

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

La Plata FFA CHAPTER Bylaws

Approved: Fall 2022

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Greenhand Degree Approval

As outlined in the National FFA Constitution the following minimum qualifications must be met in order to hold the Greenhand Degree in the La Plata FFA Chapter:

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 knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. Demonstrate 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.

Initiation Week prior to Initiation Ceremonies, Greenhand candidates will experience the following:

1. Hands painted one day.
2. Obtain the signatures of the chapter officers.
3. FFA Blue Day – Greenhand candidates dress in blue.
4. Test day-free tie or scarf to top score sponsored by FFA Chapter.
5. Official Dress Day.
6. End of Week party.

Greenhands Creed – Any FFA member to say correctly the entire FFA Creed on the first day wins a free jacket from Friends of La Plata FFA.

Chapter Degree Approval

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. Have earned and productively invested at least \$150 by the member's own efforts or worked at least forty-five hours in excess of scheduled class time, or a combination thereof, 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.

State Degree Selection & Approval

To be eligible to represent the La Plata FFA Chapter and 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 an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) 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. Have earned and productively invested at least \$1,000, or worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time, or a combination thereof, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Demonstrate leadership ability by:
 - Performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law.
 - Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA.
 - 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.

10. Have met all of the minimum requirements for the State Degree as established by the Missouri State FFA Association.

Since only 7 percent of the FFA membership may submit an application for the State FFA Degree, the highest points scored by the Seniors will first be considered, then the highest points scored by the Junior members. Members must score above the cut-off score from the previous year to be eligible from the Chapter. Any first year out of school member may apply, if and only if there is a slot open that will not take away the opportunity for an in-school member to apply. Members wishing to apply must meet the deadline posted in the Chapter Calendar of Activities.

Written records of achievement of all requirements, verified by the chapter FFA advisor, shall be submitted to the Area Association meeting their deadline requirements. If accepted by the Area Association the application will be forwarded to the State FFA Association to be screened at the state level. If the application exceeds the point cut-off as determined by the State FFA Degree Screening Committee the applicant must attend the State FFA convention to receive the State FFA Degree. The State FFA Degree will be conferred upon the candidates subject to approval by the delegates at the state convention.

Star Candidates of the State FFA Degree

Applicants from the La Plata Chapter understand they are eligible to be considered for the “Star” honors - (Star Area III State Farmer or Star Area III State Agribusiness). FFA members wishing to be considered for this honor understand they may only be considered for this honor in the year they are applying for the State FFA Degree. FFA members wishing to be considered for this honor will need to submit a one-page biography formatted the same as the example in the State Degree handbook. If more than one FFA member wishes to be considered for the Star Award, the total points scored will be used to determine who will represent the local FFA Chapter.

American FFA Degree Approval – Applications are due to the State Dept. Office February 1st.

To be eligible to receive the American FFA Degree from the National FFA Organization, (received at the National FFA Convention) 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 have completed the program of agricultural education offered in the 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.
8. Have completed the Form 11 (Profit or Loss Statement) and Form 12 (Supervised Agricultural Experience Program Summary) for each year. These forms must be on file in the Agriculture Education Department prior to **January 15th of each year.**

Agribusiness Academy

The academy gives selected Missouri high school sophomores the chance to explore the vast agribusiness resources of our state by viewing various facets of agriculture, visiting agribusinesses and meeting leaders in agriculture, government, and education. This academy is usually held during the month of June.

To be eligible students must come from a Missouri farm family or be active members of a 4-H or FFA chapter. All sophomore class members who meet these guidelines are eligible and encouraged to apply. The application requires three letters of recommendations that an FFA member will need to obtain in advance.

Academy students will be selected through a competitive written application and oral interview process. This application can be downloaded from the internet: <http://www.mda.state.mo.us/> and is usually due by the first of February.

There is no limit on the number of applicants from the chapter, thus all eligible sophomores are encouraged to submit their application.

HYMAX Academy

The academy is designed to challenge and equip the top 100 incoming high school sophomore FFA members to be advocates for agriculture. This leadership experience is a

hands-on, engaging academy that will provide skills to work together in a small group to communicate, lead, and advocate for the agriculture industry. This academy is usually held as an intensive three-day academy at Camp Rising Sun in the Lake of the Ozarks during the month of June.

