

2019

SOCs

State Officer Candidate School



The Delaware FFA Association makes a positive difference in the lives of over 4,000 students by developing their potential for *premier leadership, personal growth and career success* through agricultural education.

Preface

The SOCS manual was created to increase the level of understanding of what the duties, responsibilities and commitments of the Delaware FFA State Officers are. We hope that over time, as awareness increases, the talent level and preparedness of officer candidates will also increase. We hope that you can use this manual as a resource to help you on your journey as a State Officer Candidate and possibly as a future State Officer.

2019-2020 State Officer Team

State President- Timothy Mulderrig
State Vice President- Gillian Cannon
State Secretary- Abigail Edwards
State Treasurer- Trey Thompson
State Reporter- Emily Samick
State Sentinel- Jackson Sylvester



SOCS??? Aren't they just for official dress???

No silly! We're talking about State Officer Candidacy School! You are already wearing your socks (we hope) and here you are, ready to learn about being a State FFA Officer. SOCS was designed to let you find out:

- what it takes to be a State FFA Officer
- whether or not being a state officer is for you
- what skills, qualities, attitudes and traits a state officer needs
- how to develop those needed skills, qualities, attitudes and traits

Remember, every person in this room has the ability to develop themselves into a State FFA Officer, however, not everyone will invest the necessary time and effort to do so.

Table of Contents

PREPARATION

Preparing to Run Top 10 List..... 4

What You'll Need, In a Nutshell 6

The Big Ten 8

RESPONSIBILITIES/DUTIES

Responsibilities of State Officers 9

Qualities of a Successful State Officer..... 10

A Month in the Life (a State Officer's Calendar).....12

PROCESS

The State Officer Selection Process 13

Partial List of Dates 17

Directions for March (Just in case you're elected).....19

KNOWLEDGE

FFA General Knowledge Questions.....20

Top 10 Preparation List

10. Savings

State officers are reimbursed for things they use "on the job," but they need to have something to start with. Just like being in high school or college, you will have limited amount of time to have a job, yet the personal expenses don't stop. (i.e. holidays, entertainment, clothing, food, etc.)



9. Needed Belongings

There are many items which could be very helpful if you are elected. However, they are in no way required to be elected. It will be recommended that you have the following if you are elected: ATM card or credit card, wardrobe, dependable car, a computer, a Bluetooth speaker, access to email/internet and a cell phone.

8. Separation

As a state officer, you must be willing to put the good of the Delaware FFA Association above what you would prefer for your chapter or county – you must separate yourself from your chapter. Now, your chapter should not be forgotten all together, but your focus should be moved to the bigger picture. It is not an option to mingle with ONLY your old chapter at conferences. Activities must be planned with the good of all members in mind. When the state officer team votes it must be focused on the state, not only your chapter. When a chapter activity that you would like to attend conflicts with the state officer needs, guess which has to fall to second priority...you get the idea.

7. Skills

There are numerous skills and talents which you can work to develop, that will make you a far more effective state officer and will be very useful in other areas of life as well: patience, communication, flexibility, etiquette, professional, etc. However, no one can be the best at everything, so be realistic as you set your goals, and concentrate on the skills that will benefit yourself and those around you the most. Remember you are on a State Officer team which means the team together should have most of the skills together with each person bringing something to the table.

6. College/Post-Secondary Education

There is no guarantee that you will be elected as a state officer, so please do not make the mistake of saying you will enroll in school next year. Nearly all colleges and other post-secondary schools are highly accommodating and with a simple letter will allow you to defer a year without any problems. There are multiple schools in Delaware whose credits will transfer to other post-secondary institutions both in and out of the state.



5. Knowledge

People expect state officers to know just about everything because they have business cards, jackets and titles. Be familiar with the history of the FFA, the agricultural industry, names, faces, rules, regulations, FFA missions, FFA policies and new technology. Be prepared to talk about these 24/7 whether you are talking to public while pumping gas, buying workshop supplies or at an official event, you must be knowledgeable.

4. Experience

You will find the only things you really regret in life are the opportunities you do not take. To really understand the FFA and agriculture, try to experience as much of it first-hand as you can. Such time will be well spent and will assist in developing the skills and knowledge necessary. Nothing is worse than a missed opportunity. So when a chapter request form comes in and the chapter contact cannot attend, try all you can to make it fit in your schedule.

3. State FFA Degree & Requirements

There are a few requirements that are set in stone and will automatically disqualify you from running for a state office. Not being eligible to receive your state degree is one of them. Plan ahead so that you can be sure that your SAE qualifies you for your State FFA Degree. You also must be entering your senior year in high school or be a high school graduate, and have some form of transportation.

2. Priorities

As time approaches to run for state office, make every attempt to place yourself in a position where you can make the FFA a top priority. State office must be a top priority and a balance between post-secondary education, jobs, chapter involvement, dating, hanging with friends, and family business responsibilities will need to be developed.

Now don't panic. Being a state officer doesn't mean you can't have a job, spend time with your family and friends or go back to your chapter for special events, but it does mean that when schedule conflicts arise, the FFA is priority number one!!! If elected, the best recommendation is that you have a meeting with your boss so that he or she can understand the position you are in.

1. Attitude

Every officer team has different individuals with different skills and different challenges. SOCS can only give you a starting point on what to expect and how to function – the reality is, it is now up to you and the only thing which draws the line between success and failure is your attitude. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Are you committed to the FFA and its members?
- Will you be able to be a state officer in and out of the jacket?
- Will you stick with the job for all 365 days not just when it is easy and fun?
- Are you willing to give up your friend's sports game and other activities for an event?
- What are you committed to?
- Will you help to develop the potential of others?
- Are you prepared to help make a positive difference in the lives of students?

