ALABAMA	1929	36	252	255	32,610	31,591
ALASKA	1976	51	11	16	207	362
ARIZONA	1929	33	81	84	12,245	13,121
ARKANSAS	1928	2	215	218	16,089	17,501
CALIFORNIA	1928	4	358	366	103,093	104,450
COLORADO	1929	15	131	132	8,941	8,868
CONNECTICUT	1930	40	21	21	3,579	3,802
DELAWARE	1930	37	45	46	4,446	4,614
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			1	0	-	
FLORIDA	1929	31	421	404	28,041	60,817
GEORGIA	1929	10	404	408	80,358	81,963
HAWAIʻI	1929	13	25	25	623	547
IDAHO	1929	17	100	102	6,194	6,448
ILLINOIS	1929	21	384	389	41,217	42,863
INDIANA	1929	19	225	230	13,602	14,494
IOWA	1929	22	262	266	19,248	20,062
KANSAS	1929	16	229	236	12,624	13,528
KENTUCKY	1930	39	182	180	21,649	23,555
LOUISIANA	1930	44	213	211	12,897	13,106
MAINE	1930	41	13	12	334	326
MARYLAND	1929	9	52	51	2,384	2,395
MASSACHUSETTS	1931	47	18	18	2,639	2,729
MICHIGAN	1929	29	125	126	8,858	8,762
MINNESOTA	1930	42	214	219	14,864	15,155
MISSISSIPPI	1934	49	112	107	3,224	3,510
MISSOURI	1929	28	361	364	26,780	26,973
MONTANA	1930	38	109	112	6,572	6,702
NEBRASKA	1928	6	210	218	11,640	11,492
NEVADA	1929	11	31	32	3,468	3,500
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1931	46	12	11	424	497
NEW JERSEY	1928	3	38	37	3,127	3,429
NEW MEXICO	1929	25	87	90	5,312	5,122
NEW YORK	1929	24	168	179	11,493	12,189
NORTH CAROLINA	1929	18	369	369	36,539	48,241
NORTH DAKOTA	1929	30	93	95	8,000	7,448
OHIO	1929	14	343	342	29,123	29,494
OKLAHOMA	1928	7	368	370	29,210	29,682
OREGON	1929	35	114	118	16,577	15,075
PENNSYLVANIA	1929	26	160	159	15,169	15,768
PUERTO RICO	1932	48	98	83	2,146	2,233
RHODE ISLAND	1950	50	4	4	174	66
SOUTH CAROLINA	1928	5	119	120	11,740	13,158
SOUTH DAKOTA	1929	32	110	112	5,588	6,515
TENNESSEE	1929	27	240	249	32,714	33,508
TEXAS	1929	34	1,096	1097	170,069	177,401
U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS	2021	53	5	6	46	26
UTAH	1929	20	95	95	6,619	18,049
VERMONT	1931	45	19	18	366	290
VIRGINIA	1928	1	225	228	12,770	13,867
WASHINGTON	1930	43	191	198	14,453	14,834
WEST VIRGINIA	1929	12	87	86	6,688	7,035
WISCONSIN	1929	23	257	260	25,249	25,938
WYOMING	1929	8	60	61	3,966	4,172
Totals			9,163	9,235	945,988	1,027,273

Emblem



The national FFA emblem, consisting of five symbols, is representative of the history, goals and future of the organization. As a whole, the emblem covers the broad spectrum of FFA and agriculture. Each element within the emblem has unique significance.



The cross section of the ear of corn provides the foundation of the emblem, just as corn has historically served as the foundation crop of American agriculture. It is also a symbol of unity, as corn is grown in every state of the nation.



The rising sun signifies progress and holds a promise that tomorrow will bring a new day, glowing with opportunity.



The plow signifies labor and tillage of the soil, the backbone of agriculture and the historic foundation of our country's strength.



The eagle represents the national scope of the organization.



The owl, long recognized for its wisdom, symbolizes the knowledge required to be successful in the industry of agriculture.



The words **Agricultural Education** and **FFA** are emblazoned in the center to signify the combination of learning and leadership necessary for progressive agriculture.

The emblem and the letters "FFA" are protected by trademark registration in the U.S. Patent Office and by Public Law 105-225, 105th Congress.

Motto

The FFA motto gives members 12 short words to live by as they discover the opportunities available in the organization:

Learning to Do
Doing to Learn
Earning to Live
Living to Serve

FFA Creed

The FFA Creed was written by E. M. Tiffany and adopted at the 3rd National FFA Convention. It was revised at the 38th and 63rd conventions. It is recited by new members to reflect their growing belief in agriculture and agricultural education.

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds—achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so—for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.





Colors

As the blue field of our nation's flag and the golden fields of ripened corn unify our country, the FFA colors of national blue and corn gold give unity to the organization. All FFA functions and paraphernalia should proudly display the colors.

Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance is the official salute of the FFA organization. To properly conduct the salute, face the United States flag, place the right hand over the left part of the chest, and holding it there, repeat the following pledge:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Note: Repeat the pledge as it is punctuated. There is no comma or pause following the word "nation."

The pledge should always be used in the official closing ceremony for meetings and at other FFA gatherings. At the conclusion of the pledge, the hand should be dropped to the side, and the members should again face the president's station.

FFA Official Dress

The uniform worn by FFA members at local, state and national functions is called Official Dress. It provides identity and gives a distinctive and recognizable image to the organization and its members. Official Dress has been worn with pride by millions of FFA members since 1933.

Official Dress Guidelines

Official Dress for an FFA member includes:

- An official FFA jacket zipped to the top.
- Black slacks and black socks/nylons or black skirt and black nylons.
- White collared blouse or white collared shirt.
- Official FFA tie or official FFA scarf.
- Black dress shoes with closed heel and toe.

Note: Official garb of recognized religions may be worn with Official Dress. Also, appropriate personal protective equipment may be used with Official Dress.



The official FFA jacket was established by the delegates at the 1933 National FFA Convention. Official Dress standards were created by the delegates at the 1973 national convention and most recently revised by the delegates at the 2016 National FFA Convention & Expo.

Proper Use of the FFA Jacket

The blue corduroy jacket is the most recognizable symbol of the organization. As a member, it is one of your responsibilities to ensure its proper use. Specific guidelines are outlined below.

- The jacket is to be worn only by members.
- The jacket should be kept clean and neat.
- The back of the jacket should have only a large official FFA emblem, the name of the state association and the name of the local chapter, region, district or area. The front of the jacket should have only a small official FFA emblem, the name of the individual, one office or honor and the year of that office or honor.
- The jacket should be worn on official occasions with the zipper fastened to the top. The collar should be turned down and the cuffs buttoned.
- The jacket should be worn by members and officers on all official FFA occasions, as well as other occasions where the chapter or state association is represented. It may be worn to school and other appropriate places.
- The jacket should only be worn to places that are appropriate for members to visit.
- School letters and insignia of other organizations should not be attached to or worn on the jacket.
- When the jacket becomes faded and worn, it should be discarded or the emblems and lettering removed.
- The emblems and lettering should be removed if the jacket is given or sold to a nonmember.
- A member should act professionally when wearing the official FFA jacket.
- Members should refrain from use of tobacco and alcohol when underage and at all times when representing FFA. In addition, members should exhibit their leadership qualities when they encounter substances including tobacco and alcohol and serve to discourage others from inappropriate behavior.
- All chapter degree, officer and award medals should be worn beneath the name on the right side of the jacket, with the exception of a single State FFA Degree charm or American FFA Degree key. These should be worn above the name or attached to a standard degree chain. **No more than three medals should be worn on the jacket. These medals, worn in no specific order, should represent 1.) the highest degree earned, 2.) the highest office held, and 3.) the highest award earned by the member.**

FFA Code of Conduct

Responsibilities of Members

For a chapter to operate effectively, each member must play an active role. FFA is truly an organization of, by and for its members. Members decide and direct the activities of their own chapter. They hold positions of leadership and conduct all activities. The success or failure of chapter activities and programs rests with the membership.



Each member is charged with the responsibility of upholding the ideals and principles of the organization, as well as participating in all chapter activities.

Both protecting members from abuse and reporting known instances of abuse are responsibilities of members.

It is also the responsibility of all members to refrain from actions constituting harassment and bullying as defined in the FFA Code of Behavior on page 31 and the safety and response policy linked in the QR Code on page 31.

FFA Code of Ethics

FFA members conduct themselves at all times to be a credit to their organization, chapter, school, community and family. As an FFA member, I pledge to:

1. Develop my potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.
2. Make a positive difference in the lives of others.
3. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion. (See page 28 for proper use of Official Dress.)
4. Respect the rights of others and their property.
5. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.
6. Communicate in an appropriate, purposeful and positive manner.
7. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
8. Make myself aware of FFA programs and activities and be an active participant.
9. Conduct and value a supervised agricultural experience program.
10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.
11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization.

Adopted by the delegates at the 1952 National FFA Convention. The Code of Ethics was revised by the delegates at the 1995 National FFA Convention.

FFA Belonging and Engagement

The National FFA Organization's Federal Charter States that one of our purposes is "to seek and promote inclusion and diversity in its membership, leadership, and staff to reflect the belief of the FFA in the value of all human beings." At National FFA, we are dedicated to providing our members with the tools and experiences to be successful in an interconnected world.

OUR STATEMENT OF BELONGING

The National FFA Organization is committed to fostering a welcoming, supportive, engaging, and growth-focused environment for all students. We prioritize the well-being of our members and actively challenge prejudice while promoting a culture of inclusivity where every individual is respected, treated with dignity, and valued for their unique identities.

As FFA members, agriculture teachers, supporters and employees, let's hold each other accountable, take care of one another, and be kind.





FFA Value Statements

The FFA Value Statements, passed by the national delegates at the 94th National FFA Convention and ratified by the National FFA Board of Directors, promote a more inclusive, equitable organization for all FFA members. These four statements create a foundation to ensure we open doors and remove barriers for every individual in agricultural education to experience premier leadership, personal growth and career success through FFA.

1. We respect and embrace every individual's culture and experiences.
2. We welcome every individual's contribution to advance our communities and the industry of agriculture.
3. We cultivate an environment that allows every individual to recognize and explore their differences.
4. We create leadership opportunities for every individual to enhance their personal and professional endeavors.

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW

to learn more about member safety.

FFA Code of Behavior

- I promise that my attitude, conduct and appearance will be such to reflect credit on my local chapter, state FFA association and the National FFA Organization.
- I promise to abide by the National FFA Code of Ethics and FFA Values Statements.
- FFA members and participants assigned to hotel rooms: I will stay in the hotel room I am assigned during the time period of the event and not participate in any inappropriate conduct during the event and/or as a representative of FFA.
- I will not possess or use drugs, alcohol or tobacco at any time during an event and/or as a representative of FFA. This includes but is not limited to smoking cigarettes, e-cigarettes, chewing tobacco, vaping and other substances.
- I will not have in my possession any firearms, knives, dangerous weapons, explosive compound or an object that can reasonably be considered and/or used as a weapon.
- I will not engage in bullying, which includes hazing; menacing; taunting; intimidating; the use of lewd, profane or



vulgar language; verbal or physical abuse of others; or other threatening behavior toward others in person or through acts of cyberbullying including but not limited to all social media platforms.

- I will not engage in any behavior that might be deemed sexual harassment. Behaviors constituting sexual harassment include sexual teasing, bullying, making propositions, sexual jokes, indecent or vulgar remarks, staring that causes humiliation or discomfort and posting sexually oriented pictures, cartoons, or other visual materials that are viewed as offensive. Perception is an important factor: Whether certain behavior constitutes sexual harassment depends on the perceptions of those affected and the impact of the behavior. It is the responsibility of all members to refrain from actions constituting harassment and bullying and to help protect others from these types of acts.
- I will at all times respect all public and private property, including but not limited to all event venues and the lodging accommodations in which I am housed.
- I will pay for all personal costs and any damage of public or private property, event venues and the lodging accommodations before I depart. My sleeping room will be kept neat and clean.
- I acknowledge that failure to abide by any of these rules could result in immediate dismissal (travel costs incurred will be at my own expense) from the event, and my advisor, state staff and parent(s)/guardians(s) will be notified.

All event participants are expected to obey all local, state and federal laws. Participants shall abstain from abusive, disruptive or inappropriate behavior before, during or after the event in all forms, including in-person, via digital or social media and any other form of communication.

The National FFA Organization may act in its discretion to address any attendee(s), group(s) or participant(s) it believes fail to uphold the criteria of the FFA Code of Ethics or Code of Conduct, including but not limited to revoking event access without refund or reduction of any fees paid or payable, removal from participation in awards and recognition programs, and revocation of awards and recognition earned.

Types of FFA Membership

To be eligible for student membership in a chartered FFA chapter, a student must be enrolled in a secondary agricultural education program.

State associations may consider "secondary agricultural education programs" to be grades 5-12.

To become a student member and retain membership, a student must:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study. Either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for a career in agriculture.
2. Show an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
3. Pay all current state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.
4. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

A member may retain student membership until Nov. 30 following his or her fourth National FFA Convention & Expo after graduation from high school. For more information on student membership, read the National Constitution and Bylaws, Article V, Section B on page 78.

FFA clothing, accessories, gifts, chapter supplies, plaques, award pins and other teaching tools can be ordered on *ShopFFA.org*. Profits earned from the sale of items from ShopFFA help finance National FFA.

In addition to student membership, individuals can become adult members. Adult membership is open to former student members and other FFA supporters. For more information on adult membership, visit *FFA.org/alumni*.

FFA Degrees

FFA is structured into a degree program that rewards active FFA members for progress in all phases of leadership, skills and occupational development. The Discovery FFA Degree, the Greenhand FFA Degree and the Chapter FFA Degree are awarded at the chapter level. State associations award top members with the State FFA Degree. The highest degree, the American FFA Degree, is conferred upon an elite group of members at the national level. For the most up-to-date degree requirements, visit *FFA.org*.



Discovery FFA Degree

To be eligible to receive the Discovery FFA Degree from a chapter, a member must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Be enrolled in an agriculture class for at least a portion of the school year while in grades 7-8.
2. Have become a dues-paying member of FFA at local, state and national levels.
3. Participate in at least one local FFA chapter activity outside of scheduled class time.
4. Have knowledge of agriculturally related career, ownership and entrepreneurial opportunities.
5. Be familiar with the local FFA chapter's Program of Activities.
6. Submit written application for the degree.



Greenhand FFA Degree

To be eligible to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree from the chapter, a member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Be enrolled in agricultural education and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, motto, salute and FFA mission statement.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws and the chapter Program of Activities.
6. Personally own or have access to the *Official FFA Manual* and the *Official FFA Student Handbook*.
7. Submit written application for the Greenhand FFA Degree.



Chapter FFA Degree

To be eligible to receive the Chapter FFA Degree from the chapter, a member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least 180 hours of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth-grade level, have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agriculture course.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official functions in the chapter's Program of Activities.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   a. Earned and productively invested at least $150 by the member's own efforts; or worked at least 45 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or a combination thereof; and
   b. Developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Have effectively led a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
7. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA award programs.
8. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
9. Have participated in at least 10 hours of community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.
10. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

Additional requirements may be established by the chapter and/or the state FFA association for any of the chapter-level degrees.



State FFA Degree

To be eligible to receive the State FFA Degree from the state association, a member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Have been a student FFA member and paid membership dues for two years at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.
3. While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth-grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   a. Earned and productively invested at least $1,000; or
   b. Worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or
   c. A combination thereof, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Demonstrate leadership ability by:
   a. Performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law.
   b. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or FFA.

c. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson or participating member of a chapter committee.
6. Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education instructor and the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter's Program of Activities.
8. Have participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level.
9. Have participated in at least 25 hours of community service, within at least two different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.

The percentage of the total state membership that may receive the State FFA Degree and additional requirements may be established by the state FFA association.



American FFA Degree

To be eligible to receive the American FFA Degree from the National FFA Organization, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Have received the State FFA Degree, have been an active member for the past three years (36 months) and have a record of satisfactory participation in activities on the chapter and state levels.
2. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least three years (540 hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an agricultural education program, or have completed at least the equivalent of 360 hours of systematic secondary school instruction in agricultural education and one full year of enrollment in a postsecondary agricultural program, or have completed the program of agricultural education offered in the secondary school last attended.
3. Have graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be granted.
4. Have in operation and have maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program, through which the member has exhibited comprehensive planning managerial financial expertise.
5. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   a. Earned at least $10,000 and productively invested at least $7,500; or
   b. Earned and productively invested $2,000 and worked 2,250 hours in excess of scheduled class time. Any combination of hours, times a factor of 3.56, plus actual dollars earned and productively invested must be equal to or greater than the number 10,000. Hours used for the purpose of producing earnings reported as productively invested income shall not be duplicated as hours of credit to meet the minimum requirements for the degree.
6. Have a record of outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement and have achieved a high school scholastic record of "C" or better as certified by the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in at least 50 hours of community service, within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.
8. Applicants must complete and submit the current version of the American FFA Degree application authorized by the National FFA Organization.

Procedure for Equating Hours Worked With Dollars Earned and Productively Invested for the American FFA Degree

Hours* Worked	Factor	Formula Test	Actual Dollars Earned and Productively Invested	Minimum Standard Equivalency Factor
2,250	X 3.56	8,010.00	+ 1,990.00	= 10,000
2,103	X 3.56	7,486.68	+ 2,513.32	= 10,000
1,952	X 3.56	6,949.12	+ 3,050.88	= 10,000
1,802	X 3.56	6,415.12	+ 3,584.88	= 10,000
1,652	X 3.56	5,881.12	+ 4,118.88	= 10,000
1,502	X 3.56	5,347.12	+ 4,652.88	= 10,000
1,352	X 3.56	4,813.12	+ 5,186.88	= 10,000
1,202	X 3.56	4,279.12	+ 5,720.88	= 10,000
1,052	X 3.56	3,745.12	+ 6,254.88	= 10,000
901	X 3.56	3,207.56	+ 6,792.44	= 10,000
751	X 3.56	2,673.56	+ 7,326.44	= 10,000
601	X 3.56	2,139.56	+ 7,860.44	= 10,000
451	X 3.56	1,605.56	+ 8,394.44	= 10,000
			OR	
0			10,000.00	

*These hours cannot contribute income that is being used as productively invested income.

Honorary American FFA Degree – Teacher

The purpose of the Honorary American FFA Degree Teacher award is to recognize agricultural education instructors/FFA advisors who have demonstrated total program quality by using those factors that contribute to successful local programs with a national impact. Nominees must have taught for a minimum of 10 years and have at least 85 percent FFA membership in their agricultural education program. Recipients in this category are selected on the basis of their contributions in the following five areas: classroom/laboratory instruction; experiential learning of students; community partnerships; National FFA Organization; and leadership and professional development.