All active freshmen FFA members are eligible and encouraged to apply. The application requires two letters of recommendation that the FFA member will need to obtain in advance.

Academy students will be selected through a competitive written application process. Students need to submit a written application. The application can be downloaded from the internet at dese.mo.gov and is usually due in February.

This application is limited to 4 members from each chapter, two males and two females. If more members are interested in applying, the applications will be judged by outside resources selected by the chapter advisor, and the top two of each gender will be submitted.

HYPE Academy

HYPE is a youth leadership academy designed to challenge and equip the top 30 incoming senior FFA members to be advocates for agriculture. Attendees will receive hands-on experiences to prepare them to communicate, lead, and advocate for the agricultural industry. In addition, members will gain strategies to continue strengthening their knowledge base in agricultural issues, sharpen written and verbal communication skills, and spark potential career interests.

The academy is usually held as an intensive three day event in Jefferson City during the month of June. All active junior FFA members are eligible and encouraged to apply. The application requires three letters of recommendation that the FFA member will need to obtain in advance.

Academy students will be selected through a competitive written application process. Students need to submit a written application. The application can be downloaded from the internet at dese.mo.gov and is usually due in February.

There is no limit on the number of applicants from the chapter, thus all eligible juniors are encouraged to submit their application.

FFA Camp

Camp Rising Sun is a part of the 22,000 acre Lake Ozark State Park, owned by the State of Missouri and administered by the Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks. Since the summer of 1945, the Missouri FFA Association has used Camp Rising Sun. Camp Rising Sun features electricity in all buildings and adequate fresh water supply and sanitation facilities.

The FFA Leadership Camp program runs for 6 weeks in June and July and is filled with education, recreation and entertainment. The educational portion consists of FFA Leadership training designed to meet the needs of all members, greenhands, chapter FFA degrees, chapter officers, and area officers. State FFA officers assist with all leadership training sessions. Recreation time may be spent with swimming, boating, fishing, badminton, trap shooting,

shuffleboard, horseshoes, archery, and volleyball. The Missouri Department of Conservation also provides specialists who lead sessions on nature lore and wildlife programs. A dance on the volleyball court, as well as an evening trip to the Main Street Opry, are highlights of the weekly camp. Vespers services are held each week as well.

The La Plata FFA Chapter will attend camp during the years they receive a slot on dates that are suitable for the chapter and there is a significant amount of student interest, but not during years that WLC is attended. If there are more students interested in attending than available spots the attendees will be selected through an application process and/or points system as designated by the advisor. The applications will be judged by outside resources selected by the advisor.

WLC

The Washington Leadership Conference provides FFA members a premier leadership experience while exposing them to the rich history of Washington, D.C. WLC inspires FFA members to become changemakers in their communities. Each day of the conference focuses on a different principle taught through the context of our nation's capital; those pillars being Explore, Encourage, Advocate and Serve. At the end of the week, members leave with a Living to Serve Plan they can implement in their communities. This conference is held annually in 7 different one week sessions.

The La Plata FFA Chapter will attend WLC on a two or three year rotation dependent upon student interest, available funding, and registration availability. WLC will not be attended in the same year as FFA Camp. No more than 4 students will be allowed to participate each year, and once a student has been given the opportunity to participate once, they can not apply again. Attendance will be determined by a competitive application process scored by outside resources selected by the advisor.