If you are willing to control your own attitude and not simply let it be controlled by the circumstances, you will have a great year as a state officer. The circumstances are not always ideal. Although, if you are willing to put aside ideas of power, prestige and press and are willing to put first the development of others, and making a positive difference, it will be rewarding and successful.

What You Will Need. . . In a Nutshell

The Short and Sweet List of What You Need (both Material and Non-Material) to Prepare to Be a State FFA Officer

What You NEED:

- You must be able to qualify for your State FFA Degree (Easiest way of accomplishing this is getting your State Degree prior to the 2020 State Convention or at the 2020 State Convention).
- Ability to devote many hours to the FFA
 - Flexible work schedule
 - College classes: Recommend 12 credit hours per semester
MAXIMUM.
 - *However, there is a chance you may not be elected so make your college plans as usual. It is quite easy to defer college for a year but nearly impossible to sign up to attend school at the last minute.*
 - *While we recommend no more than 12 credit hours, you know yourself better than anyone so take the number of credits that you think you can handle. But remember FFA should be priority #1.*
- Dependable Car/ Transportation
 - You will travel this year.
 - Make does not matter, dependability does!
- Valid Driver's License
 - It is not necessary for you to have your driver's license just some form of transportation whether it is a parent, train or bus.
- Willingness to work **HARD!**
 - State office is fun, but it is NOT a vacation. Prepare yourself for a year of SERVICE to the members.
- Commitment
 - There are certain FFA events come before your job, school events, and, yes, even dating!
- Good Attitudes
 - Your attitude is contagious!
 - Cooperation and teamwork are a must
 - There will be up to 5 other officers
 - Every day of your year will be a team effort
 - Knowledge of the FFA and Agriculture
 - **A love for the FFA and its members**

How Should I Prepare?

- Study
 - Harder in the areas where you are weak – it will help you prepare for challenges you will face.
 - The habits and attitudes of successful people you meet.
 - The history of the FFA at the National, State, and Local levels (you can't understand what FFA is all about unless you know where it came from).
 - The many areas of agriculture – it's ALWAYS changing!
- Participate
 - Activities outside of FFA help to make you a well-rounded, knowledgeable individual.
 - Any and all FFA activities; from CDE's to SAE's to conferences and anything in between!
- Save
 - You will have a limited time to work, so make sure you have savings to fall back on, because you are reimbursed for (*most*, not all of) your expenses, and sometimes unexpected expenses pop up too.
- Be Yourself!
 - Know who you are and what you are good at and do not worry about the rest. It's not about being good at everything; it is about using your talents to make a positive difference! Don't be afraid to be yourself during the candidacy process. Remember who you are during the process is how we expect you to be throughout your year of service. Be authentic but also be willing to be open-minded to others helping you in your weak area(s).
- **“Don't prepare to run for a state office – prepare to *be* a state officer.”**
 - D. Joe Caffee, 1995-96 National Vice President FFA

Top 10 Duties

Of a State Officer



10. Develop Personal Skills

State officers help members develop their potential, but a state officer must continue to develop his or her potential even *after* they are elected.

9. Team Building

Each officer will bring different but important talents to the team. The challenge is identifying and *using everyone's* talents, regardless of any personal flaws.

8. Helping Raise Money for the Members

The Delaware FFA Foundation does a great job at raising the funds but sometimes they can use a few extra hands at different events.

7. Strong Public Relations

Besides promoting FFA through your daily activities with chapters, there are special events with other organizations which you will attend. These may include trade shows, agricultural and/or business meetings, and much more.

6. National Convention

State FFA Officers make up the voting delegate body and active committees at National FFA Convention. They discuss and vote on issues which are sent to the National Board for approval and then implemented by the National Staff.

5. State Officer Meetings

The State Officer Team meets once a month to review past events and prepare for future events. These meetings are **mandatory**.

4. State Conferences & Events

State Fair, COLT, Imaged, Discovery, Quest, and State Convention do not just suddenly happen. Brainstorming begins in March when officers are elected and planning goes on all year.

3. Chapter Banquets and Special Events

Throughout the year many chapters request state officers to take part in their special events. From banquets to pig roasts to Ag Olympics, be prepared to go anywhere, participate and **HAVE FUN!!**

2. Chapter Visits

One of the most effective endeavors a state officer can be a part of is to meet the members "on their own turf", in their own classrooms. Chapter visits give the members a chance to meet the state officers in a more personal setting and present leadership workshops.

1. To Make a Positive Difference...

Above all, the main responsibility of a state officer is, in everything and at all time, *in and out of the jacket*, to be available at all times to "make a positive difference in the lives of students." Their year is not to be focused on personal gain (although it will come), but focused on recognizing and developing the potential of students by introducing them to the opportunities in the FFA and making those FFA opportunities and experiences the best they can possibly be. **Remember**, state officers exist to serve the members!

Responsibilities

In addition to the numerous other responsibilities which state officers encounter along the way, there is a huge amount of behind the scenes work which must take place daily to make all of the above occur smoothly and effectively. From the time state officers are elected in March, the team immediately begins brainstorming about themes, missions, conferences, etc. It is not unusual and in fact is very needed, to begin planning the state convention at which you will retire within a few weeks after you are elected.

As a state officer, you must be willing to put in far more work behind the scenes than in the spotlight. For every moment in the spotlight, a hundred more must be spent:

- Sending emails
- Preparing workshops, speeches, welcomes and reflections
- Making phone calls
- Typing letters and agendas
- Putting together notebooks
- Practice, practice, PRACTICE!



