

From: bounce-122341466-76929370@list.cornell.edu
To: [AGED-L](#)
Subject: NY Ag Ed/FFA News Blitz
Date: Friday, March 2, 2018 7:00:59 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image013.png](#)

Good evening,

For those of you that have a snow day, I hope you are enjoying the 3 day weekend!

We are very excited to open registration for State Convention on Monday at 9am! We postponed this due to the weather, however we have posted most information regarding workshops, tours, day of service, sessions, LDE/CDE's, etc. on the State Convention webpage. We will have a registration guide posted on Monday when registration opens.

We urge you to look at this guide first and gather all of the information you need from each student before trying to register. Registration is much different this year, you will be registering each student and selecting options for each student as you register. You will need to know what your student wants to participate in before you can register. To start planning for convention please visit: <http://www.nysffa.org/state-convention>. *If you have questions please feel free to contact Catie Rowe or Derek Hill.*

Below are some important updates. Please reach out to us if you have specific questions.

AG ED/Professional Development Updates:

Bring home the BLUE, not the FLUE! Free online course to help you teach your students about zoonotic diseases. Excellence in Exhibition: Preventing Disease in Animals and People. The course is meant to encourage showmanship and animal involvement while keeping animals and humans safe and healthy. Includes six 20-30 minute lessons with powerpoints, worksheets, and learning objectives. <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/YouthInAg/>

June 17-20th NYAAE conference for all NY Agricultural Educators. **Submit a conference request to your school today to ensure that funds will be available for you in June.** Complete the online registration and an invoice will be provided for you to submit to your school. Cost to attend will \$495/participant. <http://www.nysffa.org/nyaaeconference>

Do you need help? Just have a agricultural content specific question? Could you benefit from a few new lessons or ideas from an agricultural education colleague? NYAAE has expanded its agricultural education-mentoring program. **Please visit the [NYAAE mentoring portal](#), click on a mentor's name and reach out for assistance.**



Oswegatchie's AdironDuck Race is Sunday April 29th 2018! Your chapter can participate in our biggest yearly fundraiser and help send your students to camp.

For every duck your school gets credit for selling, you earn 50% of the profit in the form of "duck bucks". Duck bucks can be used anytime in the next 12 months for purchases and programs at Oswegatchie.

There are two ways you can participate.

1. Commit to selling a "flock" of ducks. This is a traditional method where you commit to a physical batch of

tickets which you sell through your students, alumni and community. We do not take ducks back, so the number of ducks you request are yours to keep.

2. Just spread the word for supporters to go online and pick your chapter. This means you do not have to collect any cash or ticket stubs! Just share on social media, send emails, print some postcards.

This is our general duck sales page with every chapter listed.

<http://www.adironduckrace.com/buy-ducks.html>

We are also creating custom chapter web pages, like this <http://www.adironduckrace.com/beekmantown-ffa.html>

Contact us today if you would like a custom page, or a batch of tickets to sell!

rwaite@oswegatchie.org OR wwaite@oswegatchie.org



New York FFA
Foundation

Foundation News:

If you ordered placemats from the NY FFA Foundation for your FFA Banquets or other public events, you will be able to pick these up at your Sub State competition sites. If you are not attending sub state, we can mail them directly to your FFA Chapter. Please advise if you need them mailed by contact Todd Lighthall at tlighthall@oswegatchie.org.

New York Association of FFA Updates:

Below are some updates and reminders for the multiple events and activities coming up the next couple of months.

Waivers and Medical forms are required for all events at the state level. Please email them ahead of time to Nancy Grossman.

State Convention: Registration will be live on Monday @ 9am! The promotional poster for State Convention was mailed to all of our chapters yesterday. You should receive them early next week! Schedules, engagement opportunities, competitions and more have all been posted! Please review all of this information with your students so that you can be prepared to register them for the appropriate activities. **Registration closes April 9th.** The official hotel of the 2018 convention has had a name change, it is now the Rochester Riverside Hotel. This facility is ideally located to all convention venues with direct access via skywalk to the convention center with a short walk to the Blue Cross Arena. Most workshops and LDE/CDE's will be held in either the Rochester Riverside Hotel or Convention Center. Please visit our website for more information about reserving rooms for your chapter: <http://www.nysffa.org/state-convention-hotels>. **In order to receive the reduced rate that includes breakfast you must reserve your rooms by 3/30/18.** You can now reserve up to five rooms at a time on the new online portal that the hotel has provided us. Please limit the number of excess rooms you reserve so all schools have the opportunity to join us at this location.

FFA Membership: Even though the roster deadline has passed, chapters can continue to add members until August 1st after paying a \$50 late fee. **We will be checking rosters for members advancing to Sub-States and State Convention, please make sure these students are on your roster.** There have been many updates and changes to

the system. Please read **ALL** of the following information carefully so that this transition can be as smooth of a process as possible. We have created a new page on our www.nysffa.org website just for help with FFA membership and help with rosters. Please visit this link for information and tutorials on how to do your student roster this year: <http://www.nysffa.org/membership/>. As our state continues to see growth in our membership, we are starting to see some overlap with our homeschools and BOCES centers having students in two programs. As a reminder, students can only be members in one chapter. This is a student's choice which chapter they will be a member of. In order to be a member of a chapter students should be receiving instruction from the certified agriculture teacher at that program. **A new policy that took affect September 1st is, 7-12th grade members must be added to the national roster, only 6th graders can be added to the NY Only Roster.**

District President and State Officers Candidates:

District President Deadlines:

- Selection Process will take place at your sub-state location on 3/17/18
- District Presidents will be elected at State Convention on 5/18/18 by the delegates from their district.

