

# [ NEW JERSEY FFA

New Jersey Department of Agriculture | Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education  
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*In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education*

**TO:** New Jersey Teachers of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources and FFA Members

**FROM:** Erin E. Noble, State FFA Advisor and State FFA Executive Board

**CC:** Kristianne M. Goodenough, State FFA Specialist

**RE: Leadership Experience and Development (L.E.A.D.)**

- Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT)
- Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC)
- State Greenhand Conference (SGC)

**Friday, October 7, 2022 12:00 pm - Saturday, October 8, 2022, 4:30 pm**  
**LOCATION** The Westin in Mt. Laurel, NJ (*directions on last page*)

**DATE:** July 28, 2022

The 2022-2023 State FFA Executive Board is excited to announce – **Leadership Experience and Development. (L.E.A.D.)**. L.E.A.D. is a three-conference experience meeting the needs of **ALL** FFA members!

The NJ FFA Association welcomes ALL FFA members to attend L.E.A.D. Here's how...



- **State Greenhand Conference (SGC):** All first-year FFA members in 7-10<sup>th</sup> grade ONLY are invited to attend State Greenhand Conference (SGC) where past state officers will help participants discover FFA opportunities, plan for Supervised Agricultural Experience programs, develop relationship building skills, and develop career, personal and leadership goals. By the end of the conference, participants will be awarded certificates of completion for meeting the requirements of the Greenhand FFA Degree.
- **I Am Conference:** Remaining FFA members (including chapter officers) are invited to attend the I Am Conference where students will explore identity, goals, habits, priorities, and balance. I Am will have two tracks – Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) and Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC).
  - **Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT):** Chapter FFA Officers are invited to participate in two additional workshops exclusive for chapter officers – Chapter Operations Challenge and POA Challenge. State Officers will facilitate these additional workshops and spend time bonding with the participants.

- **Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC):** Members who are not chapter officers are invited to participate in two additional workshops exclusive for growing members. Past State FFA Officers will facilitate these additional workshops and help the members unlock the possibilities within the FFA.

In addition to enhancing leadership skills, FFA members will meet other members from New Jersey's 36 FFA Chapters and connect with the state officer team, past state FFA officers and New Jersey FFA Alumni & Supporters. During COLT, advisors will play an integral role in working with the chapter officers to develop the POA activity goals and timeline. Advisor workshops and meetings are scheduled throughout the weekend.

### CONFERENCE FEES

LEADERSHIP RESOURCES:	\$35.00
MEALS & Other INCIDENTALS:	\$115.00
<b>TOTAL (without lodging):</b>	<b>\$150.00</b> – to be paid to “Treasurer, State of New Jersey”

LODGING (per room):	\$169.00 (exclusive of tax) – to be arranged/paid directly to The Westin Mount Laurel
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The \$35 Leadership Resources fee covers conference materials. The \$115 Meals and Other Incidentals fee covers three meals (Friday Dinner, Saturday Breakfast, and Saturday Lunch), a 2022-2023 state theme t-shirt, conference room fees and other costs to run the conference. Lodging is separate and will depend on the number of rooms needed. **Please make lodging reservations DIRECTLY with the hotel NO LATER than September 15. Due to limited rooming availability in the Westin, housing will