All of the above, and much more, must be done behind the scenes in order to make those few moments up front of the crowd possible. But do not worry, the preparation is often as much, or even more fun, than the actual event. From inside jokes, to telling stories and laughing until you cry, the preparation will be as much fun as your attitude is willing to let it be!

A year as a state FFA officer is definitely not a boring one. **The responsibilities fall equally on ALL state officers.** Don't assume that you can run for an office that comes with fewer responsibilities and simply slide by. All state officers spend nearly all their time fulfilling the same responsibilities as every other officer. The president must be just as willing to sweep the floor as the sentinel, and the vice president just as willing to type letters as the secretary. A successful state officer team does NOT occur because of a few great individuals, but DOES occur because of six dedicated FFA members who are devoted to making a positive difference, and doing so by a team effort. There is no such thing as an "easy" state office. Thankfully, though, there is also no such thing as a boring, lonely or dull state office either.

Prepare to be **PROFESSIONAL!** You are a state officer and represent the FFA and the Agriculture Industry both in and out of the jacket. You will be well recognized. People will be watching you all the time. You must be a role model with your actions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and during ALL of your 365 days as a state officer.

Qualities of a Successful State FFA Officer

Being a State FFA Officer is a very big and demanding job. Because of this, we have compiled a list of some very important qualities a successful state officer needs to have and use.

Patience – A good amount of a state officers job is ceremonial, in other words, we attend many events to remind sponsors, community members, other attendees of what the FFA is (an organization to help students develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success!) and to make a good impression. Often this means there are many times where you “hurry up and then wait,” which requires patience with a **SMILE**.

Punctuality – Few things make a person look like they do not care, like being late – even if you really were caught in traffic. If in doubt, do NOT hit that snooze button; that five extra minutes of sleep is not worth the stress and hassle of being late. And remember when one person on the team is late it makes the entire team look bad. “To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, and **to be late is unacceptable.**”

Flexibility – When we say flexible, we mean in *everything*! Often times plans get modified at the last minute: go with the flow. At times a state officer must sacrifice little things he or she is used to having. This includes and is not limited to eating food you may not care for, finding out you are giving a speech five minutes before you have to give it, not getting as much sleep as you’re used to, changing jobs/assignments, giving up habits like chewing gum, etc. But don’t worry, it is worth it!

Perseverance – Being a state officer is not all fun and games; there will be days when you’re mad at a teammate, tired, feel sick, stressed, bored, hungry, or maybe, just maybe your feet hurt (imagine that!). We feel your pain, but it’s your job to smile so that **nobody** knows that something is wrong (except for maybe your teammates and Executive Secretary but even then, do not make their lives miserable either). Remember a state officer represents all 4,000 DE FFA members even on less than perfect days, 24 hours a day, for one year.

Professionalism – This is that polish on top of everything! Professionalism includes looking good (from shiny shoes and wrinkle-free official dress to making sure your hair doesn’t look like you just rolled out of bed) **AND** taking the role! Some important aspects to remember – NO swearing, NO questionable language, NO talking about teammates or members and NO questionable conversations from the time you leave your front door until you return again because you never know who is listening. Also, NO BICKERING – state officers don’t always get along 100% of the time. Venting or “having-it-out” with each other should NEVER happen until after you have left the event you are attending.

Upbeat – State officers have tremendous influence not only on members but also on sponsors, teachers, administrators, and any other people they interact with, so being upbeat and pleasant is a must.

Organization – You don’t have to be the most perfectly organized human being on the planet, but having some type of organization will make your life so much easier. You do not want to miss an event due to not being organized.

Dedication – “If a job is worth doing, it’s worth doing right.” Being dedicated takes hard work and effort and it’s not always easy, but Coty Back, the 2006-07 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President suggested that whenever we do not feel like living up to the office we have been elected, to remember the members who were not elected and the 4,000 members we serve and think of how they’d feel if they knew we were slacking off.

Public Speaking Skills – Not every state officer was a first place winner in a public speaking CDE: that’s why we go through training. Just be aware that state officers are often asked to speak (and many times at the last minute) at various events throughout the year.

Creative Thinking – From coming up with an extra and relevant workshop activity to fill time to planning for conferences, some creative thinking is needed to make what you are doing fun and interesting for all those who are involved.

Servant Attitude – State officers exist to serve the members. Never forget that! Always be willing to lend an extra hand, stay a little longer, have a smile, etc. and maintain a humble attitude the whole time. Your attitude speaks louder than anything you say.

Sacrifice— It is very important throughout the year that you will have to sacrifice your own activities for the FFA. You may not be able to take part in other clubs, organizations, or other events. Many times you will have to sacrifice your own time due to your commitment to the FFA.

Ag Knowledge – We all know that not every FFA member is from an agricultural or farming background. However, State FFA Officers represent an agricultural organization and it is their responsibility to know what is going on in agriculture. We suggest getting your hands on some newspapers (such as the *Lancaster Farming*, *Farm shine*, etc ...)

Not every person possesses each and every one of these qualities, and believe us, that is ok. What’s really important is that each team member is willing to identify their strengths and weaknesses and then as a team agree to use those talents and develop those weaknesses into strengths

A Month in the Life... October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 FFA Foundation Golf Tournament 7:30am-4pm	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Chapter Visit	11	12
13	14	15 Chapter Visit	16 Chapter Visit	17	18	19
20	21 State Officer Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27 National FFA Convention	28 National FFA Convention	29 National FFA Convention	30 National FFA Convention	31 National FFA Convention	1 National FFA Convention	<i>This is a sample event calendar from a State Officer.</i>

- Although this may look busy there may be a few months where it's not this busy, or some officers are not as busy as others during certain times.