Students who are interested in serving on the District President NOM COM should have notified their Trustee.

State Officer Deadlines:

- We will be sending out a list of the candidates early next week to confirm that we have everyone accounted for who intends to run.
- Application Due: 3/15/18, the application is located here:
<http://www.nysffa.org/apps/2015/9/23/leadership-awards-applications>
- Selection Process Location and Date: The selection dates will be **4/12-4/14/18**,

Embassy Suites by Hilton Syracuse Destiny
USA
311 Hiawatha Blvd. W, Syracuse, New
York, 13204, USA
TEL: +1-315-303-1650

- State Officers will be elected at State Convention by the delegates.

Students who wish to serve on the State Officer Selection NOM COM should fill out the application on our website (<http://www.nysffa.org/apps/2015/9/23/leadership-awards-applications>) by 3/15/18.



FFA Members Are Living to Serve

DAY OF SERVICE GRANT

Day of Service Mini-Grants provide alumni/collegiate or middle/high school chapters with up to \$400 to conduct a one-time service event.

Day of Service: Rolling deadline last day of each month (up to \$400)

Learn more at FFA.org/LivingToServe
#LivingToServe

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve." ~Martin Luther King Jr.

How is your chapter Living to Serve? FFA offers Day of Service Mini-Grants for \$400 to support chapters in planning community service events. The application is easy, and you can apply for funds to support a one-day service event that focuses on topics such as Community Safety; Hunger, Health and Nutrition; Environmental Responsibility; or Community Engagement.

Find out more at FFA.org/LivingToServe/grants.

If you have questions, the Living to Serve team is here to help. You can email them at LTS@FFA.org

New York Application/ Due Date Information:

If you have questions regarding AET, award applications or CDE/LDE information please contact Catie Rowe, crowe@cornell.edu.

Due March 15th

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

District Competitions:

- District 1- March 1, John Bowne. Snow Date- March 7
- District 2- March 3, Pine Plains. Snow Date- March 10
- District 3- March 2, Northern Adirondack. Snow Date March 9
- District 5- March 3, HFM Ag PTECH/ Mohawk Valley. Snow Date- March 4
- District 6- March 3, Indian River. Snow Date March 4
- District 9- March 1, Letchworth. Snow Date- March 5

Substates- March 17. Snow Date March 27th. More information to come in the coming days!

- Eastern Region- Cobleskill Richmondville
- Western Region- Cattaraugus Little Valley
- Central Region- Carthage

DISTRICT AND SUBSTATE SNOW/ INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Schools need to notify the host by noon of the day prior to your event if they are unable to attend (travel to the event, if it is a weekend) because of inclement weather causing a school to close. **Even if one school is unable to attend, the competitions need to be moved to the snow date.** If you have selected a snow date

that falls after the manuscript due date, students will have 24 hours after your event to submit their manuscripts to Catie Rowe at cmr323@cornell.edu. If your snow date falls on a weekend, you have until midnight of the next school day (the following Monday) to submit them. If manuscripts are submitted any later than this, we cannot guarantee that they will be evaluated and all late penalties will apply. **ALL sub-state manuscripts must be submitted via email, in PDF format to me no later than 11:59pm on March 7th, unless your district has to move to your snow date.**

The full snow date policy reads as such: "Every district must have a date and a snow date by October 1st submitted to State FFA and recommend that there be at least a week between those dates at the discretion of the host site. In case of inclement weather causing not 100% of the schools to be eligible to participate in district and sub-state competitions, schools need to contact host site by noon the day prior of the event. Should this occur, the event would move to the snow date."

Manuscripts that need to be emailed in PDF format by 11:59pm on March 7th to Catie Rowe at cmr323@cornell.edu are:

- **Senior People in Agriculture 2-4 Page Summary**
- **Prepared Speaking Manuscript**
- **Job Interview Resume, Cover Letter, Job Description, and Application.** Cover letters for Sub-States and State Convention need to be addressed to:

Ann LaFave

Cornell University

Roberts Hall, Room 140

Ithaca, NY 14853

- **Agricultural Education/Teach Ag LDE Speech Manuscript-** If students wish to receive feedback on their speech, please submit it with all other manuscripts. This is not mandatory but it cannot be guaranteed the manuscript will receive feedback.

NEW FOR 2018- Agricultural Education/ Teach Ag LDE preview event at Sub States

At the January meeting, the board voted to adopt the Agricultural Education/ Teach Ag LDE as an exploratory event at the Sub State level. At this level, students will be scored but will not receive a rank or official placing- this is just a practice of the event. **Any student that is interested in participating in this event should submit their written speech manuscript to the Sub-State hosts 10 days prior to the event.** The Agricultural Education/Teach Ag LDE will officially begin at State Convention, students will receive a score and a rank at the state level. This is not a National competition.

Calling all CDE Lovers!

If you or someone you know has a passion for competition and want to judge at the 2018 State Convention in Rochester fill out this form! <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/45754-Aoe> This link can also be found under the "JUDGE FFA CONTESTS" tab on the State Convention page (<http://www.nysffa.org/state-convention>)

Do you want to be more involved in competitions this year? Do you enjoy seeing students hard work come to life in their favorite competitions? Become a CDE Coordinator! Email Catie Rowe at cmr323@cornell.edu for more information.

