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**To:** [AGED-L](#)  
**Subject:** NY Ag Education/FFA News Blitz  
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Good Morning,

Happy 2019! We're looking forward to seeing many of you at 212-360 next weekend.

### Highlights:

- **2019 NYAAE June Conference Registration is OPEN!**
- **212/360 unpaid balances due ASAP**
- **SLE unpaid balances due ASAP**
- **FFA Deadlines**
- **Submitting National FFA Award Applications**
- **Camp Oswegatchie Updates**

### Ag Ed/Professional Development Updates:

#### **2019 NYAAE Conference Scholarship Closes Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>!**

Are you looking to attend the 2019 NYAAE Conference this June but know your school doesn't have the funds to support it? Be sure to apply for the 2019 NYAAE Conference Scholarship! This scholarship will cover up to \$250 towards the cost of your registration! For additional information, please visit this [LINK](#) and apply by January 31<sup>st</sup>! Don't forget the scholarship signature page either which can be found [HERE](#)!

#### **2019 NYAAE Conference**

The NYAAE Professional Development Committee has begun planning the 2019 summer conference. The summer conference is scheduled for **Sunday, June 23 to Wednesday, June 26, 2019** at the Oswegatchie Educational Center in Croghan, NY. This past June we had over 115 agricultural educators and guests attend the event. We are certain that this conference has something for everyone. We are looking forward to seeing each of you in June! Be sure to **save this date** and be watching for additional conference information coming across the list serve. **Plan ahead and submit a conference request to ensure that funds will be available for you in June.** \$520/participant.

**Registration for the 2019 NYAAE June Conference is live. Lodging will be booked on a first-come, first-serve basis so be sure to submit your conference requests to your school today!**

This past June we had over 100 agricultural educators and guests attend the event. We are certain that this conference has something for everyone. If you have any questions regarding submitting a workshop proposal or attending the 2019 summer conference please feel free to contact Kaylie Siddall or the planning committee members.

Anne Allen, Carol Wright, Jon English, Jeff Perry, Jessica DeVries, Mandi Millen, Brooke Head, Tara Berescik, Lisa Konnerth, Shari Lighthall, Terry Hughes

## **CASE Registration News**

Registration for the 2019 Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE) Institutes across the country will open on **December 1, 2018**. **Space in each institute will be limited** with registrations accepted on a first come first served basis. If you would like to attend an institute in New York, it will be important that you register early to secure a space.

In 2019, New York will be hosting the following two institutes in Lowville, NY:

July 28 - August 7, 2019 Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR) - [click for details](#)

July 28 - August 7, 2019 Mechanical Systems in Agriculture | Agricultural Power and Technology (APT) - [click for details](#)

### [Lodging and Logistics](#)

### [Registration](#)

### [Schedule and Course Info](#)

### [Scholarship Application](#) and [Signature Page](#)

### [Contact](#)

As of 2018, New York educators have attended 76 CASE institutes, this equates to almost 4,600 hours of professional development!

A generous thank you to our partners in NY for supporting 2019 NY CASE institute Scholarships: SUNY Cobleskill and the New York Association of Agricultural Educators (NYAAE)

## **Ag in the Classroom Updates:**

New York Farm Bureau  
2019 Agricultural Youth Scholarship Information

**A March 1, 2019 postmark deadline.**

### Applicant Guideline

- 2019 graduating High School Seniors who will continue their education to prepare for a career in some way connected to the diverse agricultural industry.
- Live or work on a farm or be involved with agriculture via any avenue.
- Family Farm Bureau membership or Student Farm Bureau membership is required & may

accompany application.

#### Process and Procedure

- Applications & information available at [www.nyfb.org](http://www.nyfb.org) or request by calling 1-800-342-4143.
- Students are required to complete an application which is a fillable pdf available on the NYFB website and submit a brief 300-500-word essay discussing an issue facing agriculture in their county, explaining how they think NYFB can support members who may deal with this issue.
- Completed application packets must be returned to New York Farm Bureau in Albany. A March 1, 2019 postmark deadline or via email.
- A District level competition will be held. Scoring will determine the County winners as well as the District winner. The judging event may necessitate a personal interview and essay presentation or may be based solely upon the application and attachments. The judging will take place prior to April 20, 2019. Each District Winner will receive \$100 plus a memento of their selection.

State winner selection will be made from District Winners, based solely on the submitted applications; there will be no personal interviews.

A \$1500, \$1200, and \$1000 Scholarship will be awarded

For More Information: [www.nyfb.org](http://www.nyfb.org) \* 1-800-342-4143

## NYS FFA Updates:

### Reminders:

**212/360-** We have a record number of attendees again this year! **If you have not submitted your payment yet, it is due immediately.** We will be sending a separate email out next week we all final information needed for this conference.