Delaware FFA State Officer Selection Process

(Slight changes may be made prior to state convention)

Stand and Deliver

This round will be **26 minutes** in length. **Twenty minutes** focused on the candidate's ability to plan, organize and prepare a spoken presentation. **Three minutes** focused on the candidate's ability to deliver spoken presentation for context. Finally, **three minutes** focused on the candidate's ability to respond accurately to questions regarding topic and presentation.

Candidates will have **20 minutes** in a preparation room **to prepare three minutes'** worth of comments on a given topic. When students arrive to the preparation room they will receive the topic and instructions regarding the setting and audience to which the comments will be directed. **Candidates will have a full 20 minutes to formulate their remarks.** No materials will be allowed in the room during this time other than a pad and pen provided by the nominating committee.

Candidates will promptly move from the preparation room to the interview room **to deliver their three minute speech.** Regardless of where they are in their remarks time will be called at the end of three minutes. At that time candidates must stop their speech and wait for questions from the committee. Carefully constructed questions will be asked of the candidate regarding the speech topic. Candidates have a total of three minutes to respond to the questions asked. **The number of questions the committee intends to ask will be clearly stated prior to the start of this three minute period.** Time will be called at the end of three minutes regardless of where candidates are at in their response. Should a candidate finish early they may leave the interview room. The committee will have three minutes to complete their evaluation for the candidate's performance before the next candidate begins.

A listing of three topics will be given to the candidate at the February information meeting. Details about the specific topic chosen and the context will be provided to candidates only when they enter the preparation room. All competencies will be evaluated by the student nominating committee members. Specific builders will be rated on a one to five scale where one reflects strong evidence the skill is not present and five indicates strong evidence the skill is present.

Competency Builders Evaluated:

- 1.1 - Non-verbal skills
- 1.4 - Speaking skills
- 3.1 - Agriculture Current Events and Issues
- 3.2 - FFA Current Events and Issues
- 3.3 - American Education and Ag Education
- 4.1 - Efficient Time Management
- 4.2 - Organizational Skills
- 4.3 - Planning and Prioritization
- 6.1 - Self Confident
- 7.1 - Supports and motivates members/partners
- 8.2 - Ability to think critically and research

One on One Interviews

This round will consist of a **five minute interview** with each member of the nominating committee. The interview is focused on two objectives. First, this is an opportunity for the committee to develop rapport and get to know candidates in a one-on-one setting. Second, this will provide an opportunity for evaluation of a number of targeted competency builders through structured questions and follow-up questions. The competencies outlined will be evaluated through observation and careful listening to candidate responses to questions. **Following each interview, the committee member will have three minutes to evaluate the candidate.** Builders will be assessed on a scale from one to five where five reflects strong evidence the skill/attribute is present and one reflects strong evidence the skill/attribute is not present.

Competency Builders Evaluated with Questions:

- 1.5 - Facilitation skills in a workshop setting
- 2.1 - Work in team in pursuing common goal
- 2.2 - Acceptance of differing viewpoints
- 2.3 - Team before self
- 4.1 - Efficient time management
- 4.2 - Organizational skills
- 5.1 - Reliability/integrity/trust
- 5.2 - Adaptable/ Flexible
- 5.6 - Coachable/ Lifelong learning
- 5.7 - Work Ethic
- 6.2 - Commitment to FFA
- 6.4 - Initiative
- 7.1 - Supports and motivates members/partners
- 7.2 - Mentors and coaches others
- 7.3 - Member Representation Competency Builders

Evaluated through Observation:

- 1.1 - Non-verbal skills
- 1.2 - Listening skills
- 5.3 - Positive attitude
- 5.4 - Sincerity/compassion
- 5.5 - Maturity
- 6.1 - Self Confident
- 6.3 - Energetic

Facilitation

The purpose of this round is to evaluate the candidate's ability to influence through facilitated presentation in front of a realistic audience. **This round will be 35 minutes in length. Candidates will be paired up in groups of two and will have 25 minutes to plan, prepare, and organize using materials provided.** All materials will be provided to the candidate along with a sheet of instructions outlining the specific context and topic for the workshop. Candidates will have a space to conduct their planning. Following preparation candidates will move to the interview room where they will **have ten minutes to facilitate their presentation** with the audience available. The nominating committee will have three minutes to evaluate the presentation once the candidate is finished. A list of potential topics for this round will be given to the candidates at the February nominating committee candidate information meeting. The student nominating committee members will evaluate candidates' performance using the competency builders outlined below. Each builder will be evaluated on a one to five scale where one reflects strong evidence the skill is not present and five reflects strong evidence the skill is present.

Competency Builders Evaluated:

- 1.1 - Non-verbal skills
- 1.2 - Listening skills
- 1.4 - Speaking skills
- 1.5 - Facilitation skills
- 4.1 - Time management skills
- 4.2 - Organization skills
- 4.3 - Ability to plan and prioritize
- 5.2 - Adaptable/ flexible
- 5.7 - Work Ethic
- 6.3 - Energetic
- 7.1 - Supports and motivates members/partners
- 7.2 - Mentors and coaches others
- 8.1 - Ability to solve Problems

Personal Interviews

The purpose of this interview is to ask a final set of questions developed by the committee to address competencies such as character, passion for success, influence, and team player. **Each candidate will have eight minutes with the committee members.** During this time committee members will ask questions related to the competency builders identified below. The following competency builders will be evaluated by the student nominating committee members using the one to five scale developed for each builder.