Chapter Officer Selection

1. Eligibility
 - FFA members must hold the Greenhand FFA Degree at the time of interviews.
 - Must attend interviews in official FFA dress.
 - FFA member must hold a 2.0 or above grade point average for all classes.
2. Process
 - Chapter member must complete the application. Application scored using the State FFA Degree Handbook points system. Interviewing committee will be given a breakdown of points for Leadership and for SAE. (Leadership activities will be limited to one page per year) Points reflect the total number of years as a member of FFA. (Applications must be turned into the Chapter Advisor no later than at the end of the school day (3:10 p.m.) of the previous day in school prior to the scheduled interview day. (Example: Friday 3:10 p.m. before Monday interviews)

- Members will be interviewed by the Senior Committee of the current Senior Officers and a minimum of two other individuals selected by the FFA Advisor. FFA Advisor will be responsible for obtaining the adults to serve on the nominating committee, making sure the individuals selected are not related to or directly involved with anyone who is interviewing to be an officer.
 - Nominating committee will determine the questions to ask the candidates the evening of the interviews. It is the responsibility of the nominating committee to develop a slate of officers to be presented to the membership for approval.
 - Nominating committee is required to conduct two rounds of questions-1st round will be the same questions for each candidate (min. of 5 questions) 2nd round will be open for interviewing committee to ask any questions. Each interviewer has to develop their slate independently.
 - The chairperson of the nominating committee (current President) will post the slate no later than one day after the interviews for members to see prior to the chapter voting on the slate. Vote to be taken at the next regular scheduled meeting to approve or reject the slate as proposed.
 - The membership will vote by voice vote, if division is called then the vote will be retaken by ballot to approve or reject the slate. If a voice vote rejects the slate proposed, the membership will be provided 3 x 5 cards to write their recommendations on for changing the slate. (The entire slate must be approved or rejected, no voting on individual offices) If the voice vote is retaken due to a division, then members voting against the slate will have to indicate their recommendations in writing on a 3 x 5 card for the nominating committee to consider if the slate is rejected. Majority vote required to approve the slate.
 - In the event the slate is rejected, the nominating committee will meet and review the written suggestions. If the nominating committee does not agree with the suggestions they have the choice of returning the slate as originally presented and present their recommendations for each officer position. This would occur at a special Chapter meeting held within 5 days of the last vote.
 - If the chapter rejects the slate a second time interviews will be held a second time with the Senior Officers asking the questions at a scheduled time when 5 faculty members of the school district can observe. The five faculty members and the Senior Officers will select the slate of officers for the chapter. (The five faculty members will be selected by the Supt. of Schools and the President of the Chapter).
3. Responsibilities
- All officers shall:
 - 1.) Attending ALL activities and events of the chapter (unless excused by the advisor)
 - 2.) Maintaining minimum of a C in all classes at quarterly grade checks.
 - 3.) Memorize all parts in official FFA ceremonies

- 4.) Perform the specific duties of the officer as outlined in the Chapter Constitution & Bylaws and determined by the Chapter Officer team, and/or the Chapter Advisor.
 - 5.) Follow the Code of Conduct and Rules of the FFA Jacket as outlined in the Official FFA Manual and Chapter Officer Contract of Agreement.
 - 6.) Demonstrate superior leadership by not receiving ISS/OSS for behavior (including truancy, parking/driving violations, disruptive speech/conduct, disrespect towards faculty/staff, defiance, improper/obscene/vulgar language, leaving school without permission, bus misconduct, internet abuse, etc.)
- The President shall:
 - 1.) Preside over the meeting.
 - 2.) Appoint committees and serve on them as an ex-officio member.
 - 3.) Serve as an official representative of the chapter.
 - 4.) Coordinate the activities of the chapter.
 - 5.) Attend all FFA activities hosted by the La Plata FFA Chapter.Follow other expectations as set forth by the officer team and/or advisors.
 - The Vice-President shall:
 - 1.) Assume all duties of the president if it becomes necessary.
 - 2.) Supervise all chapter committee operations.
 - 3.) Work closely with the president.
 - 4.) Attend all FFA activities hosted by the La Plata FFA Chapter.Follow other expectations as set forth by the officer team and/or advisors.
 - The Secretary shall:
 - 1.) Attend to chapter correspondence.
 - 2.) Compile chapter records.
 - 3.) Keep member attendance and activity records.
 - 4.) Issue membership cards.
 - 5.) Prepare, post, and distribute agenda.
 - 6.) Attend all FFA activities hosted by the La Plata FFA Chapter.Follow other expectations as set forth by the officer team and/or advisors.
 - The Treasurer shall:
 - 1.) Receive and deposit FFA funds.
 - 2.) Collect dues and easements.
 - 3.) Maintain a neat and accurate official FFA Treasurer's book.
 - 4.) Prepare monthly Treasurer's report for chapter meetings.
 - 5.) Attend all FFA activities hosted by the La Plata FFA Chapter.Follow other expectations as set forth by the officer team and/or advisors.
 - The Reporter shall:
 - 1.) Prepare a chapter newsletter and an official Reporter's scrapbook.
 - 2.) Release news and information to local news media.
 - 3.) Help plan public information programs.
 - 4.) Correspond with other reporter's at the area level.
 - 5.) Work with local media including radio, television, newspapers, and magazines on FFA appearances and news.
 - 6.) Attend all FFA activities hosted by the La Plata FFA Chapter.Follow other expectations as set forth by the officer team and/or advisors.