CDEs that need Coordinators for 2018:

Scrapbook/Secretary's Book/Reporter's Award

LDEs that need a Coordinator for 2019:

Jr Prepared Public Speaking

National FFA Updates:

1. Tap Into These Free Resources on My Journey

Need free resources to help with planning, weather delay/cancellations or upcoming FFA contests? We've got something for everyone on [My Journey](#). This month's featured lessons and resources include:

- [CDE/LDE Classroom Resources, featuring Nursery/Landscape](#)
- [Job Interview “Insider Tips for Success”](#)
- [Parliamentary Procedure and Ag Issues Forum - Finals Hall Videos](#)
- [Living to Serve Grant Highlights](#)
- [Virtual Field Trip at Ford Motor Company](#)
- Hundreds of lesson plans with ready-to-print worksheets within the [document library](#)

2. FFA for \$1,600, Alex

If you watched the TV show Jeopardy last night, you were pleasantly surprised to see FFA featured under the category of charitable organizations. We captured the moment on <https://www.ffanewhorizons.org/2018/02/16/ffa-appears-as-a-clue-on-jeopardy/> if you'd like to watch.

3. National FFA and American Farmland Trust Forms Partnership

The National FFA Organization and American Farmland Trust (AFT) signed a memorandum of understanding this week to cooperate and collaborate for the next five years. The two organizations pledged to work together toward the common goal of strengthening agriculture and seeking mutually beneficial opportunities for AFT and FFA members and agricultural education students. The agreement allows FFA to retain AFT for its conservation expertise on projects involving gifts of farm or ranch land to FFA. The goal is to help potential donors achieve conservation objectives in the context of a planned gift of farm or ranch land.

4. Red Brand Announces New Home Grown Challenge

Since 2010, Red Brand has partnered with agriculture dealers to help generate funds for local FFA chapters through the Home Grown program. In 2018, a new component has been added to the program to help create even more potential earnings for local FFA chapters. It's called The Home Grown Challenge. The top five teams will win \$1,000 for their chapters. Here's how it works:

- Help your Red Brand dealer promote Home Grown in your community to increase the potential to make more money for your chapter.
- The more Red Brand fence your dealer sells in 2018, the greater your chances of winning.
- The \$1,000 prize is in addition to your annual Home Grown check.
- All dealers who participated in Home Grown in 2017 are eligible.
- Winners will be determined by the percentage of growth over 2017, not overall volume, making the challenge an equal opportunity for all dealer/chapter* teams nationwide.

**Multiple chapters designated by a winning dealer will share the prize equally.*

For more information, go to redbrand.com/homegrown or contact the Red Brand marketing department, 309-697-7690 or trey.tennell@keystonesteel.com.

5. Celebrating Career and Technical Education Month

February is a special month for FFA, not only for National FFA Week but also for Career and Technical Education Month. Our friends at American Farm Bureau Federation wrote an informative article on the merits of career and technical education, including how high school students involved in career and technical programs, such as FFA, are “more engaged in the classroom, perform at higher levels and graduate at higher rates.” Read the article on the [farm bureau's website](#).

6. The Secretary of Agriculture continues to provide extraordinary support of FFA. Here's yet another message he sent out on social media on our behalf. Sec. Sonny Perdue (@SecretarySonny) tweeted at

4:13 PM on Thu, Feb 22, 2018: I feel like it's @NationalFFA Week every week. As I travel around this great country of ours, everywhere I go I see young people eager to begin careers in agriculture and proudly wearing those blue and gold jackets. Happy #FFAWeek! <https://t.co/w9hugmxA2x>

7. Chapters Living to Serve During National FFA Week

Chapters across the country are putting their leadership into action by engaging in community service activities during National FFA Week. The Living to Serve team awarded 15 Day of Service Mini-Grants, worth \$400 each, to support chapters' local efforts. Below are two chapters that received grants:

Whiteland FFA, Indiana

To support a fellow student, Whiteland FFA is collecting supplies for 100 "Emma's Art Kits." Emma created an organization that collects art supplies for children's hospitals, after spending time in one herself. During National FFA Week, FFA members are helping her reach her goal of donating 150,000 art kits.

Kenmare FFA, North Dakota

Kenmare FFA is working with local partners to improve apartments at a local community housing facility. The apartments are part of a nonprofit that helps house community members in need. FFA members are providing much-needed volunteer hours to help ensure a clean and safe environment for those using the facility.

8. Third Annual Give FFA Day a Success

On Tuesday, National FFA held a 24-hour giving event to raise money during National FFA Week. Activities included live interviews and leaderboard updates on Facebook Live from the National FFA Center, multiple matching challenges from generous donors and lots of advocacy on behalf of FFA Ambassadors on social media. Though we are still waiting on final numbers from Facebook donations, at this time, we can report more than \$160,000 raised! More than 200 donors contributed during this day of giving. Search #giveFFAday on social media to see all of the engagement and check out [National FFA on Facebook](#) if you missed the live stream. For a Give FFA Day donor honor roll, visit <https://www.ffanewhorizons.org/give-ffa-day/>.

9. 2018 National FFA Constitution and Bylaws Proposals

Earlier this week, National FFA Advisor Dr. Steve Brown distributed an official notification of the proposed 2018 National FFA Constitutional Amendments for consideration at the 91st National FFA Convention & Expo. Four proposals were included in this notification. All four proposed amendments will soon be posted on the [National FFA Delegate webpage](#) on FFA.org. An update to the 2017 Delegate Committee Recommendations can also be found on the delegate webpage under the "2017 Delegate Process" tab. This update includes responses to 2017 delegate recommendations by National FFA staff and was reviewed by the National FFA Board of Directors.