Competency Builders Evaluated:

- 2.1 - Ability to work in team pursuing common goal
- 2.3 - Ability to put team before self
- 5.1 - Reliability/integrity/trust
- 5.3 - Positive attitude
- 5.4 - Sincerity and Compassion
- 5.5 - Maturity
- 5.6 - Coachable/ Lifelong learning
- 6.1 - Self Confident
- 6.2 - Commitment to FFA
- 6.3 - Energetic
- 6.4 - Initiative

Dinner

The purpose of this round is to evaluate the candidate in a more relaxed environment. If elected to state office, officers will be required to use proper etiquette, engage in conversation, and make a connection with a variety of individuals. The student nominating committee members will evaluate candidates' performance using the competency builders outlined below. Each builder will be evaluated on a one to five scale where one reflects strong evidence the skill is not present and five reflects strong evidence the skill is present.

Competency Builders Evaluated:

- 1.2 - Listening skills
- 1.4 - Speaking skills in a variety of settings
- 2.2 - Acceptance of differing viewpoints
- 5.3 - Positive Attitude
- 5.5 - Maturity
- 7.1 - Supports and motivates members/partners
- 7.3 - Member Representation

Test and Writing

On the First Monday in March State Officers must consistently demonstrate a command of key issues related to agriculture, FFA and the American education system. While some of this knowledge may be demonstrated by asking quality questions and carrying on informed conversations rather than “knowing facts” it is still important that officers come in with a base understanding of core issues and facts related to these three areas of knowledge. Thus, a written exam consisting of two portions - multiple choice questions and essay questions - will be administered to allow candidates to demonstrate evidence of this desired knowledge set. Candidates will complete the exam at the February Preliminary CDE's. **Three hours will be allowed for students to complete both portions of the exam.** No study materials will be allowed in the examination room. Multiple Choice Questions All candidates will complete a written exam with 60 multiple choice questions. The composition of the exam will be as follows: 20 questions on current issues in Delaware agriculture; 20 questions on current issues in FFA and 20 questions on current issues in education and agricultural education. The following competency builders will be evaluated on a one to five scale. Five indicates strong evidence the skill is present. One indicates strong evidence the skill is not present.

Competency Builders Evaluated through Questions:

- 3.1 - Knowledge of agricultural industry and current issues
- 3.2 - Knowledge of FFA and current issues
- 3.3 - Knowledge of America's education system/Ag Ed/Issues Essay Questions

All candidates will complete a written essay on a topic relevant to agriculture, FFA or the American education system. The purpose of the essay is focused on student's ability to convey knowledge and understanding in a different way than allowed through multiple choice questions.

Competency Builders Evaluated through Questions:

- 1.3 - Writing skills when communicating with others
- 8.1 - Solve problems
- 8.2 - Think critically and conduct research

Note-Valuable preparation resources for this part of the process would be ffa.org, delawareffa.org, 2010 State Agriculture overview (<http://dda.delaware.gov>), and the department of education (ed.gov).

DATES INVOLVING 2019 - 2020
STATE OFFICERS PARTIAL LISTING

Listed below is a partial, projected listing of dates involving State FFA Officers which are known at the present time. Many others will be added. Many of the events will require specific Officers to be in attendance, such as banquets, chapter visits, etc., as invited or needed. **THESE ARE TENTATIVE DATES.**

MARCH 2020

21 State Officer Planning Meeting, DSU Ag Annex, Room 212, 9:30 am

APRIL 2020

April 15-19 Base Camp Training for New State Officers, Rehoboth Beach

May 2020

4 State Officer Meeting, 7pm, DSU Ag Annex, Room 212

JUNE 2020

1-3 State Officer Training, Dover Downs Hotel, Dover, DE

15 Agriscience Fair, Delaware State University, 8am Display Setup

15 Food Science CDE, Delaware State Univ., 12:30pm Registration, 1pm CDE

16 Forestry CDE, Brecknock Park, 9:30am Registration, 10am CDE

17 Veterinary Science CDE, Del Tech-Owens, 9am Registration, 9:30 CDE

18 Agricultural Mechanics CDE, Lake Forest, 9:30am Registration, 10am CDE

22-25 DAAE Summer Conference, TBD

JULY 2020

8 State Fair Set Up, Harrington, DE

21-Aug 1 Delaware State Fair, Harrington, DE

19-22 State Officer Summit, Washington, DE

AUGUST 2020

3 Middle School COLT Smyrna Middle School

6 Foundation Golf Tournament, Heritage Shores, Bridgeville, DE

8 Peach Ice Cream Day, Fifer Orchards, Camden, DE

SEPTEMBER 2020

8 DAAE Meeting, 5 pm Collette Education Center

14 State Officer Meeting, 6pm, Collette Education Center

- 17-19 The Big 'E', Springfield, MA; Refer to Big E website for details
- 21-23 Chapter Officer Leadership Training, Cape Henlopen State Park, Lewes, DE
- 22 Opening and Closing Ceremonies CDE, 9 am, COLT
- OCTOBER 2020**
- 5 State Officer Meeting, 7pm, Ag Annex DSU room 212
- 7 Team Ag Ed Meeting, 6 pm, Collette, Dover, DE
- 25-31 National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, IN
- NOVEMBER 2020**
- 9 State Officer Meeting, 6 pm Collette
- 10 DAAE Meeting, 5 pm, Collette, Dover, De/ SOC School
- 12 DISCOVERY FFA Leadership Conference, 6-8th grades, 8:30am (Registration), 9am-3pm, Duncan Center *(Limited to 80) (date may change)*
- DECEMBER 2020**
-
- 7 State Officer Meeting, 5 pm Mrs. Powell's House
- 13-16 State Convention Planning Retreat, Rehoboth Beach, DE
- JANUARY 2021**
- 4 State Officer Meeting, 6pm, Collette Center
- 12 State Officer Candidates/Nom Com Meeting, 5:00 pm, Collette
- 18 Statewide Ice Skating, The Centre, Harrington, 12:30-2:30pm (date may change)
- 28 Proficiency, State Degrees, American Degrees, State Officer Candidate Applications Due by 8:30am
- 28 VISION FFA Leadership Conference, 9th-12th grades, 8:30am (Registration), 9am-3pm, DSU MLK
- FEBRUARY 2021**
- 1 State Officer Meeting, 7pm, Ag Annex DSU Room 212
- 4 CDE Preliminaries for Prepared Public Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Creed, Job Interview, 5pm, (Held at Smyrna High School)
- 4 State Officer School/NomCom Retreat, State Officer Candidate Written Test and Essay, 5pm, (Held at Smyrna High School)
- 14-20 National FFA Week
- March 4 Meat Judging Career Development Event

“Stay Tuned – More To Come!!”

