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WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FFA

Wisconsin FFA Advisors

Thank you for celebrating National FFA Week! It is amazing all of the things that FFA advisors accomplish during the crazy month of February. We appreciate each and every one of you and we know your members do too!! You have spent hours beyond the classroom working with your members on award applications and hosting events. FFA advisors you are truly special people who give your time and resources to make a difference in students lives. Thank you!!

We kicked off the week with the 2nd Annual FFA Day on the Hill where over 200 members reached out and told our story to state legislators. It was awesome to see these chapter members reaching out and making a positive impact in very important conversations with key decision makers. Thank you to the FFA band and chorus members who also provided music in the rotunda and members and chapters that provided displays. Thank you to the Linda Sattler, Troy Talford and the WAAE Advocacy Committee for making this opportunity happen.

We know that all of you have been extremely busy with your members hosting many events and activities to promote FFA in your school and community. It has been fun seeing many social media posts, seeing the ways you are reaching out to your school and community and hearing from the state officers that have attended your events.

Thank you also to all of you that participated in the Give FFA Day!! We appreciate all the financial support provided to the FFA Organization to help support opportunities for members.



AWARD APPLICATION DEADLINES

- State FFA Degrees and Stars - March 1
- American Degree Corrected Apps Due- March 11
- State Honorary Degree Nominations - March 15
- State FFA Foundation Scholarships - March 15
- Middle School Essay Contest- April 16
- National FFA Chapter Awards - April 19
- Three Star Leaders - April 19
- FFA Talent - April 21
- Food for America - May 1

UPCOMING LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

FIRE Conference - SWTC-Fennimore

March 1, 2024

Mission & EDGE Conferences

Chula Vista, Wisconsin Dells

April 11-12, 2024

Registration Now Open until March 20

Wisconsin FFA State Convention

Madison, Wisconsin - Alliant Energy Center

June 10-13, 2024

Registration Details Coming Soon!

State FFA Degrees Due March 1

Remember to submit your state FFA degree applications on the Wisconsin FFA Website. Log in and you will see where to upload your applications. Don't forget to have members apply for Star! We can always use more applications in order to recognize members! Make sure to check out all the supporting materials available to help you and your students. [State FFA Degree Resources](#).

**Congratulations to those advancing to
Sectional LDEs!!!**

2024 Sectional LDE Dates

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Final FFA Membership Due March 1, 2024

It's that time of year to wrap up your FFA membership for the 2023-2024 school year. March 1 is the last day to enter FFA members on your FFA roster, except if you are an affiliated chapter and you need additional time to add in all your students enrolled in your agricultural education classes for this school year. Please contact Cheryl Zimmerman or Sally Ladsten if you need additional time to include all your students.

FFA Membership Invoices - Remember you can't download an invoice for membership. DPI will be emailing you an invoice the week of March 11 that you can then pay your dues. FFA membership is currently at 22,477. Let's reach our goal of 28,095 members!!

American Degree Corrections

FFA advisors and American Degree Applicants have received an email about American Degree corrections. Please review the comments and make corrections to the application. The corrected application PDF with a new version number should be emailed back to Glenda Crook at gcrook@wisconsinffa.org by March 11, 2024.

JUDGES NEEDED FOR STATE FFA PROFICIENCY JUDGING - MARCH 8-9

We are still in need of more judges!! Join us for the 2024 Proficiency Judging Friday evening, March 8 and Saturday, March 9 in Wisconsin Dells at the Chula Vista Resort. Both experienced and new judges are welcome. Alumni members and sponsors are also invited.

If you arrive on Friday evening, March 8, judging begins around 6:30 p.m.
Saturday is the main day for judging. Orientation at 8:30 a.m.

Call the Chula Vista Hotel at 888-717-5540 if you need a room.
(Although past the deadline, rooms may still be available.)

Refer to the following booking ID number: J27125 Wisconsin FFA Center
Contact Cheryl Zimmerman or Glenda Crook
indicating which days you will be in attendance to judge

FIRE CONFERENCE - March 1 - SWTC-Fennimore

If you have any students who cannot attend, please contact Cheryl Zimmerman, there are many students on a waiting list who would like to attend. Thank you.



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CDE Registration Reminders

Registration for all regional CDEs is linked on the CDE webpage and all regions are using judging card.

Teams can only qualify at one regional contest. Most regional hosts do not have enough space to include practice teams. Check with the regional host if you have questions.

Ag Sales, Ag Communications, Environmental, Food Science and Nursery Landscape are not qualifying contests and can be registered for State CDE contests starting March 11.

Dairy Handler contest requires a video demonstrating showmanship skills DUE MARCH 1! Submit videos to this [link](#).