Honorary American FFA Degree

The purpose of the Honorary American FFA Degree program is to recognize individuals who have rendered outstanding service to agricultural education and FFA. Individuals nominated must have provided exceptional service to agriculture, agricultural education and/or FFA on a national level. Those nominated from a state must have the approval of the state FFA advisor. Nominations may also be made by members of the National FFA Board of Directors and officers, National FFA Organization, and National FFA Foundation division directors.

The Honorary American FFA Degree is the highest honorary degree presented by the National FFA Organization at the annual national convention and expo. Applications should be submitted online by June 15.

Official FFA Ceremonies

Official FFA ceremonies are a source of pride, identity and tradition among FFA members and chapters. Ceremonies emphasize the purpose of meetings, the duties of officers and the significance of recognition given to individuals.

All official FFA ceremonies are to be memorized, rehearsed and conducted with pride and dignity. A "walk-through" in the room where the meeting, banquet or special function is to be held will ensure a smooth performance if proper physical arrangements are complete and all parties know their responsibilities and speaking assignments. Never forget that you and your chapter are on display. Your performance should reflect sincerity and professionalism.

In addition to using Mister/Madam, the National FFA Board of Directors approved the option of using officer position and last name based on an individual's preference.

Printable versions of the FFA ceremonies featured in this manual are available on *FFA.org/chapterresources*.

Opening and Closing Ceremonies

Opening the Meeting

When the time set for opening the meeting arrives, the president, after quietly arranging for any necessary officer substitutions, rises, raps for attention, secures order and proceeds as indicated below. The other officers rise as called upon by the vice president and remain standing until seated by the president.

President: "The _____ (meeting room, banquet hall, etc.) will come to order. We are now holding a meeting of the _____ (chapter name, district name, etc.) FFA _____ (chapter, district, etc.) Mr./Mdm. Vice President or Vice President (Last Name), are all officers at their stations?"

Vice President: *(Rising and facing the president)* "I shall call the roll of officers, determine if they are at their stations and report back to you, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name)."



Vice President: *(Calling roll of officers)* "The sentinel."

Sentinel: "Stationed by the door."

Vice President: "Your duties there?"

Sentinel: "Through this door pass many friends of the FFA. It is my duty to see that the door is open to our friends at all times and that they are welcome. I care for the meeting room and paraphernalia. I strive to keep the room comfortable and assist the president in maintaining order."

Vice President: "The reporter."

Reporter: "The reporter is stationed by the flag."

Vice President: "Why by the flag?"

Reporter: "As the flag covers the United States of America, so I strive to inform the people in order that every man, woman and child may know that the FFA is a national organization that reaches from the state of Alaska to the Virgin Islands and from the state of Maine to Hawaii."

Vice President: "The treasurer."

Treasurer: "Stationed at the emblem of Washington."

Vice President: "Your duties there?"

Treasurer: "I keep a record of receipts and disbursements just as Washington kept his farm accounts—carefully and accurately. I encourage thrift among the members and strive to build up our financial standing through savings and investments. George Washington was better able to serve his country because he was financially independent."

Vice President: "The secretary."

Secretary: "Stationed by the ear of corn."

Vice President: "Your duties there?"

Secretary: "I keep an accurate record of all meetings and correspond with other secretaries wherever corn is grown and FFA members meet."

Vice President: "The advisor."

Advisor: "Here by the owl."

Vice President: "Why stationed by the owl?"

Advisor: "The owl is a time-honored emblem of knowledge and wisdom. Being older than the rest of you, I am asked to advise you from time to time, as the need arises. I hope that my advice will always be based on true knowledge and ripened with wisdom.

"Mr./Mdm. Vice President or Vice President (Last Name), why do you keep a plow at your station?"

Vice President: "The plow is the symbol of labor and tillage of the soil. Without labor, neither knowledge nor wisdom can accomplish much. My duties require me to assist at all times in directing the work of our organization. I preside over meetings in the absence of our president, whose place is beneath the rising sun."

Advisor: "Why is the president so stationed?"

Vice President: "The rising sun is the token of a new era in agriculture. If we will follow the leadership of our president, we shall be led out of the darkness of selfishness and into the glorious sunlight of brotherhood and cooperation. Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), all officers are at their stations."

President: *(Rises and faces the vice president)* "Thank you, Mr./Mdm. Vice President or Vice President (Last Name)." (All take seats at tap of gavel.) "The secretary will call the roll of members."

Secretary: "There are _____ members and _____ guests present, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name)."

President: "Thank you. FFA members, why are we here?" *(All members stand at three taps of gavel.)*

All members in unison: "To practice brotherhood, honor agricultural opportunities

and responsibilities and develop those qualities of leadership which an FFA member should possess." *(All are seated at one tap of gavel.)*

President: "May we accomplish our purposes. I now declare this meeting of the _____ (chapter name, district name, etc.) FFA _____ (chapter, district, etc.) duly open for the transaction of business, or attention to any matters which may properly be presented."

Note: The secretary may call the complete roll if necessary and report on that basis. However, it is a time-consuming procedure for a local chapter because all members' names are in the secretary's book and can be quickly consulted and checked beforehand.

Closing the Meeting

When the business at hand has been disposed of or an appointed time for closing has arrived, the procedure is as indicated below.

President: "Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name), do you have a record of any further business which should now be transacted?"

Secretary: *(Rises, replies and is seated.)* "I have none, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name)."

President: "Does any member know of any new or unfinished business which should properly come before this meeting? *(If no answer, proceed as follows.)*

"We are about to adjourn this meeting of the _____ (chapter name, district name, etc.) FFA _____ (chapter, district, etc.). As we mingle with others, let us be diligent in labor, just in our dealings, courteous to everyone and, above all, honest and fair in the game of life. Fellow members and guests, join me in a salute to our flag."

(Tap three times with gavel to call members to stand, face the flag at the reporter's station and, with their right hands over their hearts, repeat the following salute.)

All in unison: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

President: "I now declare this meeting adjourned." *(Tap once with gavel and the meeting is adjourned.)*

Examples of opening and closing ceremonies, which outline responsibilities for a chapter's historian and parliamentarian officers, are available at *FFA.org/chapterresources.*

Discovery FFA Degree Ceremony

Secretary: "Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), I have the applications for _____ (number) students enrolled in (agricultural education, agriscience, agribusiness, horticulture, etc.) who are candidates for the Discovery FFA Degree."

President: "Our constitution outlines minimum qualifications for this degree. We shall now determine if these candidates qualify. Mr./Mdm. Advisor or Advisor (Last Name), have all candidates paid full FFA dues at local, state and national levels?"

Advisor: "They have."

President: "Have they each participated in at least one chapter activity outside of scheduled class time?"

Advisor: "They have."

President: "Have these candidates met all other minimum qualifications of Article 6, Section B of the national constitution?"

Advisor: "They have."

President: "The secretary will please read the names of the successful candidates."

(Secretary reads the list of candidate names)

President: "Will the officers take their places beside me?



(After officers are stationed by the president.) "Will the candidates please rise? Candidates, you are about to receive the Discovery FFA Degree in a national organization of members who will become the leaders in the broad industry of agriculture. Will you strive to continue development of your personal and professional skills through participation in the FFA? If so, answer 'We will'."

Candidates: "We will."

Secretary: "I am proud to add these names to the list of our membership embarking on a journey of personal growth and premier leadership development which will lead them to career success in the broad field of agriculture."

Advisor: "Today, you take the first step in an exciting journey which can provide you with experiences which will set a foundation for success that will carry throughout your life. I challenge you to grasp all the opportunities offered and wish you every success in that journey."

President: "Fellow officers, join me in welcoming these recipients of the Discovery FFA Degree." *(President leads applause and welcomes each candidate with a handshake. Other officers shake hands with the newly installed degree recipients as well.)*

Greenhand FFA Degree Ceremony

Secretary: "Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), I have the applications for _____ (number) students enrolled in (agricultural education, agriscience, agribusiness, horticulture, etc.) who are candidates for the Greenhand FFA Degree."

President: "Our constitution outlines minimum qualifications for this degree. We shall now determine if these candidates qualify. Mr./Mdm. Advisor or Advisor (Last Name), do all candidates have satisfactory plans for programs of supervised agricultural experience?"

Advisor: "They have." *(The advisor should give a brief summary statement regarding enrollment, production agriculture, ornamental horticulture, agribusiness, etc., including career plans and supervised agricultural experience programs. For example, number of students in production agriculture, number of students in horticulture, number of students in agribusiness.)*

President: "Have these candidates met all other minimum qualifications of Article 6, Section C of the national constitution?"

Advisor: "They have."

President: "The secretary will please read the names of the successful candidates."

(Secretary does so.)

President: "Will the officers please take their places beside me?

(After officers are stationed by president.)

"Will the candidates please rise? Candidates, you are about to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree in a national organization of members who expect to enter a career in the industry of agriculture. Will you strive to further develop your abilities through active participation in the FFA? If so, answer 'We will'."

Candidates: "We will."

President: "The basic beliefs of FFA members are outlined in the FFA Creed, which will be presented by _____ (officer, member, greenhand, etc.)."

(FFA Creed is presented.)

President: "I hope that you will always carry the spirit of the Creed in your hearts and the words in your memory."

Sentinel: "Career development is a life-long process. Your activities in this organization will help you acquire the ability to cooperate with others for the benefit of all. A good attitude and a respect for the rights of others are essential for success in life."

Reporter: "The vast agricultural complex forms the foundation of our American economy. You have chosen well by your expression of interest in a future career in this, our nation's largest field of endeavor."

Treasurer: "By your enrollment in agricultural education, you have taken an important step toward becoming a useful citizen in our democracy. May you, like George Washington, use your talents and training for the betterment of yourselves and your fellow man."

Secretary: "The FFA is a national organization of young men and women preparing for careers in agriculture. I am proud to add your name to the roll of the _____ FFA Chapter, _____ (State) Association and the National Organization."

Vice President: "Success in a career and in life is largely the result of a sound education and a willingness to work. Without labor, we accomplish little, and unless our labor is directed by intelligent thinking, we accomplish nothing."

Advisor: "The pin worn by Greenhands is made of bronze. Because of its hardness and endurance, bronze has been used for ages by those who sought a better substitute for crude stone instruments. May those qualities of hardness and endurance carry you far in our organization.

"Although you have done well and merit this recognition, let me remind you that there are heights yet to be attained. Just as there are metals more precious than bronze, there are rarer and more precious laurels to be won in our organization. The silver pin of the Chapter FFA Degree and the golden charm of the State FFA Degree await those who earn them. In order to attain these higher degrees, you must possess rare and golden qualities. You must be malleable, but never crushed; ductile, but never drawn into anything base or dishonorable; glowing with enthusiasm, but unaltered by the heat of conflict. It is my sincere wish that some of you will eventually be awarded the golden key of the American FFA Degree.

"Your future is before you. Through hard work and wise decisions, you can attain the highest place in our organization so eagerly sought by all worthy members."

President: "The FFA organization practices agricultural leadership, citizenship and cooperation. If you develop your abilities, you may become a leader in this organization. We need you, and the country needs strong leadership. We now welcome you as Greenhands. The advisor will now present each of you with the Greenhand pin."

Chapter FFA Degree Ceremony

Secretary: "Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), it is my privilege to announce that _____ (number) members are candidates for the Chapter FFA Degree." *(Reads their names.)*

President: "Our constitution sets up minimum qualifications which must be met before members advance to a higher degree. The secretary will please read the section of our constitution which outlines the standards for this degree."

Secretary: *(Reads Article 6, Section D.)* "To be eligible to receive the Chapter FFA Degree from the chapter, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least 180 hours of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agricultural education course.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
    a. Earned and productively invested at least $150 by the member's own efforts; or worked at least 45 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or a combination thereof; and
    b. Developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Have effectively led a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
7. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA award programs.
8. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
9. Have participated in at least 10 hours of community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.
10. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree."

(Other requirements may be established by the chapter and/or the state FFA association.)

President: "Mr./Mdm. Advisor or Advisor (Last Name), have all candidates met or exceeded these standards?"

Advisor: "They have."

President: "Will the candidates please rise, and will the officers take their positions for this ceremony?"

Sentinel: "Fellowship and brotherhood are desirable aspects of a full and satisfying life. Your many friends in the FFA share with you the satisfaction of your achievement. May you continue to advance in the FFA."

Reporter: "We enjoy many benefits through the FFA. It is important that all of you inform others about this organization so that its influence can be a contributing factor in their lives. Let us work together to build a better America."

Treasurer: "FFA members learn the importance of sound financial practices. The skills you are developing in keeping records and accounts will be valuable assets to you throughout life. May you use this training to support yourself, your family and worthy activities of your community."

Secretary: "You have earned the highest FFA degree a chapter can bestow on its members. As secretary, it is my pleasure to inscribe your name in our permanent records. May you continue your individual growth and development in our organization."

Vice President: "Planning and completing a task brings a certain satisfaction that is the reward of the industrious individual. Our forefathers worked hard to transform America from a wilderness to a great nation. Your attainment of this degree demonstrated your willingness to work. You have done well and have taken a major step toward fulfilling your goals in the FFA."

Advisor: "Those who succeed best in life, regardless of occupation, know the means whereby the great problems may be solved. Ignorance leads to neglect, waste, want and poverty, while wisdom leads to industry, productivity and happiness. You have studied and learned in order to earn this degree. Every worthwhile recognition carries with it additional responsibilities. Your increased leadership ability should be reflected by your further involvement in the activities of our chapter."

President: "The pin symbolizing the Chapter FFA Degree is made of silver. Just as there are metals more precious than silver, there are more precious laurels to be won in our organization. The golden charm of the State FFA Degree and the golden key of the American FFA Degree await those who earn them. It is our hope that you reach these higher goals in our organization. I am pleased to present each of you with the silver pin of the Chapter FFA Degree."

(President presents pin to each candidate. Secretary reads each name as the pins are being presented.)

"Please be seated, and will the officers return to their stations?"

State FFA Degree Ceremony

State President: *(Raps for attention.)* "We shall proceed with the degree ceremonies. Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name), what have you to report concerning candidates eligible for this degree?"

State Secretary: "I am pleased to submit the names of _____ (number) candidates who have been selected by the State Executive Committee to receive the State FFA Degree."

State President: "Our constitution sets up minimum qualifications which must be met before candidates are eligible for election to this degree. Mr./Mdm. Advisor or Advisor (Last Name), have you carefully examined and reviewed the records of these candidates?"

State Advisor: "I have, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), and have found all candidates fully qualified."

State President: "We will now proceed to raise these members to the State FFA Degree. Will the candidates please rise?"

State Sentinel: "The State FFA Degree is the highest degree our state association can bestow. Some of you will one day earn the coveted golden key of the American FFA Degree. We urge you to maintain throughout your adult lives the same enthusiasm and dedication that you bring to this ceremony today."

State Reporter: "It is a great honor to be nominated for the State FFA Degree. It is still a greater honor to be selected for this degree by your fellow members of the _____ FFA Association."

State Treasurer: "Your new achievement brings you greater honors as well as additional responsibilities. You have widened the field of your service and influence in the strengthening of agriculture, the most basic industry of our nation."

State Vice President: "You have been urged to advance toward higher degrees in the FFA. We commend you for your accomplishments and encourage you to work toward new and higher goals in our organization and in your chosen occupation."

State President: "In meeting the requirements of the Greenhand and Chapter FFA Degrees, you were told that the golden charm of the State FFA Degree was awaiting you. The bronze emblem of the Greenhand gave way to the silver emblem of the Chapter FFA Degree which now has evolved into that golden charm. This is symbolic of growth and development in your chosen occupation. May the permanence of the rare and golden qualities of the emblem be a constant reminder of the strength of your education and the worthiness of your achievement. Therefore, on behalf of the _____ FFA Association, I confer upon you the State FFA Degree with its honors and privileges, and present to you this charm, the emblem of the degree."

(The secretary will read the names of the newly elected State FFA Degree recipients who will come forward to receive their charms; each recipient is congratulated by the state officers. All return to their seats.)

State President: "Please be seated. Will the officers return to their stations?"

American FFA Degree Ceremony

National President: *(Raps for attention.)* "We now come to one of the most important activities of the national FFA convention: the election and raising of candidates to the American FFA Degree. This degree marks the highest level of membership which may be achieved in our organization.

"As you know, our constitution sets qualifications which must be met before candidates are eligible for election to the American FFA Degree. Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name), will you please read the qualifications for this degree?"

National Secretary: *(Rises and reads the qualifications as set forth in Article 6, Section F, of the National FFA Constitution.)*

"To be eligible to receive the American FFA Degree from the National FFA Organization, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Have received the State FFA Degree, have been an active member for the past three years (36 months) and have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities on the chapter and state levels.
2. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least three years (540 hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an agricultural education program or to have completed at least the equivalent of 360 hours of systematic secondary school instruction in agricultural education and one full year of enrollment in a postsecondary agricultural program or have completed the program of agricultural education offered in the secondary school last attended.
3. Have graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be granted.
4. Have in operation and have maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has exhibited comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise.
5. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   a. Earned at least $10,000 and productively invested at least $7,500; or
   b. Earned and productively invested $2,000 and worked 2,250 hours in excess of scheduled class time. Any combination of hours, times a factor of 3.56, plus actual dollars earned and productively invested must be equal to or greater than the number 10,000. Hours used for the purpose of producing earnings reported as productively invested income shall not be duplicated as hours of credit to meet the minimum requirements for the degree.
6. Have a record of outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement and have achieved a high school scholastic record of "C" or better as certified by the principal or superintendent."
7. Have participated in at least 50 hours of community service, within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

National President: "Mr./Mdm. Advisor or Advisor (Last Name), have the records of each of these candidates been carefully reviewed?"

National Advisor: "They have, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name). All candidates nominated have been found worthy of the honor of the American FFA Degree and are recommended for approval at this time."

National President: "The chair will entertain a motion to approve these candidates for the American FFA Degree."
(One delegate moves and another seconds that the candidates recommended receive the American FFA Degree. Vote should be taken on all candidates at the same time.)

National President: "Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name), what is the result of the vote?"

National Secretary: "Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), the vote is _____ to _____ (or unanimous)."

National President: "Thank you, Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name). I now declare the candidates approved according to your vote. Will the other national officers prepare to raise these members to the American FFA Degree? Will the candidates please stand?"

(All candidates RISE at three taps of the gavel. Candidates REMAIN STANDING during the ceremony as officers recite the ritual.)

Fourth Vice President: "Congratulations! By your accomplishments you have proven not only your interest but your efficiency in agriculture, the world's essential industry. You are entitled to the honor and privileges which accompany the American FFA Degree. May your efforts in the future be as meaningful and productive as they have been in the past."

Third Vice President: "As your officers, it is our duty to acknowledge achievement in a fitting and proper manner according to the provisions of our constitution. We know you are proud to have attained your goal, and we are equally proud to reward your efforts in the name of the National FFA Organization."

Second Vice President: "Boundaries within our country exist only in name. True American citizens are interested in and loyal to their local communities and states, but their greatest devotion is to their country. Recipients of the American FFA Degree see beyond limited horizons. They concern themselves not only with the affairs of their local chapters and state associations, but also with the National FFA Organization, working for the advancement of agriculture, which, in turn, strengthens America."

