



FFA

Membership

Today, there are **540,379 FFA members**



FFA members are in grades 7-12, as well as in some post-secondary institutions

70% of FFA members live in rural/farm areas, 10% live in urban and suburban areas and 19% live in small towns.

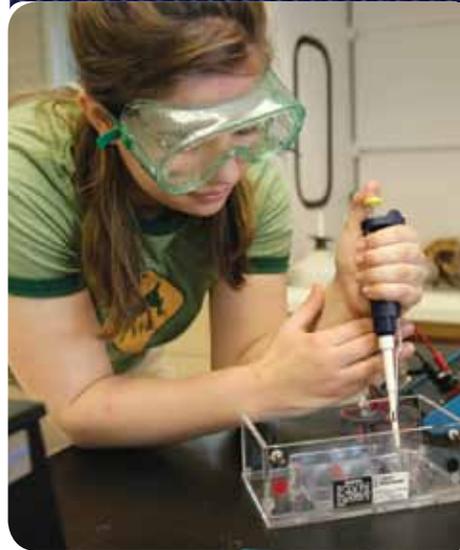
Education

92% of agricultural education programs offer agriscience, 71% offer advanced agriscience and biotechnology, 59% offer agricultural mechanics, 49% offer horticulture, 43% offer animal science and 24% offer environmentrelated courses.

23% of agriculture teachers have five or fewer years of teaching experience.

Since its inception in 1928, the National FFA Organization (FFA) has become an integral part of agricultural education by helping make classroom instruction come to life through realistic, hands-on applications. FFA members embrace the concepts taught in agricultural science classrooms nationwide, build valuable skills through hands-on experiential learning, and each year demonstrate their proficiency in competitions based on real-world agricultural skills. For more than 84 years, FFA has been making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education.

43% of FFA members are female; women hold more than 47% of state leadership positions.



Federally Chartered

FFA was organized nationally in 1928 in Kansas City, Missouri. In 1950, Congress granted FFA a federal charter, making it an integral, intracurricular part of public agricultural instruction under the National Vocational Education Acts. FFA receives no federal funding. The U.S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs.

Science, Business and Technology

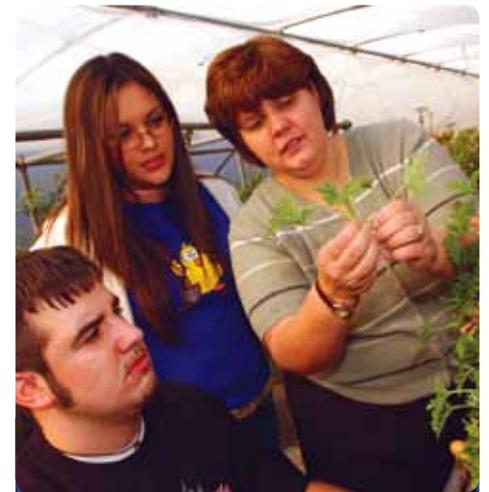
The organization changed its name in 1988 from Future Farmers of America to the National FFA Organization to reflect its evolution in response to expanded agricultural opportunities, preparing for careers in agricultural marketing, processing, communications, education, horticulture, production, natural resources, forestry, agribusiness and other diverse agricultural fields.

Membership

The FFA membership of 540,379 and 7,489 chapters represents all 50 states, as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. FFA is a diverse organization, operating in rural, urban and suburban schools.

Structure

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. States conduct programs and host annual conventions. The National FFA Organization, governed by a board of directors, charters state associations; provides direction, program materials and support; and hosts the national FFA convention.



More than 10,000 agriculture teachers deliver an innovative, cutting-edge and integrated curriculum to students.

Career Exploration

Collectively, FFA members earn \$4 billion annually through their hands-on work experiences.



Members participate in and learn advanced career skills in 47 national proficiency areas ranging from food science and technology to agricultural communications to wildlife management to production agriculture.

Through 23 national career development events, FFA members are challenged by real-life, hands-on tests of skills that prepare them for career success.

Industry Support

In 2011, sponsors provided more than \$16 million for FFA and agricultural programs, activities and scholarships.



More than 1,500 students of agricultural education benefited from FFA scholarships for the 2010-11 school year.



Career Preparation

The agricultural education program provides a well-rounded, practical approach to learning through three components: classroom education; hands-on supervised agricultural experience such as starting a business and FFA, which provides leadership opportunities and tests students' agricultural skills.

Student Leadership

FFA members elect their own officers and plan and conduct activities with supervision from their chapter advisors. A team of six national officers, typically college students taking a year out of their studies, plays a key role in planning the national convention and other events, traveling more than 100,000 miles during their year of service representing FFA.

Programs and Activities

Local, state and national FFA programs and activities help members develop public speaking skills, conduct and participate in meetings, manage financial matters, strengthen problem-solving abilities and assume civic responsibilities.

National FFA Convention

The national FFA convention is the premier gathering at which all FFA competitive events and programs are recognized on the national level. The convention brings FFA members together to learn, to be inspired and to celebrate their accomplishments in the organization. During the general convention sessions, students are not only recognized for their achievements, they are also inspired by motivational and keynote speakers from across the country.



Headquarters

The National FFA Organization is headquartered at the U.S. Department of Education as a part of agricultural, food and natural resources education in the Office of Vocational and Adult Education. The business center of the National FFA Organization is located at the National FFA Center in Indianapolis, Indiana.

National FFA Foundation

The National FFA Foundation, headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, works with business and industry, organizations and individuals to raise funds to recognize FFA achievements and to support activities at local, state and national levels. The foundation's address is P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960. Telephone 317-802-6050.

Alumni

Agriculture teachers rely on more than 52,000 FFA Alumni members and countless volunteers to help ease the outside commitments of teaching. FFA relies on alumni members for student recruiting, scholarship money, advocacy for agricultural education, aiding in camps, conferences, national FFA convention and other personal development programs.

National FFA Organization

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www.ffa.org

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The FFA Mission: 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.

The Agricultural Education Mission: Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer. Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems. The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the National FFA Organization Constitution and Bylaws.