Please check the [CDE webpage](#) for details for each contest and dates for registration and contests

If you have any questions please contact Glenda Crook at gcrook@wisconsinffa.org

Food for America

The 2024 application has been updated to a two-part application. A Google Slide Deck template has been created to share ALL the events and activities that your chapter does for the Food for America program. Activities that engage K-12 students and community in agriculture literacy activities are eligible for consideration.

Once the Google Slide Deck is complete, please upload the slides to the official form, which will be available at wisconsinaged.org- [Food for America webpage](#). **Due Date: May 1, 2024**

If you received a 2023-24 Food for America Grant, the award application will double as your grant report.

- [Google Slides Application Portion](#)
 - Application format is designed to support a year-long program
- [Formsite Application](#)

Food For America Grant Applications

2024-2025 Food for America Grant Application Due Date: June 30, 2024

Wisconsin Agriculture in the Classroom is excited to once again offer Food for America program grants to Wisconsin FFA Chapters. The grants are available for projects that increase K-12 student awareness and understanding of agriculture. The application will open on March 1, 2014. Please review the Grant Tips 101 slides for tips and formatting that will help your application stand out.

[2024 Food for America Grant Application](#)

[Grant Tips 101 Slides](#)



Wisconsin Association of FFA February Board of Directors Meeting Recap February 14, 2024 - Rothschild, Wisconsin

1. Recap of 2024 District Leadership Development Events
 - a. District LDE results were presented to the Board in preparation for the Sectional LDEs.
 - b. Discussion occurred around various experiences at District Contests to note for future competitions
 - c. Mrs. Crook reviewed procedures for hosting the Sectional LDEs and provided materials to the state officers and their advisors.
 - d. The Board voted to not allow any member to compete in the Sectional LDE Competitions virtually. Motion passed.
2. Updates were provided on applications, career development events, upcoming conferences, FFA Foundation and proficiency judging.
3. An FFA membership update was provided. A discussion was conducted over the concern of several chapters with outstanding invoices. Mrs. Ladsten provided a brief overview of the Association budget which will be further discussed through the finance committee meeting and at the March Board meeting.
4. State FFA Officer Task Force - The Board approved the outline of rounds of interviews for the 2024 State FFA Election Process provided by the Task Force. Information will be created soon to put on the website. Additional support materials were suggested to be added to the website to help state officer candidates as well as resources for parents. There will be State FFA Officer Academies held for candidates. More planning and details will need to be provided.
5. Realignment of FFA Districts and Sections - The Board reviewed a model of readjustment of Districts and Sections. Suggestions were provided by the Board and additional models will be presented at the March Board Meeting for possible consideration at the business session of the State FFA Convention.
6. The Organic Proficiency Award updated description from the SAE Committee to align more with the SAE grant focusing more on sustainability was reviewed and ratified by the Board.
7. State Officers gave an update on the Blue Legacy program to provide FFA jackets to FFA members. Applications are coming in and will be reviewed.
8. Mrs. Ladsten provided an update on the State FFA Honors Band and Chorus assistant contracts.
9. Nominations for Honored Adult recognition was discussed.
10. The Board reviewed the tentative State Convention schedule provided by Mrs. Zimmerman
11. The Board voted to invite Nick Tokman as the State FFA Convention keynote speaker for Wednesday afternoon following the State FFA Degree Ceremony. It was also decided that the keynote speaker will be following the State FFA Degree ceremony during the Fourth Session on Wednesday afternoon.
12. Information about the procedure for electing the State FFA President was provided to the advisors and state officers by Mrs. Zimmerman
13. State FFA Convention housing for Board members and state officer parents was discussed.
14. The next FFA Board of Directors meeting will be March 14 at the Clarion Suites hotel in Marshfield. The evening of March 14 and Friday March 15, the FFA state officer advisors will be reviewing State FFA Degree applications.

The 2024 American Degree Review occurred on Thursday February 15 in conjunction with Farm Forum. We thank the state officer advisors as well as many other advisors that joined us during the day to conduct this review process.

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2024 Spring EDGE and MISSION Conferences - April 11-12 (Thursday/Friday)

Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells

Registration Open Until March 20 or until full

EDGE Conference is designed for members in Grades 6 through 8 (Note we are including 6th grade in this conference for 2024)

MISSION Conference is designed for members in Grades 9 and 10 (This is the same MISSION Conference as in the Fall....so if students couldn't attend in November....here is their opportunity to participate.)

Registration and Hotel Reservations are due by March 20. Please note that space can fill up fast and we can't guarantee space once our attendance limits are reached. Hotel Reservations need to be made directly through the hotel.