First Vice President: "As recipients of the Greenhand, Chapter and State FFA degrees, you were encouraged to advance to the American FFA Degree. Through your untiring efforts you have now succeeded in attaining a significant goal. This honor carries with it additional responsibility, and we look upon this occasion as a milestone in your life of achievement in agriculture. Your vision has expanded beyond the limits of your community and the confines of your state until it reached the broad horizon of the great United States of America. Therefore, you are expected to set a worthy example of a progressive agriculturist and to exert leadership in local, state and national affairs."



National Advisor: "I charge you to continue your demonstrated faith in agriculture. Always be proud to work in the industry of agriculture and value your achievements. With all the virtues of independence in thought and action, be mindful of your individual limitations and your vital need to cooperate with your neighbors in the larger business and social activities which have become an essential part of our society. Remember, 'in union there is strength.'"

National President: "The fact that the emblem of the FFA is surmounted by an American eagle is significant. The eagle is symbolic of strength, courage, the national scope of our organization and the extended honor which has been conferred upon you.

"From earliest times, the eagle has been used as an emblem of leadership, power and progress. At the head of their legions, the Romans carried a golden eagle perched upon a spear.

"In 1782, the United States adopted as its emblem the eagle with outspread wings, a shield upon its breast and holding an olive branch and a sheaf of arrows in its talons. The eagle is a bird of superb strength, keenness of sight and marvelous powers of flight. As the eagle soars high, so let your vision soar and lead you to greater heights of achievement. Bring clear and purposeful thought to bear on your problems. Be strong and fearless in spirit and action.

"On behalf of the National FFA Organization, I confer upon you the American FFA Degree, together with its honors and privileges."

(Candidates BE SEATED at 1 tap of the gavel.) "Will the vice president escort the newly-elected degree recipients to the platform to receive a key and a certificate?"

(Candidates receive the degree as their names are read.)

National President: "Please be seated. Will the officers return to their stations?"

Honorary Degree Ceremony

President: "It is always an honor to recognize our valued FFA Alumni and Supporters with the Honorary FFA Degree. The purpose of this ceremony is to recognize, from time to time, the efforts of others made on our behalf. Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name), please read the section of the national constitution which provides for the Honorary FFA Degree." (Reads Article VI, Section G.)

Secretary: "Honorary FFA Degree—farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards of education, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural education, business people and others who are helping to advance agricultural education and the FFA and who have rendered outstanding service, may be elected to receive an honorary FFA degree by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting or convention."

President: "Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name), will you introduce those who are to receive this honor?"

Secretary: "Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), members and guests, I am pleased to read the following names:"

(Secretary reads the names of the recipient(s)).

President: "Will the officers take their places beside me? Will the ushers please present the candidates?"

(To explain why the honor is being conferred, the secretary gives a summary of what each candidate has done.)

Sentinel*: "I welcome you as friends of the FFA. It is my privilege as sentinel to extend to each of you the symbolic handclasp of friendship and brotherhood."

Reporter*: "As reporter, I am pleased to inform you that the FFA is a national youth organization whose purpose is to develop agricultural leaders. Congratulations on this honor."

Treasurer*: "Your contribution as a useful citizen in our democracy serves as an example for our members to follow. As treasurer, I thank you for your service to our organization."

Secretary*: "The FFA needs counsel and guidance from recognized leaders. It is my pleasure as secretary to add your names to our roll of honorary FFA degree recipients."

Vice President*: "As vice president, I thank you for all that you have provided to the FFA. I would inform you that our members learn to appreciate the dignity of labor. Without labor, neither knowledge nor wisdom can accomplish much."

President: "On behalf of every member, I wish to say we are proud to have you as honorary FFA degree recipients. May this recognition prove valuable to all. I impress upon you that we look to you for counsel and guidance. It is because of the great respect we have for you that you have been elected to receive the honorary FFA degree. May we always cooperate for the benefit of all. I now confer upon you the honorary FFA degree and adult membership from the _____ FFA (chapter, association, etc.) and present you with this as recognition of this extreme honor."

** These portions may be omitted if it is desired to shorten this ceremony. Italicized portions may be omitted in the event that officers other than those indicated are presenting the parts.*

Ceremony for Installing Officers

Retiring President: "_____, as president-elect, you have been selected by your fellow members to be the leader of our chapter* for the coming year. You are therefore responsible for guiding our chapter* in all its worthy undertakings. May you work intelligently and seriously to fulfill the responsibilities of your office."



Retiring Vice President: "_____, as vice president-elect, your record of accomplishment indicates you have those qualities of leadership which we should all possess. You are to assist the president in directing the work of our chapter*, preside over meetings in his/her absence and keep all committees working effectively."

Retiring Secretary: "_____, as secretary-elect, you have been chosen to keep accurate minutes of our meetings and to carry on the chapter* correspondence. You should provide the chapter* with the order of business and committee assignments for each meeting. You will also keep a list of members, a record of degrees awarded and have custody of the constitution and bylaws."

Retiring Treasurer: "_____, as treasurer-elect, you have been placed in a position of trust. Your duties require you to keep an accurate record of receipts and disbursements and to provide regular financial reports. It is also your responsibility to assist in developing the chapter* budget and maintaining sound financial practices."

Retiring Reporter: "_____, as reporter-elect, your duty is to inform the public about the FFA. You are expected to work closely with the news media, including state and national FFA publications. You should keep a record of photographs and articles published concerning the FFA and its members and be responsible for compiling our FFA history."

Retiring Sentinel: "_____, as sentinel-elect, your duties include welcoming our friends, caring for the meeting rooms and FFA equipment and providing for the comfort of our members and guests. It is also your duty to assist in conducting meetings and ceremonies."

Retiring President: "It is an honor to be an officer in the FFA. From time to time during the year, you may encounter difficult problems, but through cooperation, hard work and dedication, you will succeed and the FFA will prosper. Do each of you accept the responsibilities of your office, and will you do your best to uphold the ideals and principles of the FFA? If so, answer 'We do'."

Newly Elected Officers: "We do."

Retiring President: "I now declare each of you properly and duly installed in the respective office to which you were elected. May your year of service be marked by integrity, dedication and a cooperative spirit. Seek harmony among your fellow officers and set high standards of leadership for all chapter* members. Retiring officers (turning to them), will you please escort the newly installed officers to their stations?"

(The new president presents brief remarks.)

*Use association, organization, etc. when appropriate.

This and all ceremonies can be found on *FFA.org/chapterresources*.





National Quality FFA Chapter Standards

The key to a successful FFA chapter is active members! When you become actively involved in your chapter, you strengthen the chapter. In return, a strong local chapter provides a solid foundation for your success in FFA and beyond. The experiences of thousands of former FFA members prove that the following features will contribute greatly to the success of your FFA chapter and to your success as well.

The National Quality FFA Chapter Standards serve as a foundation for consistent delivery of quality FFA chapters across the nation focused on growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. These standards are designed to be used by local advisors, administration, community partners and/or stakeholders, FFA Alumni and Supporters and/or an assessment team to conduct an evaluation of the local FFA chapter and develop clear goals and objectives for chapter improvement.

The National Quality FFA Chapter Standards include the following 13 indicators:

1. All students enrolled in the agricultural education program have the opportunity to be a member of FFA.

2. Students build a progressive leadership and personal development plan.

3. All students participate in meaningful leadership and personal development activities in each component of the agricultural education program:
   - Classroom and laboratory instruction.
   - Experiential, project, and work-based learning through SAEs.
   - Leadership and personal development through FFA.

4. The FFA chapter constitution and bylaws are up-to-date and approved by chapter members.

5. FFA members are involved in the planning and implementation of a Program of Activities (POA).

Official Chapter Equipment

1 FFA Banner

A Complete Set of Officer Station Markers (Symbols)

7 or More Official FFA Manuals

1 Official FFA Flag

1 Gavel and Block

1 Scrapbook

*All items are available on *ShopFFA.org*.

6. The FFA chapter conducts regularly scheduled chapter meetings.
7. An awards recognition program planned and conducted by FFA members is in place.
8. The FFA chapter has a current budget, which provides the financial resources to support the POA.
9. Capable and trained officers lead the FFA chapter.
10. The FFA chapter has an active, dedicated support group (i.e., FFA Alumni and Supporters and agriculture booster club).
11. Stakeholders are engaged in developing and supporting a quality chapter.
12. An SAE is an integral component of the agricultural education program, with all students maintaining an exploratory SAE and career plan of study.
13. A recruitment and retention plan is yielding steady or increasing student enrollment.

For more information, including a detailed rubric, visit *FFA.org/participate/awards/national-chapter/*.

Program of Activities

The Program of Activities (POA) serves to define chapter goals, outline steps needed to meet those goals and act as a written guide to provide a summary of events the chapter will follow in the year ahead. A well-planned POA will ensure chapter activities meet the needs of its members, provide direction from year to year, lead to a workable budget, provide experience in planning and serve as a reference point throughout the year.

Success is a result of creative planning and detailed preparation. In order to invest in chapter success, students set goals and plan the necessary steps to accomplish these goals. By engaging in the development and delivery of a quality POA, students develop leadership and planning skills that are essential in all careers. The key to a quality POA is getting every member involved.

Tools are available on FFA.org to help chapters prepare their annual POA.






THE FFA CREED

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds—achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so—for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

The FFA Creed was written by E. M. Tiffany and adopted at the 3rd National FFA Convention. It was revised at the 38th convention and the 63rd convention.

OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES

When the time set for opening the meeting arrives, the president, after quietly arranging for any necessary officer substitutions, rises, raps for attention, secures order and proceeds as indicated below. The other officers rise as called upon by the vice president and remain standing until seated by the president.

Opening a Meeting

President: "The (meeting room, banquet hall, etc.) will come to order. We are now holding a meeting of the_____ (chapter name, district name, etc.) FFA_____ (chapter, district, etc.). Mr./Mdm. Vice President or Vice President (Last Name), are all officers at their stations?"

Vice President: (Rises and faces the president) "I shall call the roll of officers, determine if they are at their stations and report back to you, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name)."

Vice President: (Calling roll of officers) "The sentinel."

Sentinel: "Stationed by the door."

Vice President: "Your duties there?"

Sentinel: "Through this door pass many friends of the FFA. It is my duty to see that the door is open to our friends at all times and that they are welcome. I care for the meeting room and paraphernalia. I strive to keep the room comfortable and assist the president in maintaining order."

Vice President: "The reporter."

Reporter: "The reporter is stationed by the flag."

Vice President: "Why by the flag?"

Reporter: "As the flag covers the United States of America, so I strive to inform the people in order that every man, woman and child may know that the FFA is a national organization that reaches from the state of Alaska to the Virgin Islands and from the state of Maine to Hawaii."

Vice President: "The treasurer."

Treasurer: "Stationed at the emblem of Washington."

Vice President: "Your duties there?"

Treasurer: "I keep a record of receipts and disbursements just as Washington kept his farm accounts—carefully and accurately. I encourage thrift among the members and strive to build up our financial standing through savings and investments. George Washington was better able to serve his country because he was financially independent."

Vice President: "The secretary."

Secretary: "Stationed by the ear of corn."

Vice President: "Your duties there?"

Secretary: "I keep an accurate record of all meetings and correspond with other secretaries wherever corn is grown and FFA members meet."

Vice President: "The advisor."

Advisor: "Here by the owl."

Vice President: "Why stationed by the owl?"

Advisor: "The owl is a time-honored emblem of knowledge and wisdom. Being older than the rest of you, I am asked to advise you from time to time, as the need arises. I hope that my advice will always be based on true knowledge and ripened with wisdom.

"Mr./Mdm. Vice President or Vice President (Last Name), why do you keep a plow at your station?"

Vice President: "The plow is the symbol of labor and tillage of the soil. Without labor, neither knowledge nor wisdom can accomplish much. My duties require me to assist at all times in directing the work of our organization. I preside over meetings in the absence of our president, whose place is beneath the rising sun."

Advisor: "Why is the president so stationed?"

Vice President: "The rising sun is the token of a new era in agriculture. If we will follow the leadership of our president, we shall be led out of the darkness of selfishness and into the glorious sunlight of brotherhood and cooperation. Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name), all officers are at their stations."

President: (Rises and faces the vice president) "Thank you, Mr./Mdm. Vice President or Vice President (Last Name)." (All take seats at tap of gavel.) "The secretary will call the roll of members."

Secretary: "There are_____ members and _____guests present, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name)."

President: "Thank you. FFA members, why are we here?" (All members stand at three taps of gavel.)

All members in unison: "To practice brotherhood, honor agricultural opportunities and responsibilities and develop those qualities of leadership which an FFA member should possess." (All are seated at one tap of gavel.)

President: "May we accomplish our purposes. I now declare this meeting of the_____ (chapter name, district name, etc.) FFA _____(chapter, district, etc.) duly open for the transaction of business, or attention to any matters which may properly be presented."

Note: The secretary may call the complete roll if necessary and report on that basis. However, it is a time-consuming procedure for a local chapter because all members' names are in the secretary's book and can be quickly consulted and checked beforehand.





When the business at hand has been disposed of or an appointed time for closing has arrived, the procedure is as indicated below.

CLOSING

Closing a Meeting

President: "Mr./Mdm. Secretary or Secretary (Last Name), do you have a record of any further business which should now be transacted?"

Secretary: (Rises, replies and is seated.) "I have none, Mr./Mdm. President or President (Last Name)."

President: "Does any member know of any new or unfinished business which should properly come before this meeting? (If no answer, proceed as follows.)

"We are about to adjourn this meeting of the_____ (chapter name, district name, etc.) FFA_____ (chapter, district, etc.). As we mingle with others, let us be diligent in labor, just in our dealings, courteous to everyone and, above all, honest and fair in the game of life. Fellow members and guests, join me in a salute to our flag."

(Tap three times with gavel to call members to stand, face the flag at the reporter's station and, with their right hands over their hearts, repeat the following salute.)

All in unison: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

President: "I now declare this meeting adjourned." (Tap once with gavel, and the meeting is adjourned.)

NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION



Chapter Officers

Chapter officers serve a vital function in FFA. By taking a major leadership role, these students grow from the experience and benefit the chapter. It should be the officers' goals to lead by example and encourage other members to participate in chapter activities. The following are general duties expected of all officers:

- A genuine desire to be part of a leadership team.
- A willingness to accept responsibility.
- A sincere desire to work with all chapter members in meeting their leadership, personal and chapter goals.
- A commitment to lead by example.
- Knowledge and understanding of the chapter, state and national FFA constitutions, bylaws and programs.
- A working knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
- The ability to memorize official ceremonies.

There are specific duties and responsibilities that generally relate directly to each office:

President

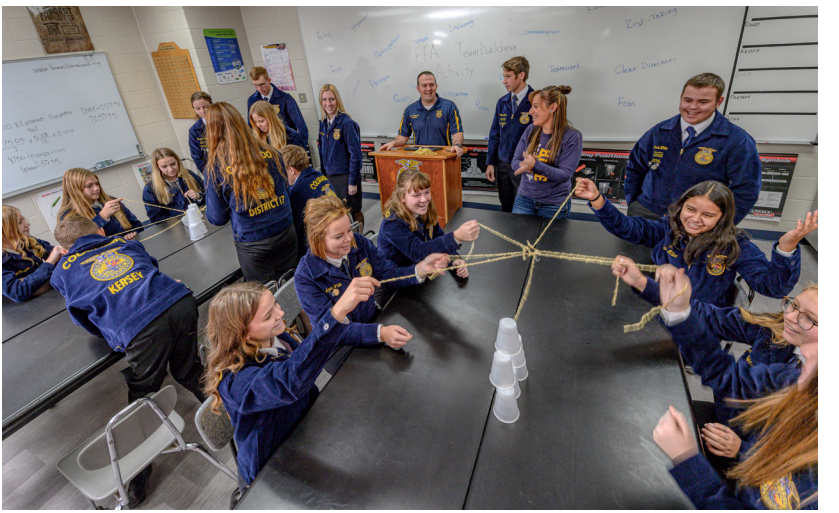
- Preside over meetings according to accepted rules of parliamentary procedure.
- Appoint committees and serve on them as an ex-officio.
- Coordinate the activities of the chapter and evaluate the progress of each division of the POA.
- Represent the chapter in public relations and official functions.

Vice President

- Assume all duties of the president, if necessary.
- Develop the POA and serve as an ex-officio member of the POA committees.
- Coordinate all committee work.
- Work closely with the president and advisor to assess progress toward meeting chapter goals.

Secretary

- Prepare and post the agenda for each chapter meeting.
- Prepare and present the minutes of each chapter meeting.
- Place all committee reports in the secretary's file.
- Be responsible for chapter correspondence.
- Maintain member attendance and activity records and issue membership cards.
- Have on hand for each meeting:
  - The secretary's file
  - Copy of the POA, including all standing and special committees.
  - *Official FFA Manual* and the *Official FFA Student Handbook*.
  - Copy of the chapter constitution and bylaws.



Treasurer

- Receive, record and deposit FFA funds and issue receipts.
- Present monthly treasurer reports at chapter meetings.
- Collect dues and special assessments.
- Maintain neat and accurate treasury records.
- Prepare and submit the membership roster and dues to the National FFA Organization through the state FFA association office in cooperation with the secretary.
- Serve as chairperson of the finance or related committee.

Reporter

- Serve as chair of the POA public relations or related committee.
- Plan public information programs with local radio, television, newspaper and service clubs and make use of other opportunities to tell the FFA story.
- Release news and information to local and regional news media.
- Publish a chapter newsletter or website.
- Prepare and maintain a chapter scrapbook.
- Send local stories to area, district and state reporters and to any school publications.
- Send articles and photographs to FFA New Horizons and other national and regional publications and websites.
- Work with local media on radio and television appearances and FFA news.
- Serve as the chapter photographer.

Sentinel

- Assist the president in maintaining order.
- Keep the meeting room, chapter equipment and supplies in proper condition.
- Welcome guests and visitors.
- Keep the meeting room comfortable.
- Take charge of candidates for degree ceremonies.
- Assist with special features and refreshments.

Advisor

- Supervise chapter activities year-round.
- Inform prospective students and parents about FFA.
- Instruct students in leadership and personal development.
- Build school and community support for the program.
- Encourage involvement of all chapter members in activities.
- Prepare students for involvement in career development events and leadership programs.

Additional Officers a Chapter Might Elect*

Historian

- Develop and maintain a scrapbook of memorabilia to record the chapter's history.
- Research and prepare items of significance of the chapter's history.
- Prepare displays of chapter activities and submit stories of former members to the media.
- Assist the reporter in providing photography for chapter needs.

Parliamentarian

- Be proficient with parliamentary procedure.
- Rule on all questions of parliamentary conduct at chapter meetings.
- Serve as a participant or an ex-officio member of the parliamentary procedure team.
- Conduct parliamentary procedure workshops at the chapter level.
- Chair or serve as ex-officio member on the conduct of meetings committee.