10. "Just for Owls in the Classroom" Monthly Email

Last week, the first edition of a monthly email geared toward agriculture teachers was sent. The purpose of the email series is to feature testimonials from teachers currently using our educator resources as well as showcase three resources each month.

11. AgExplorer Moves Past 3 Million Mark

AgExplorer has now had more than 3 million page views! In January alone, the site had more than 312,000 page views, which is nearly a 50 percent year-over-year increase in site traffic and more than 20,000 new visitors. In January, the most popular videos were the Animal Systems Spotlight and the on-

demand Zoetis Virtual Field Trip. More than 6,000 engagements took place on the Career Finder.

12. Alumni and Supporters Don't Slow Down – Even in Ice and Snow Storms

National FFA staff and [National FFA Alumni and Supporter Advisory Committee](#) members have been busy traveling the last couple of weeks. Three alumni and supporter events took place in one weekend alone. First, [Ohio](#) held their annual alumni convention, an action-packed weekend. Local Program Success Specialist Karen Hutchison and advisory committee member Ted Hughes Jr. attended this convention. Second, Executive Director of National FFA Alumni and Supporters Joshua Rusk attended the [Wisconsin Annual FFA Alumni Convention](#). Josh shared greetings and presented informative workshops. The last event was the first of 11 National FFA Alumni and Supporters [Regional Development Conferences \(RDCs\)](#) in 2018, which took place in Bozeman, Mont. Allie Ellis, the FFA education specialist for the alumni team, presented at this conference. Advisory committee member Sid Freeman also attended and helped Allie as the regional representative of the membership in that area. Twenty-three attendees from six states participated in this first RDC.

You still have time to register for the next set of RDCs, which will take place in Woodbury, Conn., and Indianapolis. National staff and advisory committee members can be requested to attend or present at alumni and supporter events at any time. Log in to [FFA.org](#) and go to the alumni and supporters state staff toolbox to find the request form.

13. National Officers Volunteer at D.C. Central Kitchen

Last week, we mentioned that several of our staff were in our nation's capital doing great work on behalf of FFA. Our National FFA Officers had an opportunity to put their leadership into action through service. Partnering with CoBank, the title sponsor of the Living to Serve platform, the officers served alongside D.C. Central Kitchen volunteers in helping to prepare meals for those in need. D.C. Central Kitchen develops and operates social ventures that target breaking the cycle of hunger and poverty by preparing adults for careers in the culinary arts, providing a pathway out of poverty.

14. Prospecting With Culver's

Kim Weseli, one of our foundation regional directors, had it "rough" last week. She attended a Culver's Reunion and sampled cheese curds, the restaurant's new pub burger, spicy chicken sandwiches, and oh yes, that wonderful frozen custard. And did we mention her trip was in Tampa, Fla.? Yes, there was work done too. National FFA Sponsors' Board member Greg Schneider, vice president of supply chain management at Culver's, introduced the foundation to 14 new prospects. We have a lot of follow-up work to do.

15. Help Us Make FFA New Horizons Better for You

You should have received your spring issue of *FFA New Horizons* in the mail earlier this week. I hope you enjoy reading all of the wonderful stories coming out of FFA. As we mentioned a couple of weeks ago, the magazine will undergo a few changes next year to improve how we deliver exciting content to you. First, we'd love to get your feedback on how we can make the *FFA New Horizons* experience better for you. Visit [FFANewHorizons.org/survey](#) to take our brief reader survey. If you take the survey by April 1, you could win a \$100 Amazon gift card for your time. Please spread the word; we want to hear from everyone.

16. National FFA Staff Help Local Families in Need

Last week, we couldn't help but get in on the National FFA Week action here at 6060. Our awards and recognition team spearheaded a Gleaners Food Bank drive. Together, we hauled in 146 pounds of canned

and dry foods to feed those in need in Indiana. Gleaners is also a National Days of Service site during national convention and expo. We look forward to working with them again, and making an even greater impact, in October.

17. My Journey Webinar Coming Soon

Join us for the webinar, “How to Utilize My Journey,” on Thursday, March 8, 4 - 5 p.m. EST. Have questions about My Journey? Email myjourney@ffa.org. Unable to make it? The webinar will be recorded and accessible after the live event.

To join the webinar: join.me/606-206-108

Conference ID #: **606-206-108 #**

18. Alumni and Supporters: No Shortage of Resources

The educational development and evaluation team just wrapped up the application period for the National FFA Teacher Ambassador program and was amazed at the impressive applicants. On the application, we asked the question, “Which National FFA resource do you use in your program?” One answer we received validates our efforts to provide valuable resources:

“Since 2015, I have been able to utilize the resources on the FFA.org website in order to help an alumni chapter charter in our community. There were so many resources for recruitment, constitution and bylaws, member resource spreadsheets and more; we could figure out the best way for the alumni association to support our chapter. If not for the information available on the website, we would have struggled so much more, and the process would have taken so much longer. We are more successful and supported as a chapter now because of our alumni chapter, and that is thanks in part to the information I was able to access on FFA.org.”

19. I Just Called to Say...

Each year, our national officers call more than 800 generous donors and sponsors to say “thank you” during our annual Thank-A-Thon for Supporters. The phone calls took place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening at the National FFA Center.