- The Sentinel shall:
 - 1.) Prepare the meeting room and care for the chapter equipment and supplies.
 - 2.) Attend to the door and welcome visitors.
 - 3.) Keep the meeting room comfortable.
 - 4.) Take charge of candidates for degree ceremonies.
 - 5.) Assist with special features and refreshments.
 - 6.) Attend all FFA activities hosted by the La Plata FFA Chapter.

Follow other expectations as set forth by the officer team and/or advisors.
 - Historian, Parliamentarian, Chaplain:
 - 1.) Follow officer expectations as set forth by the National FFA Student Manual.
 - 2.) Assist officers as deemed necessary by the current officer team.
 - 3.) Attend all FFA activities hosted by the La Plata FFA Chapter.
 - 4.) Follow other expectations as set forth by the officer team and/or advisors.
4. Consequences
- If an officer does not meet the above expectations, the requirements outlined in the Chapter Constitution, or the expectations outlined in the officer agreement, then certain consequences will be followed. For each infraction of the expectation outlined above and the Chapter Officer Agreement, students will receive a consequence for the infraction. The consequence will range from removal from the Officer Team to a (multiple) penalty strike(s). Three penalty strikes will result in termination from the officer team. The Executive Committee (Chapter Officer Team) will be informed of infractions and consequences in an Officer Meeting. Final determination of infractions and consequences will be made by the chapter advisor with approval from school administration.
1. First offense (penalty strike): The advisor(s) will notify the student in writing and have a short meeting with the officer and discuss the expectation and why they received a penalty strike and further actions.
 2. Second Offense (penalty strike): The advisor(s) will notify the student in writing and have a short meeting with the officer and discuss the expectation and why they received a penalty strike and further actions. A parent contact will be made to inform parents of the second offense.
 3. Third Offense (penalty strike): The officer will be removed from the officer team. The advisor will notify the student and parent in writing and through verbal communication.

Article V—Officer Replacement Procedure

- If the president resigns or for any other reason he/she cannot complete their term as president, the vice- president shall assume the responsibilities of the president.
- If a constitutional officer (Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Sentinel) resigns or is removed from office, then he/she will be replaced at the discretion of the current officer team. Any FFA member interested in the open position will submit a written letter of interest and it will be voted on by the current officer team.

- If a non-constitutional officer (Second Vice President, Parliamentarian, Historian, Chaplain) resigns or is removed from office, the office position will not be filled for the remainder of the year. Officer responsibilities will be divided among remaining officers.

Area FFA Officer Candidate Selection Process

Eligibility

- FFA member must hold the Chapter FFA Degree to be eligible for Area Office.

Process

- Must declare intent to be a candidate representing the FFA Chapter by the first Friday in January. If more than one FFA member desires to represent the FFA Chapter as a candidate for Area Office, an interview will be scheduled during January.
- Prior to the interviews the application used by the Area FFA Association will be provided to the candidates to be completed prior to the interviews. Application will be due the school day prior to the interviews.
- Interviewing committee will consist of a minimum of three individuals. The current Area officer will serve on the committee along with the chapter President, and at least one adult (faculty member, businessperson, and/or vocational agriculture instructor from a neighboring school). If the chapter President is running for Area Office, the next highest officer not applying will serve on the committee in their place.
- FFA members may only serve **one term** of office as an Area Officer.