**SLE (State Leaders Experience)-** State Staff has been finalizing all of the plans for this event. If you have a student or you yourself is attending you will be receiving an Legislative Office Visit schedule for 2/5. The State Staff are working on Legislative Office visits for all the students and teachers that will be in attendance. We ask that you and your students do some research on your legislators once you receive the schedule so that you are better prepared to meet with them. **If you have not submitted your payment yet, it is due immediately.** An email with all final information will be sent the week before the event.

**FFA Membership Roster-** We have officially become an affiliation state! How does this affect how I

do my roster? The mechanics of how you do your roster has not changed. You still log into FFA.org or AET and add each of your students to your roster or bring them over from last year. What has changed is the philosophy behind who we add to our roster. As a state we are investing in ALL of our students that are enrolled in an agriculture class and want them to have access to FFA. You should be adding ALL of your students that are enrolled in an agriculture course to your FFA roster. If a situation arose and a student didn't want to be added to your FFA roster then as the advisor you can choose not to add them. However, that should be the last result. As FFA advisors we should be trying to encourage all of our students to join and be active in our organization, not just the ones who are self-motivated because we all know that the 3-circle model provides our students with a comprehensive agriculture program which will allow them to be more successful. The other change will be your invoice. You will be billed a flat fee based on the number of students on your roster. The fee chart is below.

#### FEE SCALE

Number of Chapter Members	State Affiliation Fee
1-25 members	\$200
26-50 members	\$300
51-100 members	\$400
101+ members	\$500

Rosters are due March 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **New York Application/ Due Date Information:**

##### **Due February 15<sup>th</sup>**

- **Empire Degree-** Due February 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications are accessible through [ffa.org](http://ffa.org) and AET. The only portion that needs to be mailed to the state office are the signature page and the last sheet of the printed PDF. The last sheet is a NY requirement to be eligible for this degree.
- **State Star-** Due February 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications are accessible through [ffa.org](http://ffa.org) and AET. You do not need to mail anything in for this application.
- District President Application

##### **Due March 1<sup>st</sup>**

- Proficiency Award
- Honorary Empire Degree Nominations
- FFA Roster
- National Chapter Award

- State Officer Intent to Run due Electronically

### **Due March 15<sup>th</sup>**

- Dairy Breed
- New Chapter Jacket Award
- Student Jacket Award
- NY SAE Grant
- State Officer Application
- State Officer Nominating Committee Application

### **Due April 1<sup>st</sup>**

- American Degree Application (tips below): Cover page of application must be submitted to the State FFA Office post marked by 4/1

### **District Competitions:**

- District 1- February 28<sup>th</sup>, John Bowne. Snow Date- March 5<sup>th</sup>
- District 2- February 9<sup>th</sup>, Pine Plains. Snow Date- March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- District 3- March 1<sup>st</sup>, Greenwich Snow Date March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- District 4- February 12<sup>th</sup>, Delaware Academy. Snow Date- February 14<sup>th</sup>
- District 5- February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Stockbridge Valley. Snow Date- February 9<sup>th</sup>
- District 6- February 9<sup>th</sup>, Gouverneur. Snow Date February 12<sup>th</sup>/ 13<sup>th</sup>
- District 7- February 9<sup>th</sup>, Southern Cayuga. Snow Date- February 10<sup>th</sup>
- District 8- February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jasper Troupsburg. Snow Date- February 9<sup>th</sup>
- District 9- February 28<sup>th</sup>, Springville. Snow Date- March 5<sup>th</sup>
- District 10- February 13<sup>th</sup>, Sherman. Snow Date- February 14<sup>th</sup>

**Substates-** March 16th. Snow Date March 23rd.

- Eastern Region- Unadilla Valley
- Western Region- Byron Bergen
- Central Region- Cazenovia

## **National FFA Updates:**

### **AMERICAN FFA DEGREE: APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT COVER PAGE OF THE APPLICATION TO THE STATE FFA OFFICE**

Four updates were made to the application in 2018.

#### *Automatic Upload of Chapter & Advisor Information:*

Chapter and advisor information (*name, address, school, phone, email*) now loads automatically into the application cover page. This will reduce the opportunity for the applicant/advisor to make typing errors and help to keep chapter information up to date in the FFA.org profile system.

- The information comes directly from the Chapter and Advisor profile information provided to the FFA.org profile system by the FFA Advisor.

#### **TROUBLE SHOOTING TIPS:**

- Corrections to this information cannot be made in the application itself, the authorized FFA advisor must log in to FFA.org and make the corrections in their advisor profile.
  - The application may need to be refreshed (*log out and log back in*) for the changes to show. There is also a “Refresh” button for the advisor information.
  - If a chapter advisor is missing the advisor needs to register themselves in FFA.org as the chapter advisor and request state staff approval.
  - If a chapter advisor needs to be removed from the chapter profile a state staff must make this change in the FFA.org profile system.