Chaplain

- Present the invocation at banquets and other functions.
- Conduct reflections services at summer camps and conferences.

Other Possibilities

To meet local needs and to expand leadership opportunities, other officers may be designated at the chapter and mini-chapter level. Each officer group should at least have the six parliamentary offices. Further information is available in the *Official FFA Student Handbook*.

**Opening ceremonies for other officer positions can be found on FFA.org.*

Becoming a State or National Officer

FFA members who take advantage of the many leadership opportunities in FFA become top leaders in the organization. Each state elects a group of student officers to lead its membership for the year. Qualified candidates must have obtained the State FFA Degree. Once elected, state officers engage in a leadership development continuum that reinforces their prior knowledge and trainings for position-related work that builds upon each other.

National FFA office is the highest elected office in the organization. Members must have received the American FFA Degree and be selected by their state association to be a national officer candidate. All candidates go through intensive interviews conducted by a nominating committee at the National FFA Convention & Expo. National officers are then elected to lead the organization.

Chapter Meetings

Every chapter meeting should be an informative and enjoyable experience. Besides conducting chapter business, good meetings may include entertainment, guest speakers, recreation and refreshments. Variety in programs is essential for maintaining successful meetings and member attendance.

Planning Chapter Meetings

The executive committee should plan the agenda and post it in the chapter meeting room several days prior to each meeting. Members should discuss the items of business with the advisor's guidance.

Official opening and closing ceremonies are to be used at all meetings. Well-performed ceremonies build pride and enthusiasm not only in the officer team but within the entire chapter. A majority of chapter business should involve items planned in the Program of Activities.

As meetings are planned, preparations must be made in advance by the officer team. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Placing the meeting schedule on the school's activity calendar before the start of the school year.
- Making sure officer and committee reports are written and ready to present.
- Posting the agenda several days prior to the meeting to give all members a chance to prepare for discussion and encourage attendance.
- Having one or two chapter officers visit with each class prior to the meeting to share the agenda and generate discussion.
- Assigning all responsibilities for special guests, programs, recreation and refreshments.

Arranging the Meeting Room

An organized meeting room will set the stage for conducting chapter business. The correct room arrangement for a meeting is diagrammed on the next page. The following station markers should be placed at the officers' stations:

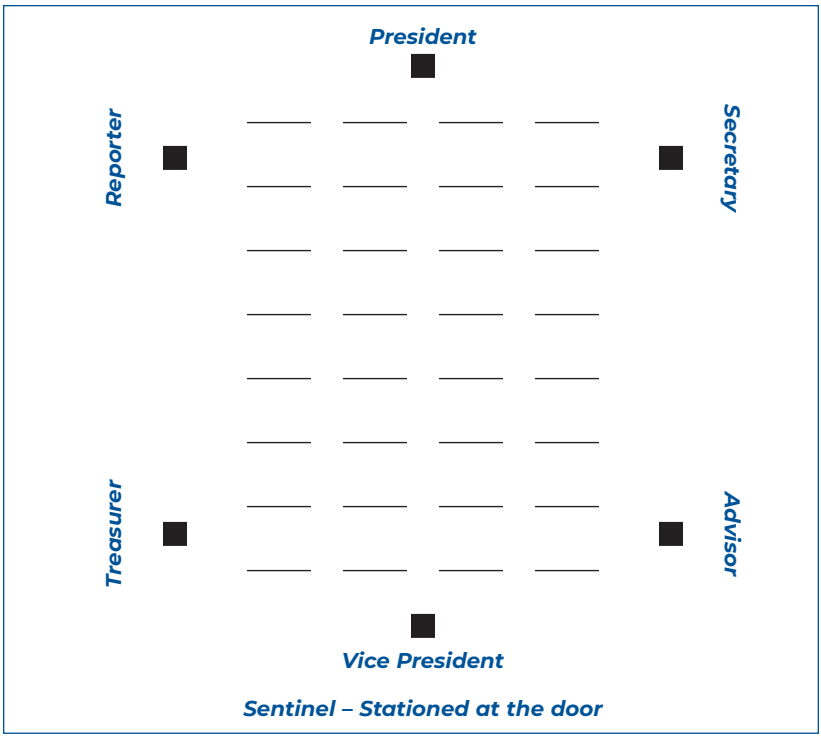
- Rising Sun – President
- Plow – Vice President
- Ear of Corn – Secretary
- Bust of Washington – Treasurer
- American Flag – Reporter
- Owl – Advisor
- Shield of Friendship – Sentinel

Optional Officer Stations:

- Fasces – Parliamentarian
- Historical Scroll – Historian
- Dove – Chaplain

A properly furnished meeting room adds dignity to FFA functions and instills pride in the members. The sentinel should make sure the chairs and podium are correctly positioned and the stations for each office are in place prior to each meeting. All of this equipment should be kept presentable at all times and properly displayed or stored when not in use. The American flag must be prominently displayed.

A little imagination can transform a traditional meeting room into an interesting depiction of chapter achievement. Many chapters display a "wall of fame" featuring chapter trophies, plaques, ribbons, certificates and other awards. A photographic display of State and American FFA Degree recipients, winning teams or individuals encourages members to excel.



An attractive bulletin board provides a place to post the upcoming agenda, notices, announcements, photos, news clippings, current project status and much more. Some chapters have an executive work area where the officers may meet and keep their records.

The American Flag

The American flag is used as a symbol to foster citizenship among members. It should be displayed at all official FFA meetings and functions. The following are some simple rules governing its use:

- The flag shall never be subjected to contempt, disrespect or insult.
- It may not be used for advertising purposes, and nothing should be attached to the cloth of the flag.
- No other flag or pennant should be displayed above the flag.
- Never allow the flag to touch the ground or to be used as drapery or as a costume.
- Always carry the flag aloft and free.
- March right in a line of flags or in front of the center of the other flags.
- When the flag is displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the stars should be in the top left corner.
- A flag in poor condition should be destroyed as a whole, privately, preferably by burning.

For more information, refer to Flag Rules and Regulations at *usflag.org/flagetiquette.html.*

Order of Business

An established order of business should be followed at all chapter meetings. When members know what to expect, they can participate more effectively. The following order is suggested for regular meetings but can be changed to suit individual chapter needs. The most important reason for using this order is so that significant items will not be overlooked and member participation will be heightened.

Opening Ceremony should be conducted, including the call to order, roll call and quorum determination.

Reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting should be prepared and presented by the secretary and approved by the members as read or as amended. Their reading is omitted if they were sent to members in advance.

Reports of officers, boards and standing committees—The treasurer, and all other officer reports, should be presented. Standing committee reports are presented in the order they are listed in the bylaws.

Reports of special (select or ad hoc) committees that were established for a specific project should present their findings in the order the committees were appointed.

Special orders allows the consideration of specially scheduled business at this time.

Unfinished business and general orders are designed to consider motions that were pending and items on the agenda that were not considered when the previous meeting adjourned, motions that were postponed to the present meeting, and motions that were laid on the table.

New business allows members to introduce new items for consideration that are on the meeting agenda and others introduced by chapter members.

Special features include speakers, panels, guest appearances, award presentations and other nonbusiness items.

Ceremonies are used only when new members are initiated, Discovery FFA Degrees are awarded, Discovery FFA Degree recipients are raised to the Greenhand FFA Degree, Greenhands are raised to the Chapter FFA Degree or officers are installed.

Announcements

Closing Ceremony

Entertainment, recreation and/or refreshments are planned by the recreation committee and should follow the meeting to increase interest in attendance.

*Guests and speakers frequently are unable to stay through an entire meeting. Special features are positioned early in the program, yet may be changed to suit the needs of the meeting. Official business should be completed before entertainment, recreation or refreshments.

Parliamentary Procedure

FFA chapter meetings are guided by parliamentary procedure according to "Robert's Rules of Order." The purpose of parliamentary procedure is to promote efficient meetings so that business can be transacted in an orderly manner. Each chapter member should know how to conduct and take part in a meeting in order to protect the rights of all members.

A knowledge of parliamentary procedure not only strengthens chapter meetings but also provides members with valuable leadership tools for participation in the chapter, community and other organizations.

Chapter officers, in particular, need to know the rules of parliamentary procedure. Observing parliamentary procedure will ensure that:

- One item is addressed at a time.
- Courtesy is extended to everyone.
- The majority rules.
- The rights of the minority are protected.

Knowledge of parliamentary procedure becomes a life-long asset, valuable for leading or participating in meetings in an informed and efficient way. At the chapter level, officers and members find it much easier to conduct and take part in meetings when supported by a background of parliamentary knowledge.

Use of the Gavel

All officers and members should understand the use and meaning of the gavel. It is the symbol of authority and, when used correctly, ensures orderly meetings.

One tap of the gavel follows the announcement of adjournment, the completion of a business item or is a message to the members to be seated.

Summary of Parliamentary Motions

TABLE OF MOTIONS	Interrupt?	Second?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?	Reconsider?
PRIVILEGED MOTIONS						
Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	Yes
Adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	No
Recess	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	No
Raise a Question of Privilege	Yes (16)	No	No	No	(1)	No
Call for the Orders of the Day	Yes*	No	No	No	(14)*	No
SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS						
Lay on the Table	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	(3)*
Previous Question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes
Limit or Extend Limits of Debate	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	Yes
Postpone to a Certain Time (or Definitely)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes
Commit or Refer	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes
Amend	No	Yes	(5)	Yes	Maj	Yes
Postpone Indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes (15)	No	Maj	(4)
MAIN MOTIONS						
Main Motion	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes
INCIDENTAL MOTIONS (11)						
Suspend the Rules	No	Yes	No	No	(9)*	No
Withdraw a Motion	*	*	No	No	Maj (12)*	(3)
Objection to the Consideration of a Question (10)	Yes	No	No	No	2/3 Neg.	(3)
Point of Order	Yes (17)	No	No*	No	(1)*	No
Parliamentary Inquiry	Yes (18)	No	No	No	(1)	No
Appeal	Yes	Yes	Yes*	No	(7)	Yes
Request for Information	Yes (18)	No	No	No	(1)	No
Division of the Assembly	Yes	No	No	No	(13)	No
Division of a Question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	No
MOTIONS THAT BRING A QUESTION AGAIN BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY (8)						
Reconsider* (2)	No*	Yes	(5) (15)	No	Maj	No
Rescind	No	Yes	Yes (15)	Yes	(6)	(3)
Take from the Table	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	No

The first 12 motions are listed by precedence. After the chair states a motion, higher-ranking motions are in order and lower-ranking motions are not (except for Amend as shown on the chart and Previous Question).

* - Refer to "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" for rule(s)

(1) Chair decides or answers. Normally no vote is taken.
(2) Only made by a member who voted on the prevailing side and is subject to time limits.
(3) Only the negative vote may be reconsidered.
(4) Only the affirmative vote may be reconsidered.
(5) Debatable when applied to a debatable motion.
(6) Majority with notice, or two-thirds without notice or majority of entire membership.
(7) Majority or tie vote sustains the chair.
(8) None of these motions (except Reconsider) is in order when business is pending.
(9) Majority vote required for Ordinary Standing Rules. Two-Thirds votes for Rules of Order.
(10) Must be proposed before debate has begun or a subsidiary motion is stated by the chair (applied to original main motions).
(11) The incidental motions have no precedence (rank). They are in order when the need arises.
(12) The maker of a motion may withdraw it without permission of the assembly before the motion is stated by the chair.
(13) On demand of a single member, the chair must take a rising but not necessarily a counted vote.
(14) Upon a call by a single member, the orders of the day must be enforced.
(15) May go into the merits of the question which is the subject of the underlying action.
(16) Can only interrupt if warranted by the urgency of the situation.
(17) Can only interrupt if the point genuinely requires attention at such a time.
(18) In order when another has the floor if they require immediate attention.



Two taps of the gavel call the meeting to order.

Three taps of the gavel is the signal for all members to **stand in unison on the third tap**.

A **series of sharp taps** is used to restore order at a meeting. For instance, if discussion ventures away from the main motion and attention needs to be brought back to the matter at hand, the chairman should rap the gavel a number of times to get the group's attention.

Summary of Motions

The Summary of Motions can be found on page 57. For more information on parliamentary procedure, see the *Official FFA Student Handbook*. Even more detail is available in parliamentary procedure books such as "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised."

Chapter Banquet

The chapter banquet is the highlight of the year for many FFA chapters. The banquet is an opportunity for chapter members to work together to showcase chapter and individual accomplishments. A carefully planned program should see that every member is recognized for some achievement, whether it be attainment of the Discovery, Greenhand or Chapter FFA degrees, a chapter proficiency award or a scholarship.

The school administration should play a prominent role in the chapter banquet. By presenting scholarships and other awards, superintendents, principals and guidance counselors become part of the team and give recognition to the students' work. Companies and private individuals sponsor proficiency awards and several other awards through the National FFA Foundation or state FFA foundations. When local representatives of the sponsoring companies are available, they should be given the opportunity to make these presentations.

The entire banquet, including the meal and program, should not exceed two-and-a-half hours. If desired, a reception with punch or an open house tour of the facility and a review of projects might precede the banquet.

All chapter members should receive instruction on appearance and table manners. Students should sit with their parents.

Banquet preparations should be assigned to specific members and special committees. Most chapters select a general chairman and form these committees:

- Menu and serving

- Program outline (including entertainment) and creation of the paper program
- Invitations, guest list, thank-you cards and letters
- Room arrangement and decorations
- Publicity (before and after the event)
- Courtesy Corps
- Set up and clean up

Detailed suggestions for planning and conducting a banquet may be found under educator resources on *FFA.org*. *ShopFFA.org* also carries banquet decorations, awards and chapter supplies.

Public Relations

By communicating with your school and community, your FFA chapter can build prestige as a valuable, active and involved organization. This communication and visibility is called public relations. If you take public relations seriously, you and your chapter can benefit from community interest and support — both of which are vital to the success of your FFA projects and agricultural education program.

Although the reporter is charged directly with keeping the community informed of FFA activities, keep in mind that every member has the responsibility to represent agricultural education and FFA. Your actions while you are in Official Dress or other FFA apparel can positively affect the image of FFA in your community.

The public relations effort can be one of the most important and challenging in the chapter, because many of your chapter activities will interest local media. The public relations committee should create a promotion plan, considering the entire year's worth of chapter activities. The chapter reporter serves as chairperson of the public relations committee; members then relay information to the reporter and work with him or her to prepare regular news releases, website updates and social network posts on chapter happenings. The public relations committee can also initiate other publicity activities. It is important to know the newspapers, websites, and radio and television stations serving your area. Assemble contact information for education reporters or community events calendars in all appropriate media. If your school has a school newspaper, make sure you submit regular information to it. A quick visit or phone call to introduce yourself can be a nice personal touch. Talk to the reporters you plan to contact and ask them their preferred format for receiving articles or news releases. They will likely prefer to receive information electronically.

When preparing articles or news releases for publication, they should be typed, double-spaced and edited for sentence structure, spelling, punctuation and clarity. Consider asking a teacher from your English or journalism department for advice on preparing posts, articles and news releases. Articles should be approved by your chapter advisor and, in some instances, by a school administrator prior to submitting to the media.

Don't forget FFA New Horizons magazine, FFA Today on RFD-TV, FFA videos and all the electronic options available to you. Instagram, Facebook and X (formerly known as Twitter) can be important tools to help you get the word out about your chapter activities and accomplishments. Make sure that your website, social network pages and online posts are professional and reflect properly on your chapter and FFA. Remember, the entire world can see the information you put online; this can be a great opportunity but also a great responsibility. If you have a story to share with us, fill out the story submission form at *FFA.org/submit-your-story-idea*.

When planning your chapter's public relations program, keep the following in mind:

Names are news—Your name, names of current and former members, award or contest winners, parents and others increase reader interest.

News release format—Always provide your contact name and telephone number at the top of the release. For a news release template, visit the FFA Brand Center on *FFA.org*.

News stories—Tell the reader the basics—who, what, when, where, why and how.

Feature stories—When more in-depth coverage of an interesting chapter member or function is in order, write a feature story.

Photographs—Often a single, good photograph has more impact than an article. Clear, sharp photos are welcomed by most newspaper editors. All photographs should include a cutline detailing the activity in the picture.

Human interest stories—FFA members are often good candidates for this type of story because of the variety of their activities. FFA members renovating the city park or conducting projects tell of their commitment to community service.

Special events—FFA activities including community development projects, National FFA Week and the state convention are ideal for involving the community and the media.

Radio and TV programs—These outlets provide excellent coverage but require careful planning. Be sure you are prepared for any TV or radio program. In TV, it is important to have good visuals. Looking sharp in Official Dress can make a lasting impression.

National FFA Week—This special week for FFA members offers a unique opportunity to share your message with your school and the community. *FFA.org/FFAweek* has all the tools and templates you need to plan a full week of events. Window displays, outreach activities, open house programs, full-page advertisements for the local newspaper, guest FFA appearances at service clubs, radio and TV—these and more can bring attention to the presence of FFA as a positive influence in the community.

Tips for Social Networking

Social networking sites like Facebook *(facebook.com/nationalffa),* X (formerly known as Twitter, https://x.com/nationalffa) and Instagram *(instagram.com/nationalffa)* are fun, cheap and easy ways to communicate with your members and supporters. There are a few things you'll want to keep in mind, though, to ensure social networking success.

1. **Update often—but not too often.**
   We know that your chapter has tons of exciting news to share with the world, but that doesn't mean you have to share it all at once! For sites like Facebook and Twitter, it's a good idea to stick to only one to two updates a day and space them out over time. Instead of sending three updates in one hour, for example, try sending one update in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the evening.

   Twitter's platform allows for more frequent updating, but still you should try to limit it to three to five tweets per day, and again, space them out. One tweet every two hours is a good rule of thumb. Follow school policy for media use during school hours.

2. **Watch your tone.**
   Writing on social networks is a little different from the writing you'd do for an essay in your English class or even for your FFA chapter's website. It's okay to be a little less formal and a little more conversational. But you'll still want to pay attention to your grammar and spelling. Avoid using too much slang and make sure your message can be easily understood by all types of audiences. Your fellow FFA members, parents, and community business leaders can and will follow you on your social networks.

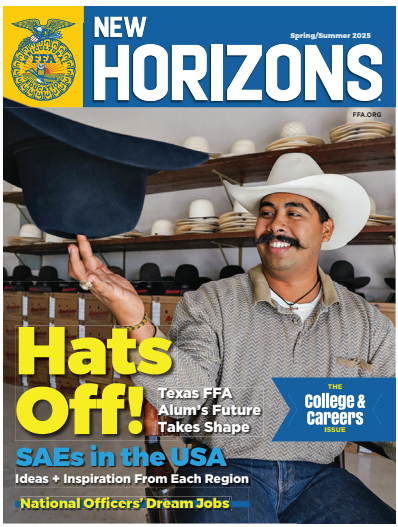
   Also, keep it positive. Your chapter's social networking site is not the best place to complain about how unfair it is that your chapter lost the state livestock judging competition. Remember, once you've made a comment on a social networking site, it can be difficult, if not impossible, to retract.

