

# TEXAS FFA ASSOCIATION

## WHO WE ARE

Texas FFA has evolved from an organization focusing primarily on production agriculture, to a broader-based organization that addresses the needs and interests of students. FFA gives students the opportunity to apply practical classroom knowledge to real world experiences through ongoing enrichment opportunities, as well as local, state, and national competitions.

Today, the Texas FFA is the nation's largest state FFA association with more than 155,000 members. The organization continues to help the next generation rise to meet challenges by helping members develop their own unique talents and explore their interests in a broad range of career pathways.

We are still the Future Farmers of America. But we are also the Future Biologists, Future Chemists, Future Veterinarians, Future Engineers and Future Entrepreneurs of America.

## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Through agricultural education, students encounter extensive opportunities for leadership development, personal growth, and career skill development. Instruction is delivered through three major components: classroom/laboratory instruction (contextual/inquiry based learning), supervised agricultural experience programs (work-based learning) and student leadership organizations (National FFA Organization, etc.).

## CAREER PREPARATION

Modern agriculture is about much more than farming, and so are we. FFA activities include hands-on work experiences and life skill development that help members discover their ideal career path. Through 28 state career development events and 49 national proficiency areas, members are challenged to real-life, hands-on tests of skills that prepare them for more than 300 careers in the agriculture industry, from veterinary science to marketing, food processing, and natural resource development.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Texas FFA is an organization of, by, and for students. The Association operates programs that support the work of local chapters, including competitive events, scholarship programs, student leadership operations, and the annual state convention. Members elect their own officers and plan and conduct activities with direction from their chapter's advisors. State officers are elected each year by the student delegates at the Texas FFA Convention. During their year of service representing the Texas FFA, the state FFA president and first vice president visit more than 400 schools and travel more than 60,000 miles.



**THE FUTURE IS HERE**

**OUR STUDENTS ARE READY TODAY FOR TOMORROW**

## QUICK QUESTIONS

### WHAT DOES FFA STAND FOR?

The letters "FFA" stand for Future Farmers of America.

In 1988 the organization started identifying as the "The National FFA Organization" to reflect the growing diversity of agriculture.

### WHAT IS THE TEXAS 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.

### WITH INCREASING URBANIZATION, IS TEXAS FFA STILL GROWING?

Yes! The Texas FFA Association has expanded by more than 65,000 members in the past 10 years.

## PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Through FFA programs, members begin to discover their unique talents and values. Programs provide the opportunity to travel, discover careers in agriculture, and develop leadership skills. The Texas FFA is a organization for competitive events, scholarships, and leadership development. The FFA helps members develop public speaking skills, conduct and participate in meetings, manage financial matters, strengthen problem solving abilities, and assume civic responsibilities. Most of all, the Texas FFA teaches the core values of leadership, encouraging members to use their knowledge and skills to serve others.



## SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE

An agricultural education program is made up of three integrated parts: classroom instruction, FFA leadership, and a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). With help from their teachers, students develop an SAE project. They are able to consider multiple careers and occupations, learn expected workplace behavior, develop specific skills within an industry, and are given opportunities to apply academic and occupational skills. Through these strategies, students learn to apply what they are learning to real world situations.



## FFA DEGREES

Texas FFA members can earn degrees as they progress through the phases of their leadership, academic and career skills development. The Discovery, Greenhand and Chapter FFA Degrees are all earned at the chapter level. The Texas FFA recognizes their top members with a Lone Star FFA Degree. At the 93rd annual Texas FFA Convention, more than 2,200 students received the Lone Star FFA Degree. The National FFA Organization awards top members from each state with the American FFA Degree.



## STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT

Agriculture is the nation's largest employer, with more than 23 million jobs involved in some facet of American agriculture. In 2021, sponsors provided more than \$2.3 million to Texas FFA and agricultural education programs. The Texas FFA Foundation provides a way for businesses, industry and individuals to contribute financially through designated scholarships and program services, which help provide for the continued strength of a distinguished youth program. Our sponsors play a critical role in the success of agricultural education, and we are grateful for their endless support and encouragement.

