



# KANSAS FFA ASSOCIATION

## Developing Premier Leadership, Personal Growth, and Career Success through Agricultural Education.

### FFA Mission



**Grow  
Leaders**



**Build  
Communities**



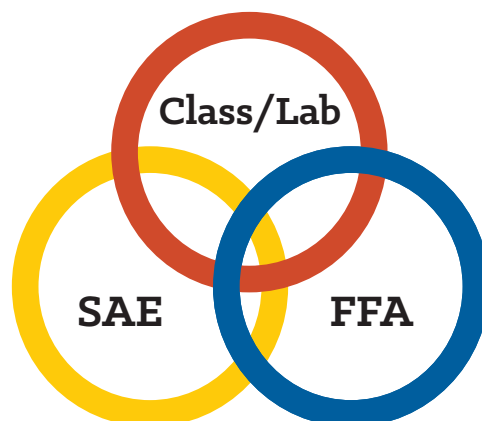
**Strengthen  
Agriculture**

**The National FFA Organization** has evolved in response to expanded opportunities available in the industry of agriculture. Today's FFA helps members prepare for careers in agribusiness, agrimarketing, science, communications, education, horticulture, production, natural resources, forestry and many other diverse fields.

**FFA** operates on local, state and national levels. Student members belong to chapters organized at the local school level. Agriculture educators serve as chapter advisors. Chapters are organized under state associations headed by an advisor and executive secretary, often employees of the state department of education.

**The FFA experience** is valuable to all students, regardless if they do or do not ultimately pursue agricultural careers. FFA members are both prepared to embark on a career in agriculture through opportunities available in eight different career pathways, and they are prepared for career success in another chosen field because the components of the mission become differentiating power skills. FFA members, regardless of future occupation, become informed and supportive consumers, leaders in building their communities and help strengthen agriculture.

**Agricultural education** prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resources systems. Students accomplish this through contextual, inquiry-based instruction and learning through an interactive classroom and laboratory, developing premier leadership, personal growth and career success through engagement in FFA activities and programs, and participating in experiential, service and/or work-based learning through the implementation of a supervised agricultural experience program.



The agricultural education program provides a well-rounded, practical approach to learning through three components: classroom education, hands-on supervised agricultural career experiences and FFA, which provides leadership opportunities and tests students' agricultural skills. Here are programs that FFA members may experience throughout their time in the organization.



**The Washinton Leadership Conference** curriculum is based on the four tenants ME, WE, DO, and SERVE. Building upon each of these four tenants gets students to the overall objective of the conference which is becoming an engaged citizen who can make a measurable positive difference in their community. Each of these tenants are taught during a full dedicated day of the conference and through the context of our nation's capital, Washington D.C. The Washington leadership conference is a delicate balance of providing FFA members with a premier leadership experience while exposing them to the rich history that DC has to offer.

**The National Chapter Award Program** is designed to recognize FFA chapters that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. These chapters improve chapter operations using the National Quality Chapter Standards (NQCS) and a Program of Activities (POA) that emphasize growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. Chapters are rewarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership.



The National FFA Organization embraces the idea of building stronger communities. The last line of the FFA motto, "Living to Serve," signifies the vital role service plays in our organization. **The Living to Serve** platform empowers every student in every classroom to make a positive impact in their community. FFA provides quality programs, resources, recognition and opportunities for our members to put their leadership into action through service engagement.

**Career Development Events** build on what is learned in agricultural classes and encourage members to put their knowledge into practice. These events are designed to help a member prepare for a career in agriculture by testing and challenging the student's technical, leadership, interpersonal and teamwork skills as well as their knowledge of the subject matter. CDEs answer the question, "When will I use this knowledge in the real world?"

**To bring agriculture education and FFA to your school, to learn more, contact:**

**Mary Kane, Executive Secretary**  
mrkane@ksu.edu  
(785) 532-6424

**Guy Shoulders, State Advisor**  
gshoulders@ksde.org  
(785) 296-3956