**STATE OFFICER CANDIDATES THAT ARE ELECTED ON
Thursday, MARCH 12TH, 2020**

The following is a list of items that you will be responsible for immediately after you are elected to State Office:

- 1. The newly elected President will say a few remarks on behalf of the new team.**
- 2. The newly elected President and Secretary will perform closing ceremonies.**
- 3. Pictures will take place immediately following closing ceremonies.
REPORT BACK STAGE IMMEDIATELY.**
- 4. The mandatory New State Officer meeting will take place the following weekend after convention for you to get handouts and schedules.**
- 5. For Base Camp Training you will report to an assigned location (directions available when elected) on Wednesday, April 15, 2020. You will be there until Sunday, April 19th. Everyone should carpool as much as possible.**
- 6. You must bring “Me In A Box” - a small box of three or four items that describe you and who you are. We will be sharing these with each other during that week. Recommended that you bring three or four items ONLY.**
- 7. You must bring towels and toiletries.**
- 8. You must learn your part for opening and closing ceremonies.**

Delaware Agricultural Facts

- Delaware's Farmers' Markets has another record year in sales for 2014, topping over \$2.6 million
- There are more than 2,500 farms in Delaware
- Almost 40% of the land in Delaware is farmland
- More than 116,000 acres of farmland is permanently preserved through the Delaware Farmland Preservation Program
- Delaware farmers report over \$1 billion in farm sales
- Delaware agriculture has an \$8 billion impact on the state's economy
- Delaware's top five agricultural products are poultry, corn, soybeans, wheat, fruits & vegetables
- Delaware is ranked 1st in the US in value of production per acre
- Delaware is ranked 1st in the US for acres of lima beans harvested
- Delaware produces more than 200 million broilers per year
- Sussex County is the No. 1 broiler producing county in the US

FFA FACTS - Questions

1. Name the FFA colors
2. The Greenhand pin is made of what material?
3. What symbol does the chapter president have at his/her station?
4. The advisor has what symbol at his/her station?
5. The vice-president has what symbol at his/her station?
6. What symbol does the chapter secretary have at his/her station?
7. What symbol does the chapter treasurer have at his/her station?
8. The FFA creed must be learned to receive what degree?
9. What year was the Future Farmers of America founded?
10. What symbol does the chapter reporter have at his/her station?
11. What symbol does the chapter sentinel have at his/her station?
12. Name the five FFA degrees an FFA member can earn?
13. The salute to the flag is used during what part of an FFA meeting?
14. How many times does the chair tap the gavel when he/she wants the group to stand?
15. How many medals may a member properly wear on his/her jacket?
16. What part of the FFA emblem represents the national scope?
17. On the emblem, what does the cross section of the ear of corn represent?
18. What is the name of the National FFA Magazine?
19. In what city and state was the National FFA Convention held from 1928-1999?
20. In what city and state is the National FFA Convention going to be held this year?
21. Recite the FFA motto
22. Recite the first line of the creed
23. Name the first Future Farmer of America's President and the state he was from
24. Name the three things that appear on the back of most every FFA jacket
25. Name the first two words of every paragraph of the FFA creed
26. Name the medals which may be properly worn of the FFA jacket
27. Who wrote the FFA creed?

28. Name the four kinds of membership in the FFA
29. Who was the only FFA member to become president of the Nation?
30. Who can be an active FFA member?
31. Name the two birds that appear on the FFA jacket
32. Who is known as the "Father of the FFA?"
33. Explain the importance of the Smith- Hughes Act
34. What year were girls admitted into the FFA?
35. What year was the creed adopted?
36. What year was the Delaware FFA Association chartered?
37. What is the instrument for maintaining order during a chapter meeting?
38. What was the name of the organization for black agricultural students prior to 1965?
39. Name the six parts of the FFA emblem
40. What does the acronym SAE stand for?
41. What does the acronym WLC stand for?
42. What does the acronym CDE stand for?
43. What does the acronym DAAE stand for?
44. What does the acronym NAAE stand for?
45. What are the State Association dues?
46. Which officer is called after the reporter in opening ceremonies?
47. After what part of the Pledge of Allegiance do you not pause?
48. What is the proper procedure for introducing a motion?
49. Who is the National FFA executive secretary?
50. What is the National FFA Mission Statement?
51. Explain the significance of Public Law 740.
52. Where was the National FFA Center first located?
53. Where is the National FFA Center presently located?
54. Who is the current President of the Delaware FFA Foundation?
55. When was the first National FFA Convention held?
56. How long after high school may a member remain active as an FFA member?
57. What year did the Future Farmers of America become the National FFA Organization?
58. Who is the current Secretary of Agriculture in Delaware?
59. How many FFA chapters are there in Delaware?
60. Where is the Delaware FFA office located?
61. Who is the Delaware FFA Executive Secretary?
62. Who is the President of the Delaware FFA Alumni?
63. What is the proper way to start an official FFA function?
64. What year was the Smith-Hughes Act enacted?
65. Who created the FFA jacket and what was the name of the first chapter to wear it?
66. Name the National FFA advisor
67. What state FFA organization served as the model for the Future Farmers of America?
68. To receive the chapter degree, how much money must you earn from your project?
69. What state received the first FFA charter?
70. How much money must you earn from your projects to receive your state degree?