3. **Reciprocate!**
   The best thing about social networking is that it's, well...social! Your purpose is not only to send out messages and updates to your followers but also to communicate with them. Try to respond to most of the comments and messages you get through your social networking sites. And try to engage your audience by asking them questions and requesting feedback on your activities.

FFA Resources

The National FFA Organization offers several resources—most of them free—for FFA members, agriculture teachers, teacher educators, agricultural education majors and FFA advisors. These materials are designed to help you succeed in every aspect of your agriculture program—from classroom instruction and leadership training to SAE resources.

FFA New Horizons



FFA New Horizons is the official member magazine of the National FFA Organization. The magazine is filled with information about FFA, agricultural education, career possibilities and chapter and individual accomplishments. FFA New Horizons is published twice a year and mailed to FFA members, alumni and supporters. It is also available online at *FFA.org/news*. The magazine is owned and operated by FFA, and the National FFA Board of Directors and national officers control its policies. In addition to submitting news about individual members and activities in their chapters, members may consider giving FFA New Horizons gift subscriptions to school administrators, libraries, and important chapter or community supporters.

FFA also offers teaching guides on *FFA.org/news* to go with each issue of the magazine.

Find free resources for the chapter and advisor at FFA.org/resources. For alumni and supporters resources, visit https://ffa.app.box.com/v/AlumniResources.

FFA.org

Visitors can quickly and easily access important information about the organization on *FFA.org*. The site features FFA history; details on awards, events, conferences and programs; resources; videos; stories; and more. Audience-specific dashboards personalize the site's information, making it easier to access applications and other educational resources.

FFA Media and Brand Center

The FFA Media and Brand Center is a section of *FFA.org* that helps to define the organization's identity, tone and voice, and should be considered your first step before creating materials and messaging about local and state FFA activities and events. Whether you are creating print pieces or improving your website, these resources help you understand proper usage of the federally trademarked FFA emblem, specific color codes for national blue and corn gold, recommended typefaces/fonts, and other helpful information. A downloadable brand guide contains specific guidelines for a variety of uses, while templates, high-resolution files and more make it simple to accurately and confidently portray the FFA brand.

Career-Based Resources

AgExplorer

National FFA and AgCareers.com joined forces to create a robust, comprehensive career resource to help you explore the broad range of agricultural careers. The industry of agriculture can open up a world of possibilities, and the demand for professionals in every agricultural area is high. AgExplorer lets you learn more about which career may be right for you by watching videos, participating in virtual field trips, exploring more than 300 careers and completing the interactive MyCareer Quiz to see which careers match your interests. Be sure to check it out at *AgExplorer.FFA.org*.

*The number of careers in agriculture will continue to change based on innovations and advancements.

FFA Values Lesson Series

The FFA Values Lesson Series is a collection of 15 lessons with an accompanying reflection journal. This lesson series is designed to guide students to become greater leaders through personal growth in working with others. These lessons can be used in order alongside the reflection journal or a la cart as needed.

FFA Resume Generator©

The FFA Resume Generator is a tool that takes the guesswork out of creating a polished resume by focusing on the user's strengths and experiences. The resume generator walks users through the process of creating a resume, so they no longer have to worry if they include the right things or if they are correctly formatting their resumes. Information is saved, so updating is easy, and users can generate their resumes in several different file types.

SAE Videos

This video series highlights FFA members and their diverse SAEs from across the country. Use these videos to introduce the topic of SAEs to students and showcase a variety of opportunities. Check out the choiceboards and lesson plans to use these in the classroom. To watch, visit *FFA.org/ffa-video-center/sae-video-library*.

SAE Idea Cards

Now in English and Spanish, the SAE Idea Cards provide students and advisors with more than 360 SAE ideas in nine career focus areas. Each career area provides ideas for all SAE types: Entrepreneurship/Ownership, Placement/Internship, Research, School-Based Enterprise and Service-Learning. Each idea also identifies future career opportunities via AgExplorer. Visit *FFA.org/educator_resources/sae-idea-cards/* for more.

Forever Blue Network

National FFA launched the networking platform The Forever Blue Network. The network provides high school junior and senior FFA members, alumni, and supporters exclusive access to events, groups, mentors, and jobs opportunities. The network is available as an app and at *https://ForeverBlueNetwork.org*.



Teacher Outreach

National Teacher Ambassadors for FFA Program

The National Teacher Ambassadors for FFA Program is open to any current middle/high school agriculture teacher who completes the online application and is chosen by the selection committee. Over the course of the one-year term, the ambassador will complete training, deliver educational sessions and create social media posts and send emails promoting National FFA resources and opportunities. Ambassadors will also work with teachers from across the country to brainstorm and share ideas. Visit *FFA.org/teacherambassadors* for more information on the program such as the objectives of the program, the responsibilities/expectations of an ambassador and the professional growth opportunities (benefits to teachers).

FFA Programs, Events and Platforms

Living to Serve

The last line of the FFA motto, "Living to Serve," signifies the vital role service plays in the National FFA Organization. The Living to Serve Platform empowers FFA members and chapters to make a positive impact in their communities by providing quality service engagement programs, resources and recognition. Find more information on the platform at *FFA.org/livingtoserve*.

Service Engagement

Service can take on several meanings. Community service and service-learning are two forms of service that are commonly confused. The following information includes definitions and examples of ways to engage your chapter in both forms of service.

Community Service

Community service is often a one-time event where an individual or group provides time and services to better their community, without pay. Potential community service projects include Adopt-a-Highway, canned food or clothing drives or helping senior citizens with yard work.

Service-Learning

A common misconception is that service-learning is the same as community service, but there are distinct differences. For example, service-learning occurs over the course of a semester or year, makes learning more hands-on, includes intentional and structured reflection, and creates reciprocal partnerships. Service-learning projects provide a meaningful way of applying the leadership and educational skills learned in school and through FFA to meet an identified community need. Simply put, the value of service-learning is in learning by doing. One example of a service-learning project is creating a community garden to harvest produce throughout the year to donate to local food pantries.

National Days of Service

To bring the last line of our motto "Living to Serve" into focus, FFA chapters across the country have two annual opportunities to serve their local communities and share their impacts.

During February and October, FFA chapters are encouraged to host a National Days of Service event in their local communities. By reporting their impacts and sharing images, chapters help to inspire others to take action through service. To find out how your chapter can participate visit *FFA.org/livingtoserve*.

National FFA Week

Each year, FFA chapters around the country celebrate National FFA Week during the week of George Washington's birthday. The National FFA Organization creates and distributes materials – including an official FFA Week proclamation, poster and planning guide – to help chapters plan, conduct and celebrate successful FFA Week activities. Whether it's hosting a teacher appreciation breakfast, conducting an "Ag Olympics," speaking in groups to community organizations or coordinating a service project, FFA members have great opportunities each year to showcase their accomplishments, abilities and contributions to local schools, organizations and communities.

Agricultural Literacy and Advocacy

The National FFA Organization has established an agricultural literacy and advocacy platform to ensure all FFA programming is infused with advocacy and literacy. This platform helps deliver a suite of skills including effective communication, critical thinking, civic comprehension, and a holistic understanding of the industry of agriculture. Through the easily transferable advocacy model and #SpeakAg activities, our student members can effectively advocate for agriculture now and in the future. Visit *FFA.org/ag-literacy-and-advocacy/* to learn more.

FFA in the USA

FFA in the USA features stories from high school and collegiate reporters representing every corner of the country, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Visit *FFA.org/ffa-in-the-usa/* to uncover the incredible journeys of FFA members and chapters as they explore life-changing agricultural experiences.

Leadership Conferences

The National FFA Organization provides several leadership conferences that cultivate and nurture future leaders. Leadership conferences are offered to students throughout their FFA journey — from middle school through high school. These conferences give members the chance to develop and refine skills that will grow a lifetime of leadership.

FFA Member Leadership Series conferences are hosted by individual districts, regions or states. The Washington Leadership Conference is hosted by National FFA in Washington, D.C. Visit *FFA.org/conferences* for more information.

The FFA Member Leadership Series

The FFA Member Leadership Series empowers students with new knowledge and skills that they need to be confident and capable leaders – both in their chapters and beyond. Conference content will rotate yearly so a student can attend all four years of their high school membership without experiencing the same curriculum twice. The series covers topics such as self-discovery, personal growth, leadership skills and making an impact.

Washington Leadership Conference

WLC provides the ultimate leadership experience for members of the National FFA Organization. This program is designed for those members who are ready to take their leadership skills to a higher level. Located in our nation's capital, WLC hosts one-week conferences over the course of the summer. WLC is a hands-on leadership conference that puts practical tools and valuable experiences into the hands of FFA members. Current FFA members who are at least 14 years old and/or would be attending the summer immediately after they have graduated from high school are eligible to attend WLC.

Career Conferences

For members who are passionate about their future careers, National FFA offers the Next Gen and New Century Farmer conferences. These conferences provide members with an opportunity to explore their future career paths, learn from industry experts and develop a strong network.

For more information about these opportunities, visit *FFA.org/conferences*.

Next Gen Conferences

The next generation of leaders are the FFA members of today. For members who are passionate about their future careers, the Next Gen Conferences serve as a launching pad to learn more about their next steps after high school. Next Gen Conferences focus on specific career pathways such as animal systems, plant systems and agribusiness systems. Students will tour diverse operations in their career pathway, learn from industry experts and network with students who share their interests. The conference culminates in the creation of a future road map that will prepare students to be the next generation of leaders in agriculture.

New Century Farmer

Production agriculture requires forward thinking leadership to move the industry into the future. Each year, National FFA selects a group of elite FFA members and alumni between the ages of 18 and 24 to attend the New Century Farmer conference. At this conference, young producers will learn from each other and industry experts while they discuss the topics and issues that affect today's production agriculturist. New Century

Farmers also get out into the real world to explore diverse farm business operations and connect with business owners. New Century Farmers leave the conference with a vision statement for their operation, which will positively shape their operations for years to come.

State FFA Officer Leadership Continuum

If you choose to expand your FFA involvement beyond the chapter level, you can run for a state officer position. The National FFA Organization has a series of leadership development experiences created to assist officers in being competent and confident in their state leadership roles. This series of growth opportunities are referred to as the State FFA Officer Leadership Continuum and develops state officers in 11 key focus areas:

- Sound Character
- Positive Influence
- Professionalism
- Time Management
- Team Dynamics
- Conversation Skills
- Agricultural Advocacy
- Relevant Messaging
- Effective Communication
- Workshop Facilitation
- Public Speaking

This premier leadership training is delivered through a blended learning format that includes direct instruction, social learning and experiential learning. The content is delivered through a variety of media including self-reflection exercises, online learning, and face-to-face instruction at events hosted in each state, in Washington, D.C., and at the National FFA Convention & Expo.

State FFA Officer Enrichment Programs

The National FFA Organization offers additional premier leadership and personal growth opportunities to state officers.

The International Leadership Seminar for State Officers is a short-term travel experience for current and past state officers. The seminar empowers state officers by providing them with a global perspective. Through this experience, participants gain knowledge by visiting farms and agribusinesses, sharing the culture and developing themselves as culturally aware agriculturists.

State officers may also serve as official delegates to the National FFA Convention & Expo. Delegates represent each association regarding FFA programs, events and platforms that they would like the National FFA Organization to take under advisement. The purpose of the delegate experience is to gain the student perspective on the future direction of the organization.



National FFA Convention & Expo

The National FFA Convention & Expo is similar in purpose to a state convention but is held on a much larger scale. The convention and expo is the largest student gathering in the nation and, in most recent years, has maintained an attendance in excess of 70,000.

National officers preside over business sessions conducted by 475 delegates representing their respective state associations.

A wide variety of educational programs, events and activities are available at the national convention and expo:

- A national expo featuring universities, agricultural businesses and more.
- National career and leadership development events and award competitions.
- National band, chorus and talent programs.
- Leadership workshops for members and agriculture educators.
- Main sessions featuring motivational guest speakers, retiring addresses of the national officers, recognition and award presentations to student, teacher and chapter finalists, as well as honoring and recognizing FFA supporters and sponsors.
- National Days of Service, a program that helps FFA members discover the value of community service and volunteering within their communities.
- Career Success Tours, which enable students to explore careers in fields as they relate to agriculture.

For many members, the National FFA Convention & Expo provides the inspiration and motivation that leads to further achievements in FFA. To learn more, visit *convention.FFA.org*.



Awards and Recognition

FFA has an extensive awards program, implemented at all levels. Awards provide incentive for members to set goals and work toward achieving them. The result is a membership dedicated to progress in their chosen areas of interest.

Detailed information can be found at *FFA.org/awards*.

Agriscience Fair

The National FFA Agriscience Fair recognizes student researchers studying the application of agricultural scientific principles and emerging technologies in agricultural enterprises. The agriscience fair is for middle and high school students. Participation begins at the local level and progresses to state and national levels.

For official rules, policies and resources, visit *FFA.org/participate/awards/agriscience-fair*. The Agriscience Fair Teacher Resource guides students through the scientific process and helps students understand research; access the resource at *FFA.org/agriscience fairlessons*.

Career and Leadership Development Events

Career and Leadership Development Events (CDEs and LDEs) provide FFA members with career and leadership experiences within their agricultural classrooms. The goal of these events is to develop individual responsibility, foster teamwork, and promote communication while recognizing the value of ethical competition and achievement. Event components encourage the development of problem-solving, critical thinking, collaboration and general leadership skills. In these events, members will also learn about the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Pathways and the FFA AFNR Value Chain. Some events allow members to compete as individuals while others include team components.

For rules and procedures and a description of each event, visit the CDE/LDE webpage on *FFA.org/participate/cde-lde/*.

CDE/LDE Classroom Resource

This classroom resource is designed to provide advisors with information to integrate CDE/LDE concepts into the classroom. The resource:

- Makes efficient use of your time by integrating and engaging your students with CDEs/LDEs at a high level within the classroom.
- Contains lesson plans, PowerPoints, activities, worksheets, questions, vocabulary and discussion topics. Lessons have the components necessary to teach new students about a particular CDE/LDE.
- Offers information for an entry-level student who may not have any prior experience in the CDE/LDE area.

To access the CDE/LDE resources, visit *FFA.box.com/v/cde-ldeclassroomresources*.

National Chapter Award Program

The National Chapter Award Program is designed to recognize FFA chapters that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. These chapters improve chapter operations using the National Quality FFA Chapter Standards (NQCS) and a Program of Activities (POA) that emphasizes growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. The FFA mission and strategies should be used as a guide in planning, implementing and assessing accomplishments.

For official rules, policies and resources, visit *FFA.org/participate/awards/national-chapter/*.

National FFA SAE Awards Program

The National FFA SAE Awards Program recognizes members with outstanding SAEs. Members can apply for awards in placement, entrepreneurship, research, service-learning, or school-based enterprise. Immersion SAEs allow members to build upon their Foundational SAE activities by gaining real-world, hands-on experience within their chosen career path. The member will enhance their agricultural knowledge, gain financial independence and management skills, and determine whether the career choice aligns with their interests and abilities – all while supporting their agricultural

education coursework. For more information visit, *FFA.org/awards-recognition-updates/.*

Honorary Awards

Honorary American FFA Degree – Teacher

The purpose of the Honorary American Degree Teacher award is to recognize agricultural education instructors/FFA advisors who have demonstrated total program quality by using those factors that contribute to successful local programs on a national level. Nominees must have taught for a minimum of 10 years and have at least 85 percent FFA membership in their agricultural education program. Recipients in this category are selected on the basis of their contributions in the following five areas: classroom/laboratory instruction; experiential learning of students;
community partnerships; National FFA Organization; and leadership and professional development.

Honorary American FFA Degree

The purpose of the Honorary American FFA Degree program is to recognize individuals who have rendered outstanding service to agricultural education and FFA. Individuals nominated must have provided exceptional service to agriculture, agricultural education and/or FFA on a national level. Those nominated from a state must have the approval of the state FFA advisor. Nominations may also be made by members of the National FFA Board of Directors and officers, National FFA Organization, and National FFA Foundation division directors.



The Honorary American FFA Degree is the highest honorary degree presented by the National FFA Organization at the annual national convention and expo. The deadline for online submissions is June 15.

Distinguished Service Citation

The Distinguished Service Citation is the highest award presented to an organization, agency, business, industry or other group by the National FFA Organization.

The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding contributions made at the national level to agricultural education and FFA. States are asked to nominate organizations, agencies or other groups for the Distinguished Service Citation. The deadline for online submissions is June 15.

VIP Citation

The VIP Citation recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to agricultural education and FFA for 20 or more years, on a national level. States are asked to nominate individuals for VIP Citation. This recognition may be awarded to, but not necessarily limited to, those individuals holding the Honorary American FFA Degree. The deadline for online submissions is June 15.

Visit *FFA.org/participate/awards/honorary-awards/* to learn more about these awards.

Star Awards

Outstanding members at each FFA degree level are selected as Star award winners. The rewards at each level increase starting with the Star Greenhand and Star Chapter awards at the chapter level to the State Star and American Star awards at the state and national levels.

Star Greenhand

Star Greenhand is given at the chapter level to the most active first-year member. This member has a strong supervised agricultural experience (SAE) and demonstrates a high level of leadership. Ask your chapter FFA advisor how to apply.

Chapter Star Farmer

Chapter Star Farmer goes to the chapter member who has earned the Chapter FFA Degree, has an outstanding entrepreneurship SAE in production agriculture and



demonstrates the most involvement in all areas of the chapter's activities. Ask your chapter FFA advisor how to apply.

Chapter Star in Agribusiness

Chapter Star in Agribusiness goes to the chapter member who has earned the Chapter FFA Degree, has an outstanding agriculture entrepreneurship SAE, which does not fit in the Star Farmer category and demonstrates the most involvement in all areas of the chapter's activities. Ask your chapter FFA advisor how to apply.

Chapter Star in Agricultural Placement

Chapter Star in Agricultural Placement goes to the chapter member who has earned the Chapter FFA Degree, has an outstanding placement SAE in agribusiness or production agriculture, and is actively involved in all areas of the chapter. Ask your chapter FFA advisor how to apply.

Chapter Star in Agriscience

The Chapter FFA Degree recipient selected as the Chapter Star in Agriscience will have an outstanding SAE in which the member is actively engaged in agriscience research and experimentation, which meets a recognized agriculture, food and natural resources pathway standard. This includes members who are actively engaged in doing their own research individually, as well as those members who are cooperating on research projects with others, including but not limited to teams in school, industry or colleges/universities. The member must be actively involved in the development of the experiment design, collection of data, interpretation of the data and publicizing the results to be considered by the local chapter for selection as the Chapter Star in Agriscience. Their program can be an entrepreneurship or placement type program. Ask your chapter FFA advisor how to apply.

State Star Farmer

Outstanding achievement in an entrepreneurship production agriculture SAE and active participation in FFA are recognized with the State Star Farmer award. Each year, state associations select one member from the top applicants for the State FFA Degree. Your state FFA association determines how to apply for the award.