State FFA Officer Candidate Selection Process

Eligibility

- FFA member must hold the State FFA Degree or be applying for the State FFA Degree. (If currently applying for the State FFA Degree must be able to score above the previous years cut-off score to receive the State Degree.)

Process

- Must declare intent to be a candidate representing the La Plata FFA Chapter by the first Friday in January.
- If more than one FFA member desires to represent the local FFA Chapter as a candidate for State Office, an interview will be scheduled during January.
- Interviewing committee will consist of a minimum of three individuals. If possible interviewing committee members will consist of one past State FFA officer from the chapter, one faculty or staff member agreeable with all candidates, a businessperson from within the community, an agriculture education instructor not from the Area FFA Assn. and a past local FFA Chapter President.

- Candidate will submit their State FFA Degree application for the committee to review. (FFA Advisor will use the current State FFA Degree handbook to score the application.)
- Candidate will submit the State FFA Officer agreement required by the Missouri State FFA Association, signed and dated.
- Candidate must submit the same application information as required by the Area for the Area interviews to select the Area candidate for State Office.
- Interviewing committee will select the candidate to represent the local FFA Chapter, without any vote by the membership of the chapter.

Scholarship Awards for Greenhands and Chapter Degree Members

The chapter will provide scholarship and leadership pins to be awarded at the local FFA banquet. The recipients of these awards may not have received the Star Greenhand or Star Chapter or Star Agribusiness awards. In the event the best-qualified candidate is named to one of these honors, then the next in line for the award will be the recipient. No member can receive both the Scholarship and Leadership award in the same year.

Criteria used to determine the recipients will be the leadership page of the State FFA Degree application for the Leadership Awards. Only leadership activities FFA members have been involved in since the previous FFA Convention will be considered. The number of leadership pins awarded at each level will be determined by a joint decision of the President, Vice Presidents, and FFA Advisor.

Criteria used to determine the recipients of the Scholarship award will be a combination of GPA for all classes and GPA of Agriculture classes. The recipient must be on the A or B Honor Roll with an A in their Ag class(es). The member meeting these requirements and with the highest GPA in their grade will be the recipient. Only one scholarship pin will be award for the Greenhand and Chapter Degree (2nd year members) exception being in the event of a tie. Then both members will be awarded the scholarship pin.

Star Greenhand Award

1. Must be a 1st year FFA member currently holding the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Application will consist of the member completing the State FFA Degree leadership page.
3. A maximum of a one-page written biography will be included as part of the application to explain what your SAE-program has involved and to explain future plans.
4. Deadline for the application will be set by the advisor and announced in advance.
5. Applications will be judged by three individuals selected by the FFA Advisor, if possible Ag teachers outside of Area III FFA Assn.

Star Chapter Degree, Star Chapter Agribusiness Person

1. Must be a 2nd year FFA member currently holding the Chapter FFA Degree.

2. Application will consist of completing the State FFA Degree application leadership page. The only items that may be listed are awards, activities, offices, committees, contest, etc. that occurred since the last banquet.
3. A maximum of a one-page written biography will be included as part of the application to explain what your SAE program has involved and to explain future plans.
4. Deadline for the application will be set by the advisor and announced in advance.
5. Applications will be judged by three individuals selected by the FFA Advisor, if possible Ag Teachers outside of Area III FFA Assn.

Outstanding Junior Award

1. Must be a 3rd year FFA member currently holding the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Application will consist of completing the State FFA Degree application leadership page. The only items that may be listed are awards, activities, offices, committees, contest, etc. that occurred since the last banquet.
3. A maximum of a one-page written biography will be included as part of the application to explain what your SAE program has involved and to explain future plans.
4. Deadline for the application will be set by the advisor and announced in advance.
5. Applications will be judged by three individuals selected by the FFA Advisor, if possible three Ag Teachers outside of Area III FFA Assn.