71. How much money must you earn from your projects to qualify for the American Degree?
72. What is the speaking requirement for the chapter degree?
73. What is the speaking requirement for the state degree?
74. How is the use of the FFA emblem protected?
75. What degree must you hold to become a National FFA officer?
76. What is the highest degree the local chapter can confer upon a member?
77. How often are state officers elected?
78. What does the rising sun represent on the FFA emblem?
79. What part of the FFA emblem represents labor and tillage of the soil?
80. Where and when is the Delaware FFA Convention held annually?
81. What metal is the chapter degree made of?
82. During what month is National FFA week held?
83. What national holiday is always during National FFA week?
84. Name six purposes of the FFA
85. Who originally owned the land where the first FFA Center stood?
86. What is the FFA Foundation?
87. Is the FFA intra or extracurricular?
88. Who decides what the dues will be in each individual chapter?
89. What metal is the state degree made out of?
90. What National FFA region is Delaware in?
91. Name the FFA regions in the Nation
92. How many American degree applications can a state submit?
93. How many official delegates can a state have at the National Convention?
94. Who are the FFA jackets ordered from?
95. Name the three requirements for the Greenhand Degree
96. Explain why there are 52 state associations
97. What is the FFA Program of Work?
98. Who is the National FFA President?
99. Who is the National FFA Eastern Region National FFA Vice-president?
100. Who is the National FFA Central Region National FFA Vice-president?
101. Who is the National FFA Southern Region National FFA Vice-president?
102. Who is the National FFA Western Region National FFA Vice-president?
103. Who is the National FFA Secretary?
104. Who is the State FFA President?
105. Who is the State FFA Vice-president?
106. Who is the State FFA Secretary?
107. Who is the State FFA Treasurer?
108. Who is the State FFA Reporter?
109. Who is the State FFA Sentinel?
110. What is an FFA proficiency award?
111. What is parliamentary procedure?
112. How many National FFA Officers are there?
113. What parliamentary procedure is used to change a motion?

114. How many state officer positions are to be filled each year in Delaware?
115. Name ten CDE's held in Delaware
116. Name the FFA offices held in the local chapter provided by the National Constitution
117. What is a quorum?
118. Name three types of Public Speaking CDE's used in Delaware?
119. Name three types of project books used in Delaware
120. What is the primary aim of FFA?
121. When are State Officers elected in Delaware?
122. Name the three qualifications required for a Delaware State Officer Candidate
123. Name three companies that are major contributors of the FFA Foundation
124. Name four United States Presidents who have addressed the National Convention.
125. Name four National CDE's
126. What are the three levels of awards in the National Chapter rating contest?
127. At which National Convention was the Creed adopted and what year?
128. What years' was the creed revised and what conventions?
129. If the back of your jacket has only a large emblem, what position do you hold?
130. Who is the State Agriculture Education and FFA Advisor?
131. Who may become an honorary member of the FFA?
132. What FFA publication was first printed in 1952?
133. Who governs the National FFA Organization?
134. In what year was Public Law 740 passed?
135. By what means does an FFA chapter conduct its official business
136. Which chapter officer sits to the immediate left of the President in correct meeting room arrangement?
137. What officer uses the following part in the opening ceremonies, "I shall call the roll of officers..."?
138. Who says the following part in the opening ceremonies, "To practice brotherhood, honor agricultural opportunities..."?
139. To be eligible for the Superior Chapter Award a chapter must have a minimum of how many meetings per year?
140. "The owl is the time-honored emblem of knowledge and wisdom...", is spoken by who in the opening ceremonies?
141. What is the proper function of CDE's for FFA members?
142. To receive the State FFA Degree the student must have been a FFA member for how many years?
143. 168. Which proficiency award would a student who is working in a garden supply store apply for?
144. What proficiency award would a student who is working on a farm apply for?
145. What parliamentary procedure would be used to bring an item of business up for consideration at a chapter meeting?
146. What parliamentary procedure would be used to change the wording of a motion?
147. Name three ways a motion can be changed
148. In a properly conducted meeting, how many topics may be discussed at a time?

149. Name two motions that require a two-thirds vote
150. To be worn properly, the FFA jacket must be
151. What are two degrees available to members at the chapter level?
152. Which State Association has the most members
153. Judges are allowed how many minutes to ask questions at the end of each speech FFA public speaking contests?
154. The creed public speaking contest is open to all members: True or False
155. The American FFA Degree candidates must have graduated at least how many months prior to the National Convention at which it is to be received?
156. Candidates for the State Degree can meet requirements by working a minimum of how many hours?
157. New Mexico, Arizona, and Montana are members of which National FFA Region?
158. Mississippi, Georgia, and Louisiana are members of which National FFA Region?
159. North Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas are members of which National FFA Region?
160. How many candidates for a National Office may a state recommend each year?
161. What is the official membership year for the National FFA?
162. Each chapter decision is subject to review to be sure that it conforms to the chapter's constitution's by-laws: True or False
163. Which chapter officer is responsible for setting up the meeting room and greeting visitors?
164. The chairperson uses how many taps of the gavel to call the meeting room to order?
165. Preparing the agenda for a chapter meeting is the responsibility of which officer?
166. The chapter roster is prepared and submitted by the chapter secretary and what other officer?
167. Who is the Treasurer of the Delaware FFA Foundation?
168. Name the Secretary of Education in Delaware
169. Who is the National FFA CEO?
170. Who was the first National FFA President from Delaware?