20. Culver’s Launches FFA Essay Contest

FFA sponsor Culver’s is once again hosting its annual FFA Essay Contest. Three FFA chapters have a chance to win \$7,500, \$5,000 and \$2,500 respectively to use toward their agricultural education initiatives, such as attending the National FFA Convention & Expo this October. This year’s essay question: The 2017 National FFA Convention & Expo theme was I Can. We Will. What does this mean to you, and how will you apply it in your future ag career? Visit <https://www.culvers.com/essaycontest> to learn more.

21. Grants for Growing Continues Breaking Records

Tractor Supply Company (TSC), the sponsor of National FFA Week, has continued its five-year tradition of increasing its fundraising to FFA. This year, the Grants for Growing program raised \$830,486, a 13.56 percent increase (\$98,292) over last year. During National FFA Week, TSC sales associates collected \$1 or more from many customers at checkout. The majority of the funds raised in this program are awarded to chapters that have applied and won a grant from TSC.

In 2017, Grants for Growing awarded 312 FFA chapters with grants. Thanks to the generosity of TSC and their customers, more grants will be funded this year. The 2018 grant winners will be announced

April 9 – 11.

22. DEKALB Agricultural Accomplishment Award

A long-time supporter of the National FFA Organization, Monsanto has announced they are continuing the sponsorship of the DEKALB Agricultural Accomplishment Award in 2018. This award showcases the abilities of outstanding agriculture students and is presented annually to one FFA member per chapter who exemplifies scholarship, commitment and work ethic.

DEKALB is pleased to recognize these select students for their hard work, dedication and passion for pursuing a fulfilling career in agriculture. These students demonstrate promising young talent and are the rising stars of agriculture. Students can be nominated to receive this award by their FFA advisors at [DEKALB AgAccomplishment Award](#).

23. FFA Attends International Leadership Conference

Mike Rogalsky, executive director for the Florida FFA Foundation, and three Florida state FFA officers joined our foundation major gifts officer, Kristen Self, in Orlando, Fla., last week at the International Leadership Conference for Express Employment Professionals. Express provided a booth for FFA. The group met the company's franchisees and connected them with local FFA chapters.

24. Intern at National FFA

If you know of anyone who would like to intern at National FFA this summer, please have him or her check out this newest posting:

[Summer Intern – National FFA Foundation 2018](#)

TO: All State Staff

National FFA Board of Directors
2017-18 National FFA Officers
National FFA Organization Division Directors
Local Program Success Team

Please consider this email as your official notification of the proposed 2018 National FFA Constitutional Amendments for consideration at the 91st National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. Attached is a PDF copy as well as a copy of the proposals provided below.

NATIONAL FFA HEADQUARTERS OPERATIONS

1410 KING STREET, SUITE 400
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

PHONE: (703) 838-5882 FAX: (703) 838-5888 E-MAIL: sbrown@ffa.org

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2018

TO: All FFA Associations (Advisors and Executive Secretaries)

FROM: Steve A. Brown, National FFA Advisor
Sherene Donaldson, National FFA Executive Secretary

RE: Proposed Constitutional Amendments for consideration by the Delegates at the 91st NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION & EXPO IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, OCTOBER 2018

Proposed Amendments to the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws

The National FFA Advisor is to submit all proposed constitutional and bylaw amendments to the FFA state associations by March 1. (Article XVII, Amendments) Likewise, as per Article XVII, amendments must be submitted by January 1 for review by the National FFA Board of Directors.

The provisions have been met and the board is asking the delegates to consider the following four constitutional amendments this October.

ENCLOSURES:

State Proposals:

- Proposal A – New York submitted a proposed change to the **State FFA Degree Requirements**.

National FFA Board of Directors, 2016-17 and 2017-18 National FFA Officer Proposals:

- Proposal B – Modifying National FFA Membership Kind “Active” to “Student”.
- Proposal C – Modifying National FFA Membership Kind “Alumni” to “Adult”.
- Proposal D – Moving National FFA Honorary Degree from **Membership Kind** to **Degrees**.

Questions regarding the constitutional amendments may be directed to sbrown@ffa.org

2018 National FFA Constitutional Amendment Proposal A

For consideration by the delegates at the 91st National FFA Convention

Submitted by: New York State FFA Association and 2017-18 New York State FFA Officer Team

Subject: Changing the State FFA Degree Requirements

Motion: Move to amend the National FFA Constitution: **Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership, Section E** by striking out, “(24 months)”, add the words, “and paid dues for two years”.

Rationale:

- 20% of FFA chapters in New York are Career and Technical Centers.
- Most Career and Technical Center agriculture/FFA programs are two-year programs. As a result, even though these students have paid their dues for two years and are extremely active members they will not meet the 24-month requirement by state conventions. This restricts members that have met all other requirements from achieving this recognition while still in high school.
- This change does not alter the integrity of the current state degree requirements; it keeps the requirements just as rigorous while allowing FFA members the opportunity to fully participate in our organization.
- The current 24-month requirement conflicts with when membership begins and when many state conventions are held across the nation.

Effect: Proposal would cause **Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership, Section E** of the constitution to read: Have been an active FFA member and **paid** membership **dues for two years (24 months)** at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.

2018 National FFA Constitutional Amendment

Proposal B

For consideration by the delegates at the 91st National FFA Convention

Submitted by: National FFA Board of Directors, 2016-17, and 2017-18 National FFA Officers

Subject: Replacing the word “Active” with the word “Student”

Motion: Move to amend the National FFA Constitution: **Article III. Organization; Article V. Membership; Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership; and Article IX. National Officers and Procedures for Election;** by replacing the word “active” with “student” and the word “kinds” with “types” in all occurrences.

Rationale: Student membership is a more inclusive descriptor regarding membership type. All student members should be active participants in FFA.