Outstanding Senior Award

1. Must be a 4th year FFA member currently holding the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Application will consist of completing the State FFA Degree application. The only items that may be listed are awards, activities, offices, committees, contest, etc. that occurred since the last banquet. The Leadership page will be 45% of the application, the SAE/Scope page for all four years will count 30%, the biography will count as 15% and the current accumulative GPA will count for 10% of the selection process.
3. A maximum of a one-page written biography will be included as part of the application to explain what your SAE program has involved and to explain future plans.
4. Deadline for the application will be set by the advisor and announced in advance.
5. Biography will be judged by 3 individuals selected by the Junior Class members of the officer team.
6. FFA Advisor will score the leadership page (45% of the application), SAE/Scope page (30% of the application), and calculate the 10% score for the GPA and add the biography scores to reflect the remaining 15%.

CASH Scholarship - \$500

There will be up to four CASH Scholarships awarded. The CASH Senior Scholarship application includes the following parts:

1. GPA is based on your grade point average at the end of the 3rd Quarter of Senior Year with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.
2. The Vocational Agriculture Class Grades with a minimum of 90%.
3. Must have attended at least 75% of all chapter FFA events during the students 4 year membership period.
4. Must have met all fundraising requirements and been an active member in good standing for all four years.
5. The FFA Leadership pages including all awards and activities over the student's 4 year membership period with a minimum of 200 points.

National FFA Convention Attendance Qualifications

The number of members allowed to attend will be decided by the advisor each year. The following guidelines were established to attend the National FFA Convention for active members in good standing:

1. Must attend at least one Area Leadership Conference prior to the National FFA Convention.
2. Must have attended the Greenhand Motivational Conference if a sophomore member.
3. Must have a 2.5 minimum GPA with no F's.
4. Must sell the minimum quota per member during Fall Fundraising. (Brothers & sisters - 1.5 X the minimum quota.)
5. FFA members who will be competing or participating at the National FFA Convention will be exempt from meeting all of the above guidelines.
6. Candidates who have met the above guidelines will be scored based on a written application and the chapter points system with the highest scores having the first opportunity to attend.
7. Applications will be judged by a committee selected by the advisor.
8. Payment for the students portion of the trip will be due in full before departing for the convention unless other arrangements have been made with the advisor in advance.

Chapter Points System – Guidelines & Rules of Use

Students receive chapter points for attendance/participation in each activity. This point system will be used to determine eligibility for attending certain activities/events determined by the advisor.

Chapter Activities	2 Points
Area Activities	4 Points
District Activities	6 Points
State Activities & Awards*	8 Points
National Activities & Awards*	10 Points

Chapter Office	12 Points
Committee	2 Points
Trap Shoots (Competitions)	1 Point
Practice CDEs & LDEs	1 Point
Crop Field Work	2 Points
State CDEs & LDEs***	Points Vary
Fundraising**	1 Point/\$50 sold
Fair Livestock Exhibitor (Other than State Fair)	4 Points
Fair Building Exhibitor (Other than State Fair)	2 Points
State Fair Livestock Exhibitors or 5+ entries in 2 or more categories	6 Points
State Fair BUILDING Exhibitors (less than 5 entries)	4 Points
Academic Achievement (GPA 4.0 or above)**	10 Points
Academic Achievement (GPA 3.5-3.99)**	7 Points
Academic Achievement (GPA 3.0-3.49)**	4 Points

*State Degree, Proficiency, Agriscience, Choir, Talent, National Band/Choir, Agriscience, Talent, Courtesy Corp

**For National Convention selection purposes the GPA will be judged on the cumulative weighted GPA at the time the application is due. Freshmen who don't have a GPA have the option to have their teachers confirm that they have an A or B in their class. This will be done through a teacher signed sheet and the student will be rewarded with 5 points if they have all As and Bs at that time. The points should be updated to reflect the GPA at the end of each semester

***Group I Individual State CDE/LDE- 8 Points, Group II- 6 Points, Group III- 4 Points

National FFA Scholarship Program

Any FFA Senior member who wishes to apply for the various National FFA Scholarships are encouraged to meet the deadlines as established by the National FFA. Policy adopted effective this year - The **FFA Advisor will not write the recommendation for the applicant prior to the rest of the application being completed. The recommendation will be entered in the appropriate space provided, sealed and mailed by the FFA Advisor.**

Date Due – Set by the National FFA Association, however, members must give the FFA Advisor at least 5 days to write a letter of recommendation prior to the deadline.