State Star in Agribusiness

The top State FFA Degree recipient with awith an entrepreneurship SAE that does not qualify in the Star Farmer category in each state is recognized by the state association as the State Star in Agribusiness. Your state FFA association determines the application process for this award.

State Star in Agricultural Placement

The State FFA Degree recipient in each state with the best agricultural placement SAE and proven leadership skills is selected to be



the State Star in Agricultural Placement. The member's placement experience can include paid and/or unpaid labor hours. Your state FFA association sets the application method for this award.

State Star in Agriscience

In each state, one member with an SAE in agriscience research and experimentation and receiving their State FFA Degree is chosen as the State Star in Agriscience. This includes members who are actively engaged in research in an agriculture, food and natural resources pathway individually or members cooperating on research projects with others, including but not limited to teams in school, experiment stations or colleges/universities. The member must be actively involved in the development of the experiment design, collection of data, interpretation of the data and publicizing the results to be considered as a State Star in Agriscience. Their program could be an entrepreneurship or placement type program. Check with your FFA advisor to learn how to apply in your state association.

American Star Farmer

One American FFA Degree candidate from each state can be submitted by the state association to compete for the American Star Farmer award. Four national finalists are selected from the state submissions to compete for this honor at the national convention and expo. Considered the highest recognition in the nation for an aspiring young farmer, the award recognizes achievement in both career and leadership development. See the current year American FFA Degree & Star Award Handbook for the full category definition and instructions on how to apply.

American Star in Agribusiness

Each state selects an American FFA Degree candidate from their state to compete for selection as the American Star in Agribusiness. Four national finalists are chosen to compete for this prestigious award at the national convention and expo. This is the highest achievement for a member pursuing a career in agribusiness. See the current year American FFA Degree & Star Award Handbook for the full category definition and instructions on how to apply.

American Star in Agricultural Placement

The American FFA Degree recipient with the best placement SAE and proven leadership skills is selected to be the American Star in Agricultural Placement. Four finalists are chosen from among the candidates selected by each state to compete at the national convention and expo. See the current year American FFA Degree & Star Award Handbook for the full category definition and instructions on how to apply.

American Star in Agriscience

One American FFA Degree candidate from each state can apply to become the American Star in Agriscience. These candidates must have an SAE in which they are actively engaged in agriscience analysis, experimentation or invention. The project could be an entrepreneurship or placement type. Four national finalists are selected to compete at the national convention and expo. See the current year American FFA Degree & Star Award Handbook for the full category definition and instructions on how to apply.

Financial Assistance

The National FFA Organization offers a range of grants and scholarships designed to provide financial support to individual members, FFA chapters and advisors. These funds aim to help remove financial obstacles, ensuring greater accessibility and participation in FFA programs and activities. Visit FFA.org/financial-assistance/ to learn more about these opportunities.

Give the Gift of Blue Program

The Give the Gift of Blue Program was established as a way to provide official blue corduroy jackets to FFA members who may not otherwise be able to afford them. FFA members who want to apply for a jacket can go to *FFA.org/giveblue*. Members will be required to write a short essay on what owning an FFA jacket would mean to them and provide a list of their FFA, community and school activities. FFA advisor approval is required. Members will receive an email confirmation of their application and be placed in a queue for their application to be reviewed.

FFA advisors and members can also nominate a member to be awarded a jacket. A similar application process, including advisor approval, is required.

The program is funded by individual donations and corporate sponsors. Donations are tax deductible and can be made at *FFA.org/giveblue*.

Scholarships

Chapter members planning to further their education can apply for scholarships through the National FFA Organization. Scholarships are sponsored by businesses and individuals through the National FFA Foundation and are awarded for a wide variety of experiences, career goals and higher education plans. FFA awards more than $2.7 million annually. FFA high school seniors and collegiate members who are planning on attending a specialized training program or seeking a two or four-year degree can apply for scholarships through the National FFA Organization Scholarship Program. Scholarships are supported by businesses and individuals through the National FFA Foundation. Just one application is required for multiple scholarship opportunities.

Visit *FFA.org/scholarships* for more information.

SAE Grants

The SAE Grant program provides grants of $1,000 to FFA members who need financial assistance to begin or expand an SAE enterprise. The number of grants available each year varies based on sponsorship. The SAE Grant application opens online in the fall. The application asks for specific descriptions, budgets and goals for the planned SAE enterprise. Financial need is strongly considered in the selection process and is described by the applicant and their FFA advisor. All grant funds must be spent on the SAE; FFA advisors are required to verify



this. FFA members in grades 7-12 are eligible to apply. Visit *FFA.org/participate/grants-and-scholarships/sae-grants/.* for more information or to apply.

Living to Serve Grant Series

The Living to Serve Grant Series provides an opportunity for FFA chapters and state associations/foundations to seek funding to support various types of service projects through a competitive application process. This innovative funding approach supports more diverse service focus areas that include Community Safety; Environmental Responsibility; Hunger, Health and Nutrition; and Community Engagement. For more information on the Living to Serve Grant Series, visit *FFA.org/livingtoserve*.

Student Engagement and Travel Assistance Grants

Some FFA members have financial barriers that prevent them from experiencing all that FFA has to offer. Student Engagement and Travel Assistance Grants provide financial support to those members to help reduce travel costs, registration fees and other expenses associated with select FFA programs, conferences and the National FFA Convention & Expo.

To learn more, visit *FFA.org/student-engagement-and-travel-assistance-grants/.*

Endorsed Activities and Designated Events

Endorsed Activities

National FFA is partnering with other organizations to create a variety of National FFA endorsed Activities. National FFA Staff vets these opportunities to ensure their relevance and quality. These activities are not limited to FFA members, and recognition will not occur at the National FFA Convention & Expo and is at the discretion of the partner organization.

Designated Events

Working with other organizations, National FFA may create National FFA Designated Events. These events are vetted by National FFA staff and will include National FFA winners who will be recognized at the National FFA Convention & Expo. However, the finals for these events will not occur at national convention.

To learn more, visit *FFA.org/designated-events-and-endorsed-activities/.*





National FFA Alumni and Supporters

National FFA Alumni and Supporters focuses on supporting the National FFA mission and vision by engaging volunteers and creating a culture of philanthropy at all levels of agricultural education and FFA. FFA advisors and members across the country rely on FFA Alumni and Supporters to help support their chapters through the gifts of time, talent and resources. Anyone wanting to support FFA, agricultural education and agriculture is welcome to join. See Article V, Section C of the National FFA Constitution for more information. Membership types include associate, annual and life.

Through awards, grants, resources and training, National FFA Alumni and Supporters encourages chapters to develop their members, students, advocacy, business operations and agricultural education programs. State associations are also guided to develop and retain local chapters, provide member benefits, advocate, be an active component of Team Ag Ed and conduct quality business operations.

National FFA hosts development conferences and networking events for alumni and supporters. Communications, travel programs, the Forever Blue Network and the New Century Farmer conference also provide insight into agriculture and career success. The National FFA Alumni and Supporters Advisory Committee, at the request of the National FFA Board of Directors, advises the direction of the alumni and supporters. For more information visit *FFA.org/alumni*.





National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Foundation secures funding and partnerships that help FFA members develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Donors make possible award and recognition programs, scholarships, local engagement activities, global engagement programs, National FFA Convention & Expo functions, educational materials, teacher training, and more.

Created in 1944, the foundation brings together companies, organizations, and individuals to raise money for essential FFA programs and activities. Since that time, foundation supporters have contributed more than $300 million on behalf of FFA and to support the work of other agricultural education organizations.

The foundation is governed by a board of trustees that includes the national FFA president, educators, business leaders and individual donors. The National FFA Foundation President's Advisory Council is composed of key donors, volunteers, and corporate representatives and provides overall guidance on the foundation's fundraising activities, including major gifts, annual gifts, and deferred gifts. The National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board is composed of representatives from some of our strongest corporate partners and serves to engage these partners in FFA programs and events. Together, these groups drive an annual campaign that generates more than $20 million in contributions for national, state and local programs.

FFA members can ensure continued support from the foundation by sending a note of thanks to sponsors and donors. Those who receive awards or participate in foundation-funded programs can obtain names and addresses of the appropriate contact for each sponsor or donor. All FFA members and advisors can send notes of thanks for any activity. After graduation, members have an opportunity to give back and continue supporting the work of FFA by becoming individual donors to the foundation and through membership in National FFA Alumni and Supporters.

National FFA Foundation
6060 FFA Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46278
FFA.org/donate



National FFA Constitution

(As amended at the 95nd National FFA Convention, October 2022 and ratified by the National FFA Board of Directors, Dec. 13, 2022.)

Article I. Name

The Future Farmers of America organization shall be known and shall do business as the National FFA Organization. Recognized units of the organization may officially use the letters "FFA" and/or the words "Future Farmers of America" to designate the organization, its units and/or members.

Article II. Objectives of the Organization

The objectives of the organization shall be consistent with the organization's federal charter, Public Law 116-7 (formerly Public Laws 105-225 and 81-740). The organization shall cooperate with national and state government agencies and officials in career and technical education to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To be an integral component of instruction in agricultural education, including without limitation, agriculture, food, and natural resources. As such, the corporation shall be intra-curricular to the agricultural education program, and will work with contextual classroom/laboratory instruction and work-based experiential learning in furtherance of a complete and comprehensive agricultural education program.
2. To be an integral component in agricultural education, to prepare students for successful entry into productive careers in agriculture, food and natural resources, or connect students to relevant postsecondary educational pathways, focusing on the complete delivery of classroom and laboratory instruction, work-based experiential learning and leadership development.
3. To be a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities. The corporation will develop educational materials, programs, services and events as a service to state and local agricultural education agencies.
4. To seek and promote inclusion and diversity in its membership, leadership and staff to reflect the corporation's belief in the value of all human beings.
5. To create, foster and assist subsidiary chapters in state- or territory-approved agricultural educational programs and associations of those chapters in the states, territories, and possessions of the United States.
6. To build character and develop competent and assertive agricultural leadership.
7. To increase awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture, food and natural resources and its contribution to our well-being.
8. To promote the intelligent choice and establishment of a career in agriculture, food and natural resources.
9. To make available to state associations, local chapters and members all official supplies, equipment, programs and services of the corporation.
10. To cooperate with others, including state boards and officials for career and technical education, in accomplishing the foregoing purposes.
11. To engage in other activities, consistent with these purposes, determined by the governing body to be for the best interests of the corporation.

Article III. Organization

Section A

The National FFA Organization is the organization of, by and for students enrolled in agricultural education programs. It shall consist of chartered state associations composed of not less than four chapters chartered by a state association and having a total student membership of not less than 125 members. In the event a state association falls below the 125 members and four chapters, it shall remain as a chartered state association of the National FFA Organization. More than one chapter may be chartered in a school when deemed appropriate by the state governing body.

Section B

Chapters of the National FFA Organization shall be chartered only in such schools where recognized systematic instruction in agricultural education is offered under the



provisions of federal vocational education legislation. Such chapters shall operate as an integral part of the instructional program of agricultural education.

Schools with large enrollments and/or multiple programs in agricultural education may establish subsidiary chapters of the parent chapter. Each subsidiary chapter shall be organized and operated in accordance with all the provisions of the national, state and local constitutions. Subsidiary chapters shall be coordinated by the officers and advisors of the parent chapter.

Section C

Students enrolled in agricultural education may meet in state convention, adopt a constitution which shall not conflict with that of the national organization, elect officers, develop a Program of Activities and apply to the national organization for a state association charter. Upon receipt of a charter from the national organization, the state association shall be part of the National FFA Organization and shall be empowered to charter local chapters.

Article IV. Procedures for Determining Standing of State Associations and Chapters

Section A

A state FFA association shall be in good standing with the National FFA Organization when the following conditions are met:

1. All annual national dues or program affiliation fees have been paid to the National FFA Organization or shown by postmark or other reliable evidence to have been mailed to the national FFA treasurer on or before May 15.
2. All reports have been submitted to the national organization as requested by the National FFA Board of Directors.
3. Provisions of the state FFA constitution do not conflict with the National FFA Constitution and association activities are in harmony with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

The National FFA Board of Directors shall have the power to suspend the charter of any state association which violates the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws. A report of all suspensions shall be presented by the Board to the delegates at the next succeeding national convention. In the event a state association is not in good standing at the time of the opening of a national convention, the delegates in session at that national convention shall have the power, upon recommendation of the National FFA Board of Directors, to withdraw the charter and refuse such association official representation at the annual national convention. When such action is taken, the association in question and the chapters and members thereof shall be denied the privileges of membership in the organization. Upon meeting the requirements for good standing, a state association may be reinstated by action of the National FFA Board of Directors.

Section B

A chapter shall be in good standing with the state association when the following conditions are met:

1. All annual, state and national dues or program affiliation fees have been paid by the date determined by the state association.
2. All reports have been submitted as requested by the state association.
3. Provisions of the chapter constitution do not conflict with the State or National FFA Constitutions and chapter activities are in harmony with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

The governing body of the state association shall have the power to suspend the charter of any chapter which violates the state or National FFA Constitution and Bylaws. A report on all suspensions shall be presented to the delegates at the next succeeding state convention. In the event a chapter is not in good standing with the state association at the time of the opening of a state convention, the delegates in session at that state convention shall have the power, upon recommendation of the state association governing body, to withdraw the charter and refuse such chapter official representation at the state convention. When such action is taken, the chapter in question and members thereof shall be denied the privileges of membership in the state association. Upon meeting the requirements for good standing, a chapter may be reinstated by action of the state association governing body.

In the event a local department of agricultural education is discontinued, its chartered FFA chapter may officially operate for a period not to exceed three years (36 months) from the date of discontinuance, provided proper supervision is given by a person having the approval of the local school administrator and the state FFA advisor. The chapter's charter must be surrendered to the state advisor at the end of the three-year period if a local department of agricultural education is not in operation in the school at that time.

Article V. Membership

Section A

Membership in the National FFA Organization shall be of two types: student and adult.

Section B

Student Membership - To be eligible for membership in a chartered FFA chapter, a student must be enrolled in a state approved school-based agricultural education program not below the 5th grade level.

To become a student member and retain membership, a student must:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study; either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career.
2. Show an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
3. Pay all current state and national dues or program affiliation fee by the date determined by the chapter.
4. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

A member may retain student membership until November 30, following the fourth National FFA Convention after graduation from high school.

A member in good standing at the time of induction into the armed forces of the United States of America or into the FFA international program shall be in good standing during the period of active service without further payment of dues or attendance at meetings. Time spent in the armed forces or FFA international program shall not be considered as elapsed time in determining the maximum period of four conventions following graduation from high school or leaving high school. Members using this waiver of service time for the purpose of maintaining student membership for application for advanced degrees of membership must resume active participation within six months after having been honorably discharged from military service or completing their FFA international program and indicate such a desire by paying dues and attending meetings. Members participating in a six-month armed services program or participating in the FFA international program for six months shall be eligible for one full year of extended

membership. No individual may retain student membership beyond his or her twenty-third birthday.

Section C

Adult Membership - Membership shall be open to former student members and honorary degree recipients, present and former professional agricultural educators, parents of FFA members and others interested in and supportive of the FFA.

Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of Membership

Section A

There shall be five degrees of student membership based on individual achievement. These are the Discovery FFA Degree, Greenhand FFA Degree, the Chapter FFA Degree, the State FFA Degree and the American FFA Degree. The national organization shall set the minimum qualifications for each degree. The Discovery FFA Degree is intended for use in state associations and local chapters where middle school membership is offered. Receipt of this degree is not necessary in order to obtain the Greenhand FFA Degree or subsequent degrees.

Section B

Discovery FFA Degree - To be eligible to receive the Discovery FFA Degree from a chapter, the member must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Be enrolled in agricultural education class for at least a portion of the school year while in grades 7-8.
2. Have become a dues paying member or included in the program affiliation fee of the FFA at local, state and national levels.
3. Participate in at least one local FFA chapter activity outside of scheduled class time.
4. Have knowledge of agriculturally related career, ownership and entrepreneurial opportunities.
5. Be familiar with the local FFA chapter program of activities.
6. Submit written application for the degree.

Section C

Greenhand FFA Degree - To be eligible to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree from the chapter, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Be enrolled in agricultural education and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, motto, salute and FFA mission statement.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws and the chapter Program of Activities.
6. Personally own or have access to the Official FFA Manual and the FFA Student Handbook.
7. Submit written application for the Greenhand FFA Degree.

Section D

Chapter FFA Degree - To be eligible to receive the Chapter FFA Degree from the chapter, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least 180 hours of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agricultural education course.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   a. earned and productively invested at least $150 by the member's own efforts; or
   b. worked at least 45 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or
   c. a combination there of and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Have effectively led a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
7. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA award programs.
8. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
9. Have participated in at least 10 hours of community service activities. These

hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

10. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

Other requirements may be established by the chapter and/or the state FFA association.

Section E

State FFA Degree - To be eligible to receive the State FFA Degree from the state association, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Have been a student FFA member and paid membership dues for two years at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.
3. While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   a. earned and productively invested at least $1000; or
   b. worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or
   c. a combination there of, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Demonstrate leadership ability by:
   a. Performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law.
   b. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA.
   c. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson or participating member of a chapter committee.
6. Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education instructor and the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter Program of Activities.
8. Have participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level.
9. Have participated in at least 25 hours of community service, within at least two different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.



The percentage of the total state membership which may receive the State FFA Degree and other requirements may be established by the state FFA association.

Written records of achievement of all requirements, verified by the chapter FFA advisor, shall be submitted to the state association at least one month prior to the state FFA convention at which the State FFA Degree is to be received. The state advisor shall provide for review of the records and submit a recommendation to the state association governing body, which shall nominate at the state FFA convention the candidates who have been found worthy to receive the honor. The State FFA Degree will be conferred upon the candidates subject to approval by the delegates at the state convention.

Section F

American FFA Degree - To be eligible to receive the American FFA Degree from the National FFA Organization, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Have received the State FFA Degree, have been a student member for the past three years (36 months) and have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities on the chapter and state levels.
2. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least three years (540

hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an agricultural education program or to have completed at least the equivalent of 360 hours of systematic secondary school instruction in agricultural education and one full year of enrollment in a postsecondary agricultural program or have completed the program of agricultural education offered in the secondary school last attended.

3. Have graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be granted.
4. Have in operation and have maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program through which a member has exhibited comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise.
5. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
   a. earned at least $10,000 and productively invested at least $7,500; or
   b. earned and productively invested $2,000 and worked 2,250 hours in excess of scheduled class time. Any combination of hours, times a factor of 3.56, plus actual dollars earned and productively invested must be equal to or greater than the number 10,000. Hours used for the purpose of producing earnings reported as productively invested income shall not be duplicated as hours of credit to meet the minimum requirements for the degree.
6. Have a record of outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement and have achieved a high school scholastic record of "C" or better as certified by the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in at least 50 hours of community service, within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

Section G

Honorary FFA Degree - Farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards of education, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural education, business people and others who are helping to advance agricultural education and the FFA and who have rendered outstanding service, may be elected to receive an Honorary FFA Degree by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting or convention.