Effect: Replaces the word “active” with the word “student” and the word “kinds” with “types” in the following:

(NOTE: The National FFA Constitution wording below reflects the constitution at the time the proposal was submitted. Proposal B changes are noted. Other proposed amendments may modify the wording of these sections.)

Article III. Organization:

Section A.

It shall consist of chartered state associations composed of not less than four chapters chartered by a state association and having a total **active student** membership of not less than 125 members

Article V. Membership:

Section A.

Membership in the National FFA Organization shall be of three ~~kinds~~ **types: active student**, alumni and honorary.

Section B.

Active Student Membership - To be eligible for **active** 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 7-12.

To become an **active student** member and retain membership, a student must:

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

Proposal B (continued)

Members using this waiver of service time for the purpose of maintaining **active 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.

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

Section C.

Alumni Membership - Membership shall be open to former **active student** members and honorary members, 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 Active Student Membership

Section A.

There shall be five degrees of **active student** membership based on individual achievement.

Section E.

2. Have been an **active student** FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.

Section F.

1. Have received the State FFA Degree, have been an **active 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.

Article IX. National Officers and Procedures for Elections:

Section D.

The national officers shall hold the American FFA Degree at the time of their election and must be **active 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.

2018 National FFA Constitutional Amendment Proposal C

For consideration by the delegates at the 91st National FFA Convention

Submitted by: National FFA Board of Directors 2016-17, and 2017-18 National FFA Officers

Subject: Replacing the word “Alumni” with the word “Adult”

Motion: Move to amend the National FFA Constitution: **Article V. Membership** by replacing the word “Alumni” with “Adult”.

Rationale: Adult membership is a more inclusive descriptor regarding membership type.

Effect: Modifies a constitutional form of membership with a more inclusive descriptor.
Replaces the word “Alumni” with the word “Adult” in the following:

(NOTE: The National FFA Constitution wording below reflects the constitution at the time the proposal was submitted. Proposal C changes are noted. Other proposed amendments may modify the wording of these sections.)

Article V. Membership:

Section A.

Membership in the National FFA Organization shall be of three kinds: active, **alumni adult** and honorary.

Article V. Membership:

Section C.

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

**2018 National FFA Constitutional Amendment
Proposal D**

For consideration by the delegates at the 91st National FFA Convention

Submitted by: National FFA Board of Directors, 2016-17, and 2017-18 National FFA Officers

Subject: Moving Honorary as National FFA membership kind to Degrees.

Motion: Move to amend the National FFA Constitution: **Article V. Membership** and **Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership** by changing “honorary” from a membership kind to a degree.

Rationale: Differentiates between membership type and degrees and maintains the honorary degree recognition.

Effect: Changes the Constitution and will cause a change in the wording within the National FFA Honorary Degree Ceremonies.

(NOTE: The National FFA Constitution wording below reflects the constitution at the time the proposal was submitted. Proposal D changes are noted. Other proposed amendments may modify the wording of these sections.)

Article V. Membership

Section A.

Replace the word “**three**” with the word “**two**” and strike the word “**honorary**”:

Membership in the National FFA Organization shall be of **three two** kinds: active **and** alumni, ~~and honorary~~.

Section C.

Replace “**members**” with “**degree recipients**”.

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

(Continued Next Page)

Proposal D (continued)

(Note: The word “**Active**” would be deleted in the Article VI.)

Move **Article V. Section E.** to **Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of ~~Active~~ Membership** and adding a **Section G,**

Section G.

Honorary **Membership 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 membership** by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting or convention.

The Honorary membership 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 Degree recipients will be considered alumni/adult members as part of their Honorary Degree.**

Rationale: Differentiates between membership type and degrees and maintains the honorary degree recognition.

Effect: Will cause a change in the wording within the FFA Honorary Degree Ceremonies.

TO: All State Staff
National FFA Board of Directors
2017-18 National FFA Officers
National FFA Organization Division Directors
Local Program Success Team

Please consider this email as an official notification regarding a Dues and Program Affiliation Fee Recommendation by the National FFA Board of Directors for consideration at the 91st National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN.
Attached is a PDF copy as well as a copy of the recommendation below.

NATIONAL FFA HEADQUARTERS OPERATIONS
1410 KING STREET, SUITE 400
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

PHONE: (703) 838-5882 FAX: (703) 838-5888 E-MAIL: sbrown@ffa.org

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 1, 2018

To: All FFA Associations (Advisors and Executive Secretaries)

FROM: Steve A. Brown, National FFA Advisor
Sherene Donaldson, National FFA Executive Secretary

RE: Dues and Program Affiliation Fee Recommended for consideration by the Delegates at the 91st NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION & EXPO IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, OCTOBER 2018

2019-2020 National FFA Dues and Program Affiliation Fee Recommendation

Annually, National FFA dues and program affiliation fees are established by a vote of the delegates at the

national FFA convention and expo. The National FFA Board of Directors (Board) are to submit a recommendation regarding dues and program affiliation fees at least 45 days prior to the National FFA Convention per National FFA Constitution, Article XV. Dues, Section A. (See Below)

The Board has asked that the 2019-2020 National FFA dues and program affiliation fee recommendation be sent out at this time so that states have sufficient notice and time to consider the recommendation.

Article XV. 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.