The National FFA Scholarship can be downloaded from the internet - website - www.ffa.org

Proficiency Award Selection

Local – Member may only win on the local level one time per proficiency award area, but may submit their application as many times as they wish if they have not won at the Area level and advanced to the State Competition. Local proficiency award applications will consist of the same application used by the State for proficiency awards. FFA members wishing to receive recognition for local proficiency awards only will need to have them submitted by February 1st.

Area – May submit as many applications as they wish to the Area level, but can only win first in one proficiency award area to advance to the State level. If student is submitting more than one application for the Area level.

Only one application per proficiency award area may be submitted per chapter. Thus, all members wishing to submit an application for the Area level must be submitted to the Chapter Advisor by the deadline as indicated on the Chapter Calendar. Selection to determine the application to be submitted to the Area will be determined by a committee selected from the Advisory Council.

State – The first place winners of the Area will advance to the State Competition. Once a member's application has been submitted to the State for competition, the member understands they may not return in the same proficiency award area. If selected as the State winner, the member must complete the National Proficiency Award application meeting all of the requirements and deadlines to be eligible to retain the cash awarded by the State to the winner. If the winner does not complete the requirements and meet the State deadlines, the cash awarded must be returned to the local chapter.

National – If an FFA member wins the Regional competition and is selected as one of the four finalists for the National honor he will be expected to attend the National FFA Convention. The FFA Chapter will provide the recipient with a cash advance of \$400 to cover expenses of motel, meals, and transportation to the National FFA Convention. (The money will be awarded only if the member attends the convention.)

Competition Guidelines

1. **General Contest Guidelines** – *According to the current State FFA Guidelines*
 - A student may participate at the state level in a specific Agriculture/FFA Contest only once. The alternate team and/or team member who competes at state will be considered a participant.
 - All contest participants must be currently enrolled in agriculture at the secondary level (grades 9-12) and not more than 21 years of age.
 - Only one team per school may enter each contest.
 - An individual student cannot participate in state contests, which are scheduled to compete at the same time. The only exceptions are listed in the State FFA Guidelines.

- A member may not compete in any Friday A.M. agriculture contests and Prepared Public Speaking or Extemporaneous Speaking.

2. **Career Development Events Contests** are:

Agricultural Communications	Agricultural Sales	Agricultural Mechanics
Agronomy	Dairy Cattle Judging	Entomology
Environmental Resources	Farm Management	Floriculture
Food Science/Technology	Forestry	Horse Evaluation
Livestock Evaluation	Marketing Plan	Meats Evaluation
Milk Quality and Products	Nursery/Landscaping	Poultry Evaluation

For all of the Career Development Events the FFA Advisor will be responsible for coordinating an elimination process for each contest area, using practice contest scores when possible. Otherwise, written test and performance activities will be used to determine the team. Rules for each contest will be posted on the DESE Ag Education website, or can be obtained from the FFA Advisor.

3. **Leadership Development Events** are:

Agricultural Issues	Conduct of Chapter Meetings	Creed Speaking
Employment Skills	Extemporaneous Speaking	FFA Knowledge
Parliamentary Procedures	Prepared Public Speaking	

4. **Book Contests** are:

Chapter Secretary's Book	Chapter Scrapbook	Chapter Treasurer's Book
Completed Placement Record Book		Completed Production Record Book
Incomplete Placement Record Book		Incomplete Production Record Book

5. **Fall Public Speaking:**

The speaking categories will be listed on the DESE Ag Education website each fall.

FFA members wishing to enter any of these public speaking contests must submit their manuscript by the deadline designated on the Chapter Activities Calendar. If more than one FFA member wishes to compete in the same public speaking contest area, a run-off will be held the following week to determine who will represent the FFA Chapter.

If more than one member enters the same public speaking contest the following procedure will be followed to determine who will represent the FFA Chapter.

- Manuscripts will be judged for their value of 300 points as outlined in the State Contest Bulletin for Career Development Events. Content of Manuscript – 200 points and

Composition of Manuscript – 100 points. Three judges will score the manuscripts. Members will provide four double-spaced typewritten copies of the speech along with a bibliography indicating references used for the speech.