Schedule: Remember there is no dinner scheduled for Thursday before the conference starts....so make sure you students have eaten. There will be pizza following the evening session during the dance and game time.

Thursday, April 11

3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration

6:15 p.m. - All Conferences Start

Friday, April 12

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Breakfast

8:30 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. - Conferences Resume

11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Lunch

3:30 p.m. - Conferences End

For Online Registration:

1. All the students that you plan to register for the conference must be entered on your FFA Chapter roster for the 2023-2024 school year and submitted to state before you will be able to register them for the conferences.
2. When you click on register for a student or advisor that saves that registration in the system. Do not hit submit registration until you have finalized your full attendance for the conferences. If you accidentally submit and you need to make changes, please contact me.
3. Conference Registration is separate from the Hotel Reservations. You will need to do both in order to fully register for the conference.

REGISTRATION FEES: Includes processing fee

Student: \$80.00 (Includes Meals) NOTE: The Spring Conferences are \$10 less in registration for the students thanks to financial sponsorship from the Wisconsin FFA Alumni and Supporters.

Advisor: \$50.00 (Optional Registration Fee Only - this does not include meals)

MEAL PACKAGE: Included in student registration. Advisors can sign up for meal package only - \$35 Meal Package (Optional)

LODGING: Hotel lodging is the responsibility of the Chapter FFA Advisor - **DEADLINE:** March 20, 2024

Advisors will need to make reservations through the Chula Vista. Call 1-833-280-0735 and reference Booking ID # K14285 to make the reservation.

Sleeping Rooms - Junior Suite or King

Single Occupancy is \$98/night. Double - Quad is \$139/night.

\$29.99 Resort fee waived. Please let reservations know your tax exempt.

If you would like to extend your stay into Friday and Saturday - Junior Suite or King - \$179/night - \$29.99 Resort fee waived.

NOTE: To maximize hotel lodging space at the Chula Vista, please fill the hotel rooms and share with other chapters. Most rooms can fit 4 to 6 people with the two beds and pull out couch depending on the room you reserve. To maximize all the hotel space for everyone....we need your assistance to work together with your fellow FFA advisors to share rooms and utilize our lodging the best we can. Thank you!!!

Sally Ladsten
Department of Public
Instruction

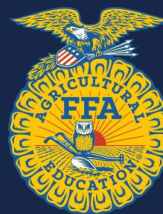
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2024 STATE FFA ALUMNI CONVENTION



2024-2025 Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters Council



Wisconsin FFA and FFA Alumni & Supporters Past Leaders

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2024 STATE FFA ALUMNI CONVENTION



State Officers Become Lifetime Members

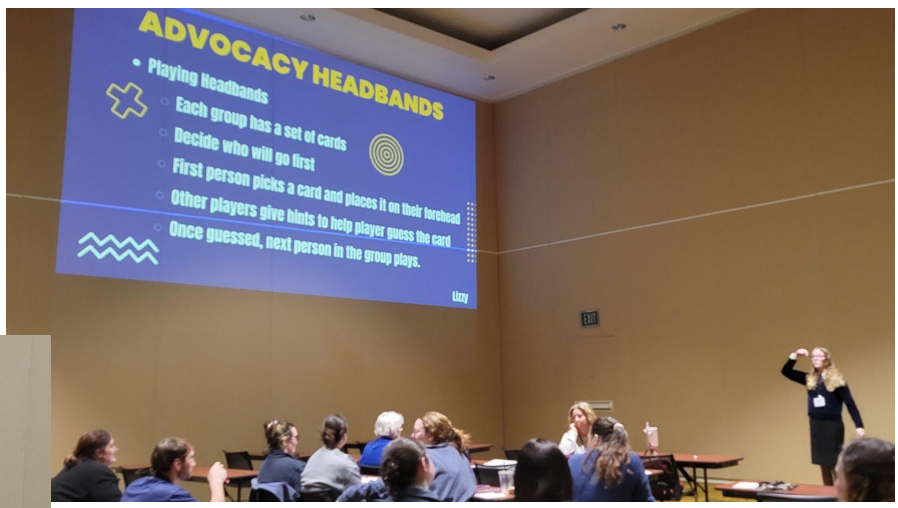


State FFA Officer Reflections Program

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2024 STATE FFA ALUMNI CONVENTION State Officer Workshops



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2024 Farm Forum



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2024 FFA DAY ON THE HILL



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2024 FFA DAY ON THE HILL



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Secretary
Randy Romanski**



**Wisconsin
Superintendent of
Public Instruction
Dr. Jill Underly**



**Wisconsin FFA
Foundation President
Deb Ihm**



**Wisconsin Workforce
Development Secretary
Amy Pechacek**

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2024 FFA DAY ON THE HILL