#### *Membership Check:*

A new automatic membership check has been added to the application. This automates the checking of membership for members, chapter advisors, state and national staff. No more need to run tedious and time consuming multi-year membership checks on your applicants! No more last minute, summer month, notifications from National FFA about missing years of membership. Issues will be discovered and solved prior to applications being submitted.

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The application will check the membership id number of the member profile used to start the application against National FFA Organization membership records.

- The application will check for and display all years in which the applicant was/is an FFA member from 2013-14 forward.
  - 3 years of consecutive FFA membership and membership in the current year are required to qualify for the American FFA Degree.
  - Years of membership prior to 2013-14 cannot be checked automatically in the system. This in no way prevents applicants who were members in previous years from adding those years of SAE records to the application.
- The membership check is included on the automatic Checklist in the application.
  - An application that does not show all checks “Met” on the checklist will not submit to the National FFA Organization.

#### **TROUBLE SHOOTING TIPS:**

- Members who advisors have mistakenly entered as new members instead of renewed as continuing members will have multiple FFA ID numbers. The application provides a place to add these additional FFA ID numbers so the system can find them.
- AET customers who start applications through AET need to ensure their information in AET matches that in FFA.org for the membership check to work properly.

#### *Electronic Signatures:*

The American FFA Degree has gone paperless! Signed hard copies of the American FFA Degree signature page have been replaced with an electronic signature process.

- **No hard copy forms or pages are required to be submitted to National FFA for the American FFA Degree.**
- Electronic signatures are required from:
  - Applicant - typed directly into the application when complete. Applicant must be signed in and working on the application in their own profile to be able to sign.
  - Chapter Advisor – typed directly into the application before submitting to state designated regional/state staff. For multi-advisor chapters any one of the advisor can sign the form electronically.
  - Parent/Guardian – applicant enters name(s) and email information and clicks button which sends email to parent/guardian. Parent/guardian clicks link in email to sign

application.

- Principal or Superintendent - applicant enters name and email information and clicks button which sends email to administrator. Administrator clicks link in email to sign application.
- State Staff signature is replaced by the fact that only the state staff can approve and submit the application for national review.
- Chapter President signature has been removed.

#### *Manual Checklist:*

The Manual Review Sheet which previously became available only when a PDF copy of the application was generated has now been added to the Checklist screen of the application (*it will still print if a hard copy of the application is desired*).

- Additional detail has been added to these checks to help local/regional/state application reviewers find problems before submitting the application to National FFA.
- A direct link to the Community Service definitions is included in this manual review.

### **PROFICIENCY AWARD APPLICATIONS**

Two updates were made to the application in 2018.

#### *Membership Check:*

An automatic membership check feature has been added to the Proficiency Award application.

- The application will check the membership id number of the member profile used to start the application against National FFA Organization membership records.
- The application will check to ensure the applicant is a current FFA member and that the applicant has been a member for at least 12 months.
  - The membership history does not print on the PDF/Hard Copy of the application.
  - The application will check for all years in which the applicant was/is an FFA member from 2013-14 forward.
  - 12 months of records are required to complete a proficiency award so the application looks for at least 12 months of membership and confirms the applicant is a current member.
  - Years of membership prior to 2013-14 cannot be checked automatically in the system. This in no way prevents applicants who were members in previous years from adding those years of SAE records to the application.



- The membership check is included on the automatic Checklist in the application.

#### *Automatic Upload of Chapter & Advisor Information:*

Chapter and advisor information (*name, address, school, phone, email*) now loads automatically into the application cover page. This will reduce the opportunity for the applicant/advisor to make typing errors and help to keep chapter information up to date in the FFA.org profile system.

- The information comes directly from the Chapter and Advisor profile information provided to the FFA.org profile system by the FFA Advisor.

#### **TROUBLE SHOOTING TIPS:**

- Corrections to this information cannot be made in the application itself, the authorized FFA advisor must log in to FFA.org and make the corrections in their advisor profile.
  - The application may need to be refreshed (*log out and log back in*) for the changes to show. There is also a “Refresh” button for the advisor information.
  - If a chapter advisor is missing the advisor needs to register themselves in FFA.org as the chapter advisor and request state staff approval.
  - If a chapter advisor needs to be removed from the chapter profile a state staff must make this change in the FFA.org profile system.

**There is no change to the submission process of Proficiency Award applications this year. Applications must still be submitted in hard copy for national judging.**

#### **Oswegatchie Updates:**

Oswegatchie has several available weekends open in Foster Lodge this winter. This building is perfect for a group retreat of 24 persons or less. Learn more about Foster Lodge here <https://www.oswegatchieretreats.org/foster-lodge.html>

Oswegatchie has two open weekends in our Sutliff lodge this winter. March 15-17 and March 22-23. Learn more about Sutliff Lodge here <https://www.oswegatchieretreats.org/sutliff-lodge.html>

To book a weekend or to ask more questions about Oswegatchie contact Robin Waite- [rwaite@oswegatchie.org](mailto:rwaite@oswegatchie.org) or call 315-346-1222

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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.