- The presentation will be judged by three judges for the remaining 700 points. Voice – 100 points, Stage Presence – 100 points, Power of Expression – 100 points, Response to Questions – 300 points, General Effect – 100 points. Less time deductions of 1 point/second.
- NO PROPS ARE TO BE USED.
- Time of the speech will be a minimum of six minutes and a maximum of eight minutes (no time warning will be given). Deductions of one point per second will be made from the score of each judge for speeches less than six minutes and over eight minutes in length.
- Each contestant will be allowed five minutes of additional time in which he/she will be asked questions relating to his/her speech.
- Participants will submit the speech in the following format:
 - Double-spaced typewritten on 8 ½” x 11” white bond paper with cover page that gives the speech title, participant’s name, chapter, and date. The format should follow the guidelines of the State FFA Public Speaking CDE. Do not bind or place in folders, special binders or covers. Place a staple in the upper-left corner. Manuscripts not meeting these guidelines will be penalized.
 - A complete and accurate bibliography used in writing the speech. All participants in the contest must give credit to others where any direct quotes, phrases, or special dates are used in the manuscript, in order not to be guilty of plagiarism.

6. Trapshooting:

Active members in good standing are eligible to participate in trapshooting. The advisor will serve as the primary coach. Students interested in participating in trapshooting must:

1. Have successfully completed the Missouri Hunter Safety Education Course (Or complete a supplementary course with the advisor).
2. Complete at least 5 rounds of 25 supervised by the advisor.

Teams will consist of 4 shooters. All practice scores will be averaged with the lowest and highest scores dropped. If there are more than 4 shooters during a season then the A team will consist of the top 4 scoring shooters, with the B team to follow, and so on.

King and Queen – Barnwarming Guidelines

1. Barnwarming King & Queen candidates must have received the Chapter Degree and be an active member in good standing.
2. Barnwarming Prince & Princess candidates will be 9th and 10th grade active members in good standing.
3. Must attend Barnwarming and assist with decorating and set-up of the activity.

4. Minimum of 3 candidates and maximum of 5 candidates will be nominated for Barnwarming King and Queen as well as Barnwarming Prince and Princess.
5. Officer team will determine the number of candidates from year to year.
6. Voting will take place through private ballots.

FFA Fall Fundraising

1. The minimum quota for all FFA members is 15 units. Brothers and sisters have to sell 1.5 times the 15 units to equal the same as a single member. Units are 1 turkey, 1 box of fruit, 1 gift box, 1 sack of peanuts, 1 container of jerky, etc.
2. Deadline for taking orders for a four-week period will be announced in the chapters yearly calendar of events.
3. Awards will be made as follows:

Overall sales turned in orders - \$100.00

2nd Place sales turned in orders -\$75.00

3rd Place sales turned in orders - \$50.00

4. If a member sells 30 units they will be eligible to eat pizza at the cost of the chapter at a time determined by the chapter.
5. Members who do not sell their minimum quota of 15 units will not be eligible to participate in any FFA activity (meetings, events, contest, etc.) and will be considered not in good standing with the chapter. Option will be to pay the rate of average profit/unit deficient in order to become in good standing to attend and participate in FFA activities (this includes showing at the County, District or State Fair).

Graduation Cords

The chapter will supply FFA graduation cords to all active senior FFA members in good standing who have maintained that status all four years of their high school education. The cords will be presented to the eligible seniors who are present at the Chapter Banquet.

CHANGING OR AMENDING THE CHAPTER BYLAWS

The chapter can change the bylaws with a 2/3 vote of the membership at any regularly scheduled chapter meeting, however, the proposed change must be submitted in writing to the chapter secretary and to the chapter advisor at least 30 days prior to the scheduled meeting for the proposal to be considered.

The chapter bylaws will be reviewed by the Agriculture Education Advisory Council on a yearly basis with recommendations submitted to the chapter membership.

In the event, an activity or issue develops that is not covered in this document, the FFA Advisor will handle to the best of his discretion keeping FFA officers, FFA members, and parents informed to the best of his/her ability.