FFA Facts - Answers

1. National Blue and Corn Gold
2. Bronze
3. The rising sun, block and gavel
4. The owl
5. The plow
6. The ear of corn
7. The emblem of Washington
8. Greenhand
9. 1928
10. The United States of America Flag
11. The Handclasp
12. Discovery, Greenhand, Chapter, State (Keystone), American
13. Closing Ceremonies
14. Three
15. Three
16. The American Eagle
17. Unity within the Nation
18. FFA New Horizons
19. Kansas City, Missouri
20. Indianapolis, Indiana
21. Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve
22. "I believe in the future of Agriculture....."
23. Leslie Applegate, New Jersey
24. State, Chapter, and Emblem
25. "I believe"
26. Highest degree, current office, and highest award
27. E. M. Tiffany
28. Active, Honorary, Alumni, Collegiate
29. Jimmy Carter
30. Anyone enrolled in an agriculture class
31. Owl, Eagle
32. Henry Groseclose
33. Started vo-ag programs in high school
34. 1969
35. 1930
36. 1930
37. Gavel
38. New Farmer of America
39. Cross section of corn, rising sun, plow, owl, eagle, and words Agriculture Education
40. Supervised Agriculture Experience
41. Washington Leadership Conference

42. Career Development Event
43. Delaware Association of Agricultural Educators
44. National Association of Agricultural Educators
45. \$0.00
46. Treasurer
47. "One Nation"
48. Be recognized by the chair and then begin motion with I move
49. Ms. Sharene Donaldson
50. 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.
51. Charter to start agriculture education
52. Alexandria, Virginia
53. Indianapolis, Indiana
54. Mr. Justin Bailey
55. 1928
56. Four National conventions after high school graduation
57. 1988
58. Mr. Michael Scuse
59. 40 Chapters
60. Delaware State University, Ag Annex Building
61. Mrs. Amanda Powell
62. Mr. Ben Somers
63. Opening Ceremonies
64. 1917
65. Agriculture Instructor J.H.Lintner, Fredericktown chapter of Ohio
66. Dr. Steve Brown
67. Virginia
68. \$50.00
69. Virginia
70. \$1000
71. \$7500
72. Lead a fifteen minute discussion
73. Give a five minute speech
74. Registered trademark in the US Patent Office
75. American Degree
76. Chapter Degree
77. Once a year
78. Progress and confidence in the future
79. The plow
80. Delaware State University in March
81. Silver
82. February

83. George Washington's Birthday
84. Leadership, Scholarship, cooperation, thrift, citizenship, self-confidence, ag occupation, home improvement, improvement of agriculture, character, patriotism
85. George Washington
86. An organization that sponsors FFA programs, awards and the FFA
87. Intra
88. The members
89. Gold
90. Eastern
91. Eastern, Central, Southern, Western
92. No Limit
93. Each state may have one delegate per one thousand members
94. National Supply Service – FFA Unlimited
95. Be in ag class, have plans for a project, learn creed, recite motto, know the official colors, know FFA history, know emblem symbols, proper use of jacket and pay dues
96. All fifty states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands
97. A list of activities for the year
98. Kolesen McCoy
99. Tess Seibel
100. Mamie Hertel
101. Yomar Roman
102. Lyle Logemann
103. Kourtney Lehman
104. Timothy Mulderrig
105. Gillian Cannon
106. Abigail Edwards
107. Trey Thompson
108. Emily Samick
109. Jackson Slyvester
110. An award for excellence in a given area
111. The proper way to run a meeting
112. Six
113. Amendment
114. Six
115. List can be found on the DE FFA web site
116. President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, Advisor
117. The number of members required to run a meeting one more than half
118. Creed, conservation, extemporaneous, prepared and junior prepared
119. Wildlife, work experience, production, skills and tasks greenhouse
120. To develop leadership, citizenship, and cooperation
121. In March at the state convention
122. Have a state degree, have approval of advisors, principal, and parents, and complete the

- application
123. DuPont Crop Protection, CSX Transportation, Growmark FS, East Coast Seed, Inc., Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit, Syngenta, Tucker Mechanical Services, Inc.
 124. Donald Trump, Jimmy Carter, George Bush, Gerald Ford
 125. List can be located on National FFA Website
 126. Gold, Silver, Bronze
 127. Third in 1930
 128. 38th in 1965 and 63rd in 1990
 129. National Office
 130. Dr. Bart Gill
 131. Anyone that supports FFA or Ag.
 132. National Future Farmers
 133. A board of directors and the delegates at the National conventions
 134. 1950
 135. Parliamentary Procedure
 136. The secretary
 137. The vice president
 138. All FFA members
 139. Twelve
 140. The advisor
 141. to educate FFA members
 142. Two
 143. Ag Sales and Services
 144. Placement in Ag Production
 145. A main motion
 146. An amendment
 147. Added to, deleted from, both
 148. one
 149. Suspend the rules, Previous question, limit debate, rescind
 150. Zipped to the top
 151. Greenhand and Chapter
 152. Texas
 153. Five Minutes
 154. False only 7th, 8th and 9th grades
 155. Twelve
 156. 600
 157. Western
 158. Southern
 159. Central
 160. One
 161. September 1 through August 31
 162. True

- 163. Sentinel
- 164. Two
- 165. Secretary
- 166. Treasurer
- 167. Brandon McCabe
- 168. Dr. Susan Bunting
- 169. Mark Poeschl
- 170. David Townsend