ENCLOSURES/ATTACHMENTS:

- **National FFA Board Dues and Program Affiliation Fee Recommendation**
- **2019-2020 Program Affiliation Fee Chart**
- **Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Dues and Program Affiliation Fee Increase**

Questions regarding the constitutional amendments may be directed to sbrown@ffa.org

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National FFA Dues and Program Affiliation Fee Recommendation

For consideration by the delegates at the 91st National FFA Convention & Expo

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Submitted by: National FFA Board of Directors and 2017-18 National FFA Officers

Subject: National FFA Membership Dues and Program Affiliation Fee

Motion: Move to submit to the delegates at the 91st National FFA Convention a recommendation to set individual student dues for the 2019-2020 membership year at \$9 and increase the program affiliation fee by \$0.50 times the maximum quantity for each tier. (See 2019-2020 Program Affiliation Fee Chart, attached.) The eleven states who were early program affiliation adopters (AK, AZ, CA, CO, MA, MI, MT, NE, NJ, OK and PA) will be provided one additional year (until 2020-2021 school year) to implement the tier fee increase, providing time for the early program affiliation fee adopters, who are dependent on existing external funding, to seek and implement the tier increase.

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Rationale: Dues have not increased in nearly a decade, even though the cost of services have increased and offered services have continued to improve to include items such as Ag Explorer and My Journey. In 2017, the National FFA Delegates directed the organization to work on its digital profile—both the website and a mobile application. The 2017 delegates recommended to the National FFA Organization to evaluate its programs to be reflective of innovations in agriculture and 21st-century technology.

To achieve this, the organization will need to increase its funding, resulting in an increase in membership dues and program affiliation fees. While increasing membership dues will help achieve this purpose, this is also an opportunity to encourage states to move to the affiliation model. This model would allow the organization to reach the goal of having all agricultural education students be a part of FFA and to experience the benefits of the three-component educational model.

The National FFA Board of Directors recently declared a goal of program affiliation be the only type of membership offered by 2021 and the organization seek 100 percent participation in

program affiliation. Program affiliation would allow FFA to reach and engage more young people in FFA, benefitting both students, teachers and the wider industry of agriculture.

Effect: Provides necessary revenue to maintain and sustain National FFA Organization operations. Increases cost for individual student dues and program affiliation fees.

| <u>National FFA Officers</u> | | <u>National FFA Board of Directors</u> | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Moved by: | <u>Ian Bennet</u> | Sustained by: | <u>Gerald Barlow</u> |
| Second by: | <u>Piper Merritt</u> | Second by: | <u>Matthew Eddy</u> |
| Passed: | <u>X</u> | Passed: | <u>X</u> |
| Failed: | <u> </u> | Failed: | <u> </u> |

Proposed 2019-2020 Program Affiliation Fee Chart

The program affiliation fee is assessed based on the total number of students/members within the agricultural education program and the tier range in which they fall. For example, a program with 80 students would fall in the 76-100 tier range and be charged \$590 under the new proposal. (100 maximum tier quantity x \$0.50 = \$50 + \$540 = \$590.00)

| | | Current Plan | Proposed |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Min Qty | Max Qty | Fee Amount | Fee Amount |
| | 25 | \$150.00 | \$162.50 |
| 26 | 35 | \$210.00 | \$227.50 |
| 36 | 50 | \$285.00 | \$310.00 |
| 51 | 75 | \$405.00 | \$442.50 |
| 76 | 100 | \$540.00 | \$590.00 |
| 101 | 125 | \$675.00 | \$737.50 |
| 126 | 150 | \$805.00 | \$880.00 |
| 151 | 175 | \$935.00 | \$1,022.50 |
| 176 | 200 | \$1,065.00 | \$1,165.00 |
| 201 | 225 | \$1,200.00 | \$1,312.50 |
| 226 | 250 | \$1,325.00 | \$1,450.00 |
| 251 | 275 | \$1,450.00 | \$1,587.50 |
| 276 | 300 | \$1,575.00 | \$1,725.00 |
| 301 | 325 | \$1,700.00 | \$1,862.50 |
| 326 | 350 | \$1,830.00 | \$2,005.00 |
| 351 | 375 | \$1,950.00 | \$2,137.50 |
| 376 | 400 | \$2,080.00 | \$2,280.00 |
| 401 | 425 | \$2,200.00 | \$2,412.50 |
| 426 | 450 | \$2,330.00 | \$2,555.00 |
| 451 | 475 | \$2,450.00 | \$2,687.50 |
| 476 | 500 | \$2,580.00 | \$2,830.00 |
| 501 | 525 | \$2,710.00 | \$2,972.50 |
| 526 | 550 | \$2,830.00 | \$3,105.00 |
| 551 | 575 | \$2,960.00 | \$3,247.50 |
| 576 | 600 | \$3,090.00 | \$3,390.00 |
| 601 | 625 | \$3,210.00 | \$3,522.50 |
| 626 | 650 | \$3,340.00 | \$3,665.00 |
| 651 | 675 | \$3,460.00 | \$3,797.50 |
| 676 | 700 | \$3,590.00 | \$3,940.00 |
| 701 | 725 | \$3,720.00 | \$4,082.50 |
| 726 | 750 | \$3,840.00 | \$4,215.00 |
| 751 | 775 | \$3,960.00 | \$4,347.50 |
| 776 | 800 | \$4,090.00 | \$4,490.00 |

Noted Example Above

Noted Example Below

| | | | |
|-----|------|------------|------------|
| 801 | 825 | \$4,210.00 | \$4,622.50 |
| 826 | 850 | \$4,330.00 | \$4,755.00 |
| 851 | 875 | \$4,450.00 | \$4,887.50 |
| 876 | 900 | \$4,580.00 | \$5,030.00 |
| 901 | 925 | \$4,700.00 | \$5,162.50 |
| 926 | 950 | \$4,820.00 | \$5,295.00 |
| 951 | 975 | \$4,940.00 | \$5,427.50 |
| 976 | 1000 | \$5,050.00 | \$5,550.00 |

Frequently Asked Question for the Proposed Dues and Program Affiliation Fee Increase in 2019-2020

WHAT ARE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Currently, membership dues are \$7 per student member.

