CONSIDER SERVING AS AN FFA STATE OFFICER
Each year, Kansas FFA selects six members to represent the organization as a state officer. During the year, state officers wear a variety of hats. They teach leadership skills to chapter members through workshops and conferences. They represent agricultural education at industry and sponsor visits. They are communicators and public relations specialists for FFA. They are teammates to each other and to FFA staff. Eager to learn and grow, officers commit to bettering others and the FFA.

**Myth:** State officers must first be chapter and district officers.

**Fact:** While state officers must demonstrate leadership ability, they do not have to hold chapter or district offices prior to running for state office. In fact, there have been several state officers who never served as district officers.

**Myth:** Only students who plan to major in agriculture can run.

**Fact:** Students are not required to major in agriculture. While a strong knowledge of and passion for agriculture is essential for state officers, it is not a required major.

**Myth:** Only students who plan to attend Kansas State University can run.

**Fact:** While most state officers choose to attend K-State, it is not a requirement.

**Myth:** Only high school seniors are able to run for state office.

**Fact:** Any student who has or will graduate from high school prior to August 1st following the state FFA convention at which they are a candidate and has received their State FFA Degree or will receive the degree as a candidate is eligible to run. This includes high school seniors, college freshman and sophomores. Students must be active members for the duration of their time of service.
HIGHLIGHTS OF A YEAR

LATE MAY/EARLY JUNE
- Officer Candidacy and Election

EARLY JULY
- State Conference for Chapter Leaders

LATE JULY
- State Officer Summit (Washington D.C.)

THROUGHOUT YEAR
- Chapter Visits

OCTOBER
- National FFA Convention Delegate Process

JANUARY
- International Leadership Seminar for State Officers

SPRING
- Chapter and District Banquets

LATE MAY/EARLY JUNE
- State Convention and Retirement

OFFICERS COMMIT NEARLY 300 DAYS OF THE YEAR TO FFA
Officers have to be in their role twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week for a three hundred sixty-five day year. The training and experiences in this role help make service more realistic to the officers, and help them approach the year of service with a plan.

A state FFA officer must include personal health, wellness and stress management as one of their keys to success. Work in harmony with fellow FFA officers and not knowingly engage in conversations detrimental to other FFA members, officers or adults.

Officers must be committed to trying new things, approaching failure as a learning experience, building team trust and resolving conflict. Growing knowledge of self (focus on growth) and growing knowledge of team members allows officers to perform more efficiently and effectively.

The training and experiences center around life and time management. Officers should excel so they will be better able to focus to the present. Officers find and share passion with members and the team so they can help members find their passions. State FFA officers discover and build on their personal interests and passions.
“Serving as a state officer was easily one of the most significant experiences in my life. It opened doors for me that I never imagined—I met people, went places and did things that I never would have otherwise.”

— Lindy Bilberry
2013-2014
State President
Garden City FFA

“Being able to serve the Kansas FFA Association as a state officer was definitely a life-changing experience. It allowed me to grow tremendously as a person, as well as a leader.”

— Grant Geone
2001-2002
State Treasurer
Winfield FFA

“I’ve never had more opportunities to meet industry professionals, supportive community members and passionate youth leaders than during my year of service.”

— Skyler Denio
2017-2018
State Sentinel
Hoxie FFA

“A year of service is an opportunity. An opportunity to make a difference in the state and beyond, an opportunity to grow close to five other individuals that challenge you and support you, and an opportunity to find and grow yourself while being a part of something bigger.”

— Bailey Peterson
2015-2016
State Vice President
Buhler FFA

“My year as a state officer is still one I look back on with fond memories! It taught me so much and even to this day many of the lessons I learned during my year of service I can apply in my everyday life.”

— Nathan Laudan
2011-2012
State Reporter
Paola FFA

“Throughout the year, I have seen the passion in my fellow members that is the driving force of the FFA, and I am reminded that it is a privilege to be a part of this organization to work with so many inspiring individuals.”

— Grace Luebcke
2016-2017
State Secretary
Marysville FFA

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An opportunity to make a difference

in the state and beyond, an

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other individuals that challenge you

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to find and grow yourself while being

a part of something bigger.”

— Bailey Peterson
2015-2016
State Vice President
Buhler FFA
Questions?

Read the State Officer Selection Handbook or contact the Nominating Committee Chair at nominatingcommitteechair@gmail.com

*NOTE - THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT REPLACE THE HANDBOOK. PLEASE READ THE HANDBOOK BEFORE BEGINNING THE PROCESS.