The Honorary FFA Degree shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree in the local chapter, Honorary State FFA Degree in the state association and the Honorary American FFA Degree in the national organization. All Honorary FFA Degree recipients will be considered alumni/adult members as part of their Honorary FFA Degree.

Article VII. Procedure for Selecting American FFA Degree Recipients

Section A

Applications for the degree must be approved by the state advisor or representative(s) thereof and be received by the national organization not later than midnight of June 30 or show by postmark or other reliable evidence to have been mailed to the national organization on or before June 15, prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be received.

Section B

Applications must be submitted on the official form provided by the National FFA Organization.

Section C

The National FFA Board of Directors shall review the American FFA Degree applications and recommend those candidates meeting the minimum qualifications. Final approval of the candidates shall be given by the delegates present at the National FFA Convention.

Article VIII. Emblem

Section A

The official emblem of the National FFA Organization shall include five symbols, namely: the plow, representing labor and tillage of the soil; the owl, representing wisdom; the rising sun, representing progress; a cross-section of an ear of corn, representing common agricultural interests; and an American eagle surmounting the cross-section of the ear of corn, representing the national scope of the organization. The emblem shall also include the letters "FFA" and the words "Agricultural Education."

Section B
The emblem shall be uniform in all state associations and recognized units thereof. All members shall be entitled to display the emblem.

Section C
Greenhand FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official bronze emblem pin; Chapter FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official silver emblem pin; State FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem charm; and American FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem key.

Section D
Honorary Chapter FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear either the official silver or gold emblem pin; Honorary State FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem charm; and Honorary American FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem key.

Section E
FFA advisors shall be entitled to wear the official gold owl pin.

Article IX. National Officers and Procedures for Election

Section A
The elected officers of the National FFA Organization shall be a president, four vice presidents (one from each of four regions of the United States established in the bylaws) and a secretary.

Section B
The elected officers shall constitute the board of student officers. It shall be the duty of this board to advise and make recommendations to the National FFA Board of Directors with respect to the activities and business of the organization.

Section C
A state FFA association may recommend one candidate for national office each year. The state's candidate shall be approved by the state advisor on a nomination form submitted to the national executive secretary on or before August 1. All candidates shall be notified as to their eligibility on or before August 15. Those declared ineligible may file an appeal with the national advisor not later than September 1. The FFA Governing Committee shall vote on any appeal and formally notify the candidate of their decision no later than September 15.

Section D
The national officers shall hold the American FFA Degree at the time of their election and must be student members for the duration of their term in office. They shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates assembled at the national convention. A member cannot hold a national office and a state office at the same time.

Section E
A nominating committee consisting of nine official national convention delegates—one chairperson selected at large and two from each of the four regions—shall study and review the qualifications of each eligible candidate. This committee shall submit its nominations to the delegates assembled at the national convention.

Section F
The president and the secretary shall be elected from the candidates at large. The position of the vice presidents shall follow a four-year rotational cycle. The region from which the second vice president is elected during the current year shall be entitled to the first vice president the next succeeding year and so on for the other offices.

Section G
National FFA Officers shall serve from one national convention through the next succeeding national convention and shall not be re-elected, nor eligible for election to another national office. In the event a national convention is not held in any given year, the National FFA Board of Directors shall make provisions for the appointment of national officers for the next succeeding year. The National FFA Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint a qualified member to fill any office which becomes vacant between national conventions.

Article X. State and Chapter Officers

Section A
The officers of the state FFA associations shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. Other officers may be elected as deemed appropriate by the state advisor and/or state FFA governing body. The state supervisor of agricultural education shall be the state FFA advisor. An executive secretary, executive treasurer, executive secretary-treasurer and/or other state FFA officials may be named by the state advisor subject to the approval of the state

FFA governing body. All state FFA officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates present at any regular convention of the state association.

Section B

The officers of an FFA chapter shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. Other officers may be elected as deemed appropriate by the local advisor and/or governing body. The teacher(s) of agricultural education shall be the FFA advisor(s). Chapter officers shall be elected annually or semi-annually by the members present at any regular meeting of the chapter.

Section C

If a state association has been chartered for two years or more, all state officers shall have attained the State FFA Degree. If a chapter has been chartered for two years or more, all chapter officers shall have attained the Chapter FFA Degree.

Article XI. Meetings and Conventions

Section A

Except in case of an extreme emergency declared by the National FFA Board of Directors, a convention of the National FFA Organization shall be held annually. The purpose of the national convention shall be to conduct the business of the national organization and to recognize outstanding achievements of FFA members and chapters. The time and place of the convention shall be determined by the National FFA Board of Directors.



Section B

At the national convention an official delegate assembly limited to 475 delegates will convene. This delegate body will consist of two official delegates from each state association to be designated as chair and vice chair of the state delegation, plus additional official delegates based on the individual state association's percentage of national FFA membership. The delegates shall be selected by the state FFA association. A quorum shall exist when both the following conditions are met at the time business is conducted: a majority of the official delegates registered at the national convention are present and at least 26 state associations are represented by official delegates. Business items shall only be considered when approved by a delegate committee or by a two-thirds vote of the delegate body, except for proposed amendments to the constitution and bylaws meeting the requirements outlined in Article XVI.

Section C

Except in case of extreme emergency, a convention of the state FFA association shall be held annually prior to the national convention at a time and place to be determined by the governing body of the state FFA association. The state association shall determine the number and method of selection of delegates to the state convention.

Article XII. Committees

Section A

Governing Committee - The National FFA Board Chair and National Advisor, National FFA Executive Secretary, and National FFA Treasurer shall constitute the Governing Committee and shall have the power to deal with items of business of the national organization between the meetings of the National FFA Board of Directors. The National FFA Board of Directors may appoint additional individuals to the Governing Committee, so long as such individuals are members of the National FFA Board of Directors. Additionally, the National FFA President and National FFA Chief Executive Officer may be extended an invitation by the National FFA Board Chair to serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Governing Committee. All official actions of the Governing Committee shall be reported and ratified to the National FFA Board of Directors at the next regular board meeting.

Section B

Standing Committees - In addition to the Governing Committee, there shall be three additional standing committees for the National FFA Organization:

1. The National FFA Officer Nominating Committee, appointed by the National FFA President, shall place in nomination the candidates for the Board of Student Officers.
2. The Finance Committee shall review FFA's financial statements and the auditors' report(s) on all FFA financial accounts. The Finance Committee shall consist of the National FFA Treasurer, who shall serve as the Committee Chair, and two additional voting board members, as determined by the Board of Directors. The Finance Committee shall work collaboratively with the Finance Committee of the National FFA Foundation, Inc. The National FFA Chief Financial Officer (CFO) shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member on the Finance Committee.
3. Board Nominating Committee - The National FFA Board Chair, three voting board members appointed by the National FFA Board, and one National FFA Student Officer appointed by the Board of Student Officers, shall serve on the Board Nominating Committee. The Board Nominating Committee, as appropriate, shall evaluate and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding individuals to serve on the Board of Directors and as Officers of FFA.
4. The Board of Directors may authorize additional committees for the National FFA Organization, as the Board deems necessary and appropriate.

Article XIII. National Board of Directors

Section A

1. The National FFA Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the organization. The Board of Directors shall consist of:
   a. The United States Secretary of Education, or the Secretary's designee who has experience in agricultural education, the FFA, or career and technical education.
   b. One (1) National Council for Agricultural Education Representative.
   c. Four (4) Agricultural Education State Staff.
   d. Two (2) Agricultural Education Teacher Educators.
   e. Two (2) Agricultural Education Teachers/Chapter FFA Advisors.
   f. One (1) Agricultural Business and Industry Representative.
   g. The National FFA Executive Secretary.
   h. The National FFA Treasurer.
2. Board member qualifications, terms of office, and method of selection shall be prescribed in the National FFA Bylaws.
3. The National FFA Board of Directors shall meet at least once per year at such time and place as prescribed by the Board.

Section B

Governing Committee – The chairperson and two members of the National FFA Board of Directors shall be designated by the board to serve as the Governing Committee and shall have the power to deal with items of business of the national organization. All official actions of the Governing Committee shall be reported to the National FFA Board of Directors.

Article XIV. Dues

Section A

Annual membership dues and program affiliation fees of the National FFA Organization shall be established by a majority vote of the delegates at the national convention. In the event the annual national convention is not held and/or the official delegates fail to set dues and program affiliation fees, the annual membership dues and program affiliation fees of the national organization will remain the same as the previous year. The National FFA Board of Directors shall submit its recommendation concerning dues and program affiliation fees to each state association at least 45 days prior to the National FFA Convention.

Section B

The membership year of the National FFA Organization shall be from August 1 to July 31.

Section C

Annual membership dues and program affiliation fees of a state FFA association shall be established by a majority vote of the delegates present at the state FFA convention.

Section D
The annual membership dues and program affiliation fees of a chapter shall be established by a majority vote of the members at a regular chapter meeting.

Article XV. Parliamentary Authority
The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the National FFA Organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this constitution and bylaws, any special rules of order the National FFA Organization may adopt and any statutes applicable to this organization that do not authorize the provisions of this constitution and bylaws to take precedence.

Article XVI. Amendments
Section A
Proposed amendments to the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws may be submitted by a state FFA association, the board of student officers or the National FFA Board of Directors. Proposed amendments from a state FFA association must be submitted in writing to the national organization by January 1 for review by the National FFA Board of Directors. All proposed amendments to the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws must be submitted by the national advisor to the state FFA associations by March 1. The board of student officers shall present their recommendations concerning each amendment to the delegates at the national convention.

Section B
An amendment to the National FFA Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the official delegates at the National FFA Convention. An amendment to the bylaws shall require a majority vote of the official delegates at the National FFA Convention.

Section C
Amendments to the bylaws must not conflict with the National FFA Constitution.

National FFA Organization Bylaws

(As amended at the 92nd National FFA Convention, October 2019 and ratified by the National FFA Board of Directors, Nov. 11, 2019.)

ARTICLE I. RELATIONSHIP TO THE CONSTITUTION
The bylaws shall be a part of the Constitution of the National FFA Organization.

ARTICLE II. HEADQUARTERS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE
The headquarters and principal office of the National FFA Organization shall be the National FFA Center, 6060 FFA Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268.

ARTICLE III. PROCEDURE FOR ELECTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Section A
The Board of Directors, in accordance with the FFA Charter and Constitution, shall be made up of the following individuals:

1. The United States Secretary of Education, or the Secretary's designee who has experience in agricultural education, the FFA, or career and technical education. Educational experience shall be defined as at least three years of teaching agricultural education and having served either (a) as an FFA Chapter and/or State FFA Advisor, and/or (b) as State FFA Executive Secretary or State Agricultural Education staff.
2. One individual shall be appointed by the National Council for Agricultural Education.
3. Four individuals shall be appointed by the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE), each of which shall be on the agricultural education state staff with expertise and job duties in agricultural education and/or FFA, and each individual shall be from a different FFA region (as defined in Section B).
4. Two individuals that are agricultural education teacher educators shall be appointed by the American Association of Agricultural Educators (AAAE).
5. Two individuals that are active agricultural education teachers

and chapter FFA advisors shall be appointed by the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE).

6. One individual that represents agricultural business and industry, which shall be vetted by the Board Nominating Committee and approved by the National FFA Board of Directors.
7. The National FFA Executive Secretary. (See Bylaws Article VI. B regarding election.)
8. The National FFA Treasurer. (See Bylaws Article VI. C regarding election.)

Section B

The four regions of the National FFA Organization shall be:

Western Region
Alaska
Arizona
California
Guam
Hawaii
Idaho
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Texas
Utah
Washington

Southern Region
Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Tennessee
Virgin Islands

Central Region
Colorado
Iowa
Kansas
Minnesota
Montana
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Oklahoma
South Dakota
Wisconsin
Wyoming

Eastern Region
Connecticut
Delaware
Illinois
Indiana
Kentucky
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Ohio
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont
Virginia
West Virginia

Section C

1. The term of service for the elected members of the National FFA Board of Directors shall begin on January 1 and continue for a three-year period.
2. Board terms shall expire in rotation with the total number of board members divided by 3.
3. With approximately one third of the board members terms expiring each year. To the extent possible, two selected representatives from the same organization will be staggered so they will not expire the same year.

Section D

Each organization that appoints an individual or individuals to the National FFA Board of Directors shall have another individual selected, identified and shared with the National FFA Advisor and Board Chair for each appointed Board seat (an “Alternate Director”). In the event a board member vacates a position on the National FFA Board of Directors, the Alternate Director shall fill the vacated seat for the remainder of the vacated term. To the extent that there is a vacancy for a board member that is elected by the National FFA Board of Directors, the vacancy shall by filled by an affirmative vote of the National FFA Board of Directors after having been vetted by the Board Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE IV. NATIONAL FFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Section A

The meetings of the National FFA Board of Directors shall be held at such place and time as prescribed by the board.

Section B

Special meetings of the board may be called by the chairperson.

Section C

Notice of meetings shall be given to each member of the board not less than 30 days prior to any regular meeting and not less than five days prior to any special meeting.

ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

Section A

President—It shall be the duty of the president to preside over the national convention and meetings of the national officers. The president shall call one national convention each year. The president shall appoint all committees and may serve as an ex-officio member of these committees.

Section B

Vice Presidents—It shall be the duty of each vice president to represent the membership of the National FFA Organization. Should the office of president become vacant, the first vice president shall assume the duties of the president, followed in turn by the second, third and fourth vice presidents.

Section C

Secretary—It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep minutes of the meetings of the National FFA Officers and the national convention, and perform other duties as directed by the National FFA Board of Directors and/or the national executive secretary.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTION AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD CHAIR, NATIONAL FFA ADVISOR, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Section A

Board Chair and National FFA Advisor - *Election*. One individual shall serve as the Board Chair and the National FFA Advisor. The Board Chair and FFA Advisor shall be determined in the following manner:

1. The United States Secretary of Education, or the Secretary's designee that serves on the Board of Directors, shall serve as the Board Chair and National FFA Advisor if such individual has at least three years of teaching agricultural education and has served either (a) as an FFA Chapter and/or State FFA Advisor, and/or (b) as State FFA Executive Secretary or State Agricultural Education staff.
2. If 1. is not satisfied or the individual otherwise chooses not to serve as the Board Chair and National FFA Advisor, then the individual that has been appointed by the National Council for Agricultural Education to serve on the Board of Directors shall serve as the Board Chair and National FFA Advisor, so long as the individual has agricultural education teaching and/or FFA programming experience.
3. To the extent that the Board Chair and National FFA Advisor is not otherwise filled, the National FFA Board of Directors shall elect an individual that is on the National FFA Board of Directors to serve in such a role, so long as the individual has agricultural education teaching and/or FFA programming experience.

Duties. It shall be the duty of the Board Chair and National FFA Advisor to:

1. Serve as chairperson of the National FFA Board of Directors.
2. Advise the National FFA Officers, Board of Directors, delegates and committees on matters of policy and assist the officers in conducting meetings and carrying out programs.
3. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
4. Provide for the review of all applications for the American FFA Degree and submit them in turn to the National FFA Board of Directors for approval.
5. Perform such other duties as directed by the National FFA Board of Directors.

Section B

National Executive Secretary - *Election*. The National Executive Secretary shall be a member of NASAE, NAAE or AAAE, vetted by the Board Nominating Committee and approved by the National FFA Board of Directors.



Duties. It shall be the duty of the National Executive Secretary to:

1. Issue charters to state associations when directed to do so by the National FFA Board of Directors.
2. Keep official records of members and the progress of the organization.
3. Review all reports from state associations and inform the National FFA Board of Directors of any proceedings which conflict with the provisions of the National FFA Constitution.
4. Provide for complete and accurate minutes of the meetings of the National FFA Board of Directors, the Governing Committee, and any other committee affecting the national organization, and furnish copies to members of the National FFA Board of Directors.
5. Keep a record of all officers of the national organization and their terms of office, and of all official national convention delegates.
6. Arrange for the annual national convention.
7. Perform such other duties as directed by the National FFA Board of Directors and/or the National Advisor.

Section C

National Treasurer - *Election.* The National Treasurer shall be an employee or member of a state agency that directs or supervises a state program of agricultural education under the provisions of federal career and technical education legislation, vetted by the Board Nominating Committee and approved by the National FFA Board of Directors.

Duties. It shall be the duty of the National Treasurer to:

1. Be responsible for the financial assets of the organization except as otherwise directed by the National FFA Board of Directors.
2. Present an annual financial report to the National FFA Board of Directors, National FFA Officers, and official delegates at the national convention.
3. Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the National FFA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII. THE FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Organization shall be January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE VIII. PROCEDURES FOR ISSUING CHARTERS TO STATE ASSOCIATIONS AND CHAPTERS

Section A

Prospective state FFA associations shall apply to the national organization for a charter. The application shall be signed by the president, secretary and advisor of the prospective state association. The following materials shall accompany the application:

1. A copy of the proposed constitution and bylaws.
2. A copy of the state FFA Program of Activities.
3. A complete list of local chapters, including the name and address of each member.
4. The name and address of each association officer.

Section B

Provided the prospective association's constitution does not conflict with the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws and provided other constitutional requirements have been met, a charter shall be granted by the National FFA Board of Directors. The charter shall be signed by the national FFA advisor, the executive secretary and the national FFA president.

Section C

The state FFA advisor and/or governing body of a chartered state association shall charter a local chapter when the state requirements have been met and the following have been received by the state association:

1. An application for a charter.
2. The names of all chapter members and officers.
3. The proposed chapter constitution and bylaws.
4. The chapter Program of Activities.
5. All current state and national FFA dues or program affiliation fees.

FFA Federal Charter

In 1950, the 81st Congress of the United States, recognizing the importance of FFA as an integral part of the program of vocational agriculture, granted a Federal Charter to FFA via Public Law 81-740. This law established the charter in Title 36 of United States Code. In 1998, the 105th Congress reviewed and passed technical amendments to the FFA Federal Charter as part of Public Law 105-225. In 2019, the 116th Congress reviewed and passed additional amendments to the FFA Federal Charter as Public Law 116-7.

The text below reflects the FFA Federal Charter (36 USC Ch. 709) following the amendments provided in Public Law 105-225 and Public Law 116-7.

---

36 U.S. Code Chapter 709 - FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

36 U.S.C. § 70901. Organization.

(a) Federal Charter.— Future Farmers of America (in this chapter, the "FFA") is a federally chartered corporation.

(b) Perpetual Existence.— Except as otherwise provided, the FFA has perpetual existence.

36 U.S.C. § 70902. Purposes.

The purposes of the FFA are—

(1) to be an integral component of instruction in agricultural education, including instruction relating to agriculture, food, and natural resources;

(2) to advance comprehensive agricultural education in the United States, including in public schools, by supporting contextual classroom and laboratory instruction and work-based experiential learning;

(3) to prepare students for successful entry into productive careers in fields relating to agriculture, food, and natural resources, including by connecting students to relevant postsecondary educational pathways and focusing on the complete delivery of classroom and laboratory instruction, work-based experiential learning, and leadership development;

(4) to be a resource and support organization that does not select, control, or supervise State association, local chapter, or individual member activities;

(5) to develop educational materials, programs, services, and events as a service to State and local agricultural education agencies;

(6) to seek and promote inclusion and diversity in its membership, leadership, and staff to reflect the belief of the FFA in the value of all human beings;



(7) to create, foster, and assist subsidiary chapters and associations of those chapters in the States, territories, and possessions of the United States as such chapters and associations carry out agricultural education programs that are approved by States, territories, or possessions;
(8) to build character, and develop competent and assertive agricultural leadership;
(9) to increase awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture, food, and natural resources, and the way agriculture contributes to our well-being;
(10) to promote the intelligent choice and establishment of a career in fields relating to agriculture, food, and natural resources;
(11) to make available to State associations, local chapters, and members all official supplies, programs, services, and equipment of the FFA;
(12) to cooperate with others, including State boards and officials for career and technical education, in accomplishing these purposes; and
(13) to engage in other activities, consistent with these purposes, determined by the governing body to be for the best interests of the FFA.

36 U.S.C. § 70903. Membership.

(a) Eligibility.—
Except as provided in this chapter, eligibility for membership in the FFA and the rights and privileges of members are as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA.

(b) Voting.—
In matters of official business of a local chapter, each member has one vote. In matters of official business of a State association, each qualified delegate of a local chapter has one vote.

36 U.S.C. § 70904. Governing body.

(a) Board of Directors.—
(1) The board of directors is the governing body of the FFA. The board shall exercise the powers granted to the FFA.
(2) The board—
(A) shall consist of—
(i) the Secretary of Education, or the Secretary of Education's designee who has experience in agricultural education, the FFA, or career and technical education; and
(ii) other individuals—
(I) representing the fields of education, agriculture, food, and natural

resources; or

(II) with experience working closely with the FFA; and

(B) shall not include any individual who is a current employee of the National FFA Organization.

(3) The number of directors, terms of office of the directors, and the method of selecting the directors, are as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA.

(4) The board shall meet at least annually at the time and place provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA. The annual report of the board shall be presented at that meeting. Special meetings of the board may be called at any time by the chair.

(b) Officers. —
The officers of the FFA, the terms of officers, and the election of officers, are as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA, except that such officers shall include—

(1) a national advisor;

(2) an executive secretary; and

(3) a treasurer.

(c) Governing Committee.—

(1) The board may designate a governing committee. The terms and method of selecting the governing committee members are as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA, except that all members of the governing committee shall be members of the board of directors and at all times the governing committee shall be comprised of not less than 3 individuals.

(2) When the board is not in session, the governing committee has the powers of the board subject to the board's direction and may authorize the seal of the FFA to be affixed to all papers that require it.

(3) The board shall designate to such committee—

(A) the chair of the board;

(B) the executive secretary of the board; and

(C) the treasurer of the board.

36 U.S.C. § 70905. National officers.

(a) Composition.—
There shall be not less than 6 national student officers of the FFA, including a student president, 4 student vice presidents (each representing regions as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the corporation), and a student secretary.

(b) Election.—
The national officers of the corporation shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates assembled in the annual national convention from among qualified members of the corporation.

(c) Vote at National Convention.—
Each qualified delegate has one vote at the annual national convention.

36 U.S.C. § 70906. Powers.

The FFA may—

(1) adopt and amend bylaws and regulations for the management of its property and the regulation of its affairs, including the establishment and maintenance of local chapters and State associations of chapters;

(2) adopt and alter a seal;

(3) adopt emblems and badges;

(4) choose officers, managers, agents, and employees as the activities of the corporation require;

(5) make contracts;

(6) acquire, own, lease, encumber, and transfer property as necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of the FFA;

(7) borrow money, issue instruments of indebtedness, and secure its obligations by granting security interests in its property;

(8) use FFA funds to give prizes, awards, loans, and grants to deserving members, local FFA chapters, and State FFA associations to carry out the purposes of the FFA;

(9) produce publications, websites, and other media;

(10) make available to State associations, local chapters, and members all official FFA supplies and equipment;



(11) sue and be sued; and
(12) do any other act necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the FFA.

36 U.S.C. § 70907. Exclusive right to name, seals, emblems, and badges.

The FFA and its authorized chapters and associations of chapters have the exclusive right to use the names "Future Farmers of America" and "National FFA Organization," and the initials FFA as representing an agricultural education membership organization and seals, emblems, and badges the FFA adopts.

36 U.S.C. § 70908. Restrictions.

(a) Stock and Dividends.—
The FFA may not issue stock or declare or pay a dividend.

(b) Political Activities.—
The FFA or a director, officer, or member acting on behalf of the FFA may not contribute to, support, or assist a political party or candidate for elective public office.

(c) Distribution of Income or Assets.—
The income or assets of the FFA may not inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, a director, officer, or member, except on dissolution or final liquidation of the FFA.

(d) Loans.—
The FFA may not make a loan to a director, officer, or employee. Directors who vote for or assent to making a loan to a director, officer, or employee, and officers who participate in making the loan, are jointly and severally liable to the corporation for the amount of the loan until it is repaid.

(e) Prizes, Awards, Grants, or Loans to Student Officers and Members Meeting Criteria.—
This section does not preclude prizes, awards, grants, or loans to student officers and members meeting the criteria established by the board of directors for selecting recipients of those benefits.

36 U.S.C. § 70909. Availability of personnel, services, and facilities of Department of Education.

(a) In General.—
On request of the board of directors, the FFA may collaborate with Federal agencies, including the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture on matters of mutual interest and benefit.

(b) Agency Assistance.—
Those Federal agencies may make personnel, services, and facilities available to administer or assist in the administration of the activities of the FFA.

(c) Agency Compensation.—
Personnel of the Federal agencies may not receive compensation from the FFA for their services, except that travel and other legitimate expenses as defined by the Federal agencies and approved by the board may be paid.

(d) Cooperation with State Boards.—
The Federal agencies also may cooperate with State boards and other organizations for career and technical education to assist in the promotion of activities of the FFA.

36 U.S.C. § 70910. Headquarters and principal office.

The headquarters and principal office of the FFA shall be as provided in the constitution or bylaws of the FFA. The activities of the FFA may be conducted throughout the States, territories, and possessions of the United States.

36 U.S.C. § 70911. Records and inspection

(a) Records.—
The FFA shall keep—
(1) correct and complete records of account;
(2) minutes of the proceedings of its members, board of directors, and committees having any of the authority of its board of directors; and
(3) a record of the names and addresses of its members.

(b) Inspection.—
A member, or an agent or attorney of the member, may inspect the records of the FFA at any reasonable time.

36 U.S.C. § 70912. Service of Process.

(a) In General.—
The FFA shall have a designated agent to receive service of process for the corporation. Notice to or service on the agent, or mailed to the business address of the agent, is notice to or service on the FFA.

(b) States, Territories, and Possessions.—
As a condition to the exercise of any power or privilege granted by this chapter, the FFA shall file, with the Secretary of State or other designated

official of each State, territory, or possession of the United States in which a subordinate association or chapter of the FFA is organized, the name and address of an agent in that State, territory, or possession on whom legal process or demands against the FFA may be served.

36 U.S.C. § 70913. Liability for acts of officers and agents.
The FFA is liable for the acts of its officers and agents acting within the scope of their authority.

36 U.S.C. § 70914. Distribution of assets on dissolution or final liquidation.
On dissolution or final liquidation of the FFA, any assets remaining after the discharge of all liabilities shall be used by the board of directors for the benefit of students of agricultural education or be transferred to a recognized educational foundation.

Official Board Policy on FFA Trademarks

Adopted November 1995

Approved by National FFA Board of Directors Sept. 21, 2021.

The following policies are for the guidance of FFA members, local chapters, state associations, the National FFA Organization and all other parties concerned with the approved and acceptable uses of the name Future Farmers of America, the name National FFA Organization, the letters FFA, the FFA emblem, the FFA Advertising Mark and other FFA trademarks and service marks. They were approved by the national board of student officers and board of directors and adopted by delegates at the 1995 national convention.

Basic Premises

a. The name Future Farmers of America and the National FFA Organization, the letters FFA and the FFA emblem or insignia and FFA Advertising Mark are registered as trademarks in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. They, and the other FFA Marks, are the exclusive property of the "Future Farmers of America," a corporation by an Act of Congress (P.L. 105-225, 105th Congress). The National FFA Board of Directors, acting upon recommendations of the national board of student officers and the national convention delegates, is assigned the responsibility for establishing policies governing the use of the FFA Name and Marks.

b. The use of the FFA Name and Marks shall be only such that will reflect dignity and credit on the organization.

c. Chapter, state association, state foundation and national foundation use of the FFA Name and Marks is encouraged to publicize and promote FFA, especially in the context of:
   (01) Public information, including, but not limited to, newspapers, TV, radio, videos, multimedia works and other forms of publicity relating to FFA and FFA activities and programs,
   (02) Promotions and publicity events including, but not limited to, FFA Week, fairs, expositions or other displays, road signs, member home designations and parade floats,
   (03) Educational programs of all types, including career development events and awards designed for educational purposes and programs where revenue may be generated, but is incidental to the purpose of the activity and does not significantly exceed the cost of the program and
   (04) Motivational programs of all types, including those where revenue may be generated, but is incidental to the purpose of the activity and does not significantly exceed the cost of the program.

d. Any use of the FFA Name and Marks is strictly prohibited if such use exploits, or might be construed to exploit, for commercial or unapproved purposes, the organization, its officers, members or the agricultural education program of which they are a part.

e. No organization, person, company, chapter, state association or state foundation may grant the right to use or reproduce by any means or manufacture, any of the FFA Name and Marks for any purpose, except as expressly granted in these policies. The National FFA Organization reserves the right, in its discretion, to enter into agreements for use of the FFA Name and Marks, including appropriate uses for commercial purposes. Any use or

employment of any of the FFA Name and Marks that is not specifically included in this Statement of Policies is reserved to the National FFA Board of Directors.

f. Any grant or authorization to an individual, organization or institution for a specific use of any of the FFA Name and Marks does not imply nor preclude granting a similar authorization to another individual, organization or institution for the same or similar purposes.

General Policies

a. The FFA emblem should be given a position of prominence whenever it is used.
b. The FFA emblem always should be used intact without being defaced.
c. The FFA Name and Marks shall not be used or employed in any manner by the FFA groups, members or other parties as trademarks in connection with commercial enterprises or purposes.
d. Advertisements, public releases or displays containing any of the FFA Name and Marks in any form shall not include expressed or implied testimonials or endorsements of business firms or individuals, their products or services, either by individual members, local FFA chapters, state associations, state foundations or the National FFA Organization.
e. The FFA Name and Marks shall not be used by or associated in any manner with any organization or business when such use or association might reflect unfavorably on the National FFA Organization or its members.
f. All uses of the FFA Name and Marks shall be truthful and accurate. The FFA Name and Marks shall never be used in a manner that misleads or deceives. For example, any authorized use stating that proceeds from an activity "go to FFA" shall clearly identify the portion of proceeds that will be provided to FFA.

Specific Policies

a. Consistent with the goals set forth in the basic premises and general policies, chapters, state associations and state foundations are hereby authorized (within the meaning of Section 16 of Public Law 105-225, 105th Congress) to use the FFA Name and Marks for the purposes set forth in the goals on the following conditions:
   (01) The use of the FFA Name and Marks is otherwise in compliance with these policies and the FFA Name and Marks are used in such a manner as to impart positive feelings of support for agricultural education and FFA or to impart a modern view of agricultural education;



(02) The FFA Name and Marks are not used on official clothing, which remains the exclusive province of the National FFA Organization. "Official clothing" refers to any clothing so designated by the national board of directors and any facsimiles thereof;

(03) The FFA Name and Marks are not used on any articles for sale or otherwise for the purpose of fundraising, which is governed by Specific Policy 2, below

b. Chapters, state associations, state foundations and the national foundation are hereby authorized (within the meaning of Section 16 of Public Law 105-225, 105th Congress) to use the FFA Name and Marks on articles for sale, for the purpose of raising funds to support local, state or national FFA programs, on the following conditions:

(01) The use of the FFA Name and Marks is otherwise in compliance with these policies,

(02) Sales are limited by chapters to their local service area (roughly the area from which members are drawn) and by state associations and foundations to within their state boundary,

(03) The products or services sold must: be in good taste, represent a reasonable product or service for FFA as an agricultural association, provide reasonable value, be of good quality, not subject purchasers or users to risk of harm or loss and be consistent with the goals and image of the FFA,

(04) All sales must be made by the local chapter, state association or state foundation or its members (as the "retailer"). Chapters, state associations and state foundations are not authorized to grant rights to use the FFA Name and Marks when the product or service will be sold to wholesalers or dealers, who will, in turn, resell that product or service,

(05) The FFA Marks may not be used on official clothing (as defined above), which remains the exclusive province of the National FFA Organization,

(06) The authority granted by this paragraph does not include use of the FFA Name and Marks on plaques, trophies and other "awards,"

(07) All collateral literature relating to any product or service and the packaging or label affixed to any product, must state that the "Use of the [FFA Name or Mark being used] does not represent an endorsement by FFA of this product or service or an endorsement by FFA of the manufacturer or provider of this product or service,"

(08) Each State FFA Advisor or his or her designee shall maintain a sample of each product sold under this paragraph by the state association or state foundation and shall provide to the national board of directors or its designee a trademark report each year identifying each product or service sold by the state association or state foundation under this paragraph using any of the FFA Name and Marks. Samples shall be maintained for two years and may be inspected by a designee of the national board of directors at his or her request,

(09) Each chapter shall provide a report each year to its state FFA advisor or his or her designee identifying each product or service sold under this paragraph using any of the FFA Name and Marks. The chapter shall maintain a sample of each such product for two years and shall provide such samples, upon request, to the State FFA Advisor or the national board of directors and

(10) Before any use under this paragraph relating to the sale of products is authorized, the chapter, state association, state foundation or national foundation shall obtain from its supplier an agreement that the supplier will indemnify and defend the National FFA Organization and its officers, directors, chapters, state associations and state foundations from and against any liability or costs arising from the manufacture, quality or characteristics of the products. The national board of directors may, from time to time, identify classes of products for which an indemnification is not required.

c. When chapters, state associations, state foundations or the national foundation authorize a third party to create materials for their use, and those materials require the creation of copies of any of the FFA Name and Marks that are raised, cast, die cut, adhesive or created by any process other than printing, the FFA Marks must be acquired from a supplier duly authorized by the national board of directors or its designee. Chapters, state associations and state foundations may create plaques and trophies, but the FFA Name and Marks used on the plaques and trophies must be acquired from such a duly authorized supplier. Chapters, state associations and state foundations must ensure that only currently approved and recognized emblems or marks are used.

d. State associations, state foundations and local chapters, in their respective areas of operation, may authorize commercial firms, business organizations and other agencies and individuals to employ the FFA Name and Marks in saluting or paying tribute to the organization and in supporting its educational objectives and activities.

e. State associations and local chapters of the FFA may employ the FFA Name and Marks in exhibits, displays and demonstrations that are designed to pay tribute to or to salute the FFA organization.

f. When the FFA emblem, the name "Future Farmers of America" or the letters "FFA" are used in printed form, they shall be identified by the symbol consisting of a small capital letter "R" in a circle to identify its registration and trademark privileges. All other FFA Marks, which are not registered but which are still FFA trademarks, shall be identified by the small capital letters "TM."

g. Active members, advisors and ex-officio leaders of the FFA are entitled to identify themselves officially with the FFA organization and to wear the official FFA degree pins and charms.

h. Former FFA members, collegiate chapter members, honorary members and persons who are recipients of official FFA honors, special recognition and awards, are entitled to wear the pins, charms, medals or other approved symbols of the respective official degrees, awards or honors which have been conferred upon them.

i. The National FFA Foundation, Inc. and National FFA Alumni and Supporters are entitled to use the official FFA emblem and name of the National FFA Organization in fulfilling official responsibilities as determined by the board of directors and National FFA Officers.

j. National FFA Foundation sponsors may use the FFA Mark and Name in commercial advertisements which do not endorse or imply endorsement of a product. Such usages shall have the approval of the chief executive officer or foundation team leader for each proposed advertisement before its actual printing or production.

k. All uses of the FFA Name and Marks are subject to review by the board of directors. Authority for the use shall be withdrawn by the board of directors if the use is found to be in violation of these policies. The board of directors, acting in the best interests of FFA, may condition, limit or terminate any grant of authority to use the FFA Name and Marks. It is the responsibility of the State FFA Advisor to monitor compliance with the official policies and to protect the interests of FFA with respect to the use of the FFA Name and Marks by chapters, state associations and state foundations.

l. Nothing in these Policies transfers ownership of any of the FFA Name and Marks to any chapter, state association or state foundation. Ownership in all of the FFA Name and Marks is retained by the National FFA Organization.

m. The national board of directors will enforce these policies using all available legal remedies.

n. All FFA officers, members and staff shall be guided by the foregoing principles and the spirit of these policies.

o. The National FFA Organization does not approve or authorize the use of any of the registered FFA trademarks to be added to anything that could be considered a weapon;
   (01) Exception being pocketknives with blades no more than 2.36 inches in length and 0.5 inches in width, with no blade lock and devoid of molded handle (per TSA).

p. The National FFA Organization does not offer licenses for third-party

manufacturers to produce weapons which use any of the registered FFA trademarks.

q. The National FFA does not endorse or approve FFA trademarks to be used in partnership with brands who are connected to Alcohol and/or Tobacco.

r. National FFA does not permit the use of its trademark in association with any product that is not legal throughout the entire United States.

Below are the registered trademarks of the National FFA Organization. These marks are approved for use by chapters, state associations and state foundations, all of which are encouraged to use the marks to publicize and promote FFA within the context of the Official Board Policy on FFA Trademarks.

Chapters, state associations and state foundations can download FFA trademarks at *FFA.org/brand*.

National sponsors can request the use of the "Proud to Support" trademark by emailing *foundation@ffa.org*. Authorized vendors can request approval for one-time use of the registered FFA Trademarks by emailing *branding@ffa.org*. Sponsors and vendors should allow at least three business days for the approval process. Sponsors and vendors will be expected to comply with the Official Board Policy on FFA Trademarks.

Alumni and supporter chapters can request personalized chapter logos by emailing *alumni@ffa.org*.



FFA



Notes



Visit

ShopFFA.org

for this and more.

SHOP FFA

THE FFA VISION

Growing the next generation of leaders who will change the world.

THE FFA MISSION

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

THE AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION MISSION

Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

2025 © NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION The letters "FFA," the FFA emblem, Future Farmers of America and Forever Blue are registered trademarks of the National FFA Organization and cannot be used without permission.

FFA