WHAT IS THE PROPOSED DUES INCREASE?

The proposed dues increase is \$2, raising the dues per student to a total of \$9.

WHEN WOULD THE INCREASE TAKE EFFECT?

The proposed increase in dues would occur for the 2019-2020 school year if passed by delegates at the 2018 National FFA Convention and Expo.

WILL PROGRAM AFFILIATION FEES INCREASE AS WELL AS MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Yes, there will be a proposed program affiliation fee increase of 50 cents per maximum tier quantity across all tiers. For example, in the 126-150 student/member tier the current fee is \$805.00; the new program affiliation fee will be \$880.00 -- $(150 \times .50) + \$805.00 = \880.00 .

WHEN WILL THE PROGRAM AFFILIATION AND DUES INCREASE TAKE EFFECT?

For program affiliation chapters in states that are now partially affiliated, the increase would occur in 2019-2020 if passed by delegates at the 2018 National FFA Convention and Expo. For the 11 early adopter states (AK, AZ, CA, CO, MA, MI, MT, NE, NJ, OK and PA) that are presently 100 percent program affiliated, the fee increase will take effect for the 2020-21 school year.

WHY WILL THE FULLY PROGRAM AFFILIATED STATES HAVE A ONE YEAR DELAY IN THE INCREASE?

FFA is aware that some of the fully program affiliated states depend on state or legislative funding to pay their program affiliation fees. The organization wants to provide the early adopter states ample time to determine how to address the fee increase.

IS THE INCREASE IN DUES ALSO AN INCENTIVE FOR STATES TO BECOME AFFILIATED?

In essence, yes. Through program affiliation, FFA will be able to reach every student in agricultural education, truly reflecting the three-component agriculture education model. The proposed change in dues and program affiliation fees will also increase the organization's revenue stream in order to address ongoing demands for improvements such as electronic communication, website delivery, mobile applications, and continued improvements in our IT delivery to stakeholders. Delegates at the 2017 National FFA Convention and Expo directed the organization to make improvements in these areas to more effectively reach and serve student members.

WHY THE PUSH FOR PROGRAM AFFILIATION?

By moving away from individual membership to a program affiliation program, FFA can reach every student who is in agricultural education. This would then allow us to engage more students in FFA and elevate all students to be part of the three-component model of agricultural education.

WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE AFFILIATION PROGRAM?

In 2007, the National FFA Board of Directors passed a motion to form a task force to explore the possibility of a

program affiliation model. The objective of the program affiliation is to provide opportunities to every student in every agricultural education classroom every day. The program affiliation program allows all students in an agricultural education program to be FFA members and fully participate in the three-component model. The board of directors has stated their objective for the organization to become fully program affiliated by as soon as 2021.

HOW ARE PROGRAM AFFILIATION FEES PAID?

It is up to the discretion of the state and chapter to determine how they should pay for state and national dues. The National FFA Organization will not dictate or direct how the local chapter should do this.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME NATIONAL FFA INCREASED MEMBERSHIP DUES?

At the 2009 National FFA Convention & Expo, the delegates voted to increase dues by \$2 for the 2010-11 school year. Before that vote, dues were \$5.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR ACHIEVING A DUES AND PROGRAM AFFILIATION FEE INCREASE?

Delegates will vote on the proposed dues and program affiliation fee increase during the 2018 National FFA Convention & Expo. If they vote to increase dues and program affiliation fees, the proposal will be shared with the board, which will ratify the motion passed by the delegates.

IF THE ORGANIZATION IS BEING FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE, WHY SHOULD WE NEED A DUES AND PROGRAM AFFILIATION FEE INCREASE?

It has been almost 10 years since the last member dues increase. The costs for the organization to provide programs, service and materials to members, along with the increasing need to stay relevant in today’s digital world, have increased. The dues and program affiliation fee increase will allow the organization to create a revenue stream to address shortcomings in our electronic platforms that delegates directed the organization to address during the 2017 National FFA Convention & Expo—namely improving our website and adding a mobile application. We also intend to invest in ongoing improvements in our programming and ensuring our CDE/LDE and proficiency areas reflect and are more inclusive of 21st-century technology.

HOW LONG BEFORE THE ORGANIZATION PROPOSES ANOTHER DUES AND PROGRAM AFFILIATION FEE INCREASE?

Future proposed dues and program affiliation fee increases will be considered from time to time by the National FFA Board of Directors. Constitutionally, delegates will be called upon to consider dues and program affiliation fee proposals. It would seem reasonable for the organization to review dues and program affiliation fees at least every four years to manage the impact of an increase on members. If this were a cycle followed by the board, FFA members would experience no more than one dues or program affiliation fee increase-while in high school.

ARE THE NATIONAL DUES IN LINE WITH DUES FOR OTHER CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (CTSO)?

Yes, the proposed dues are in line with the current dues of other CTSOs, such as DECA, FBLA and SkillsUSA.

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Don’t be too discouraged by the foot of snow, spring is around the corner!



Derek Hill
New York FFA Director
Youth Program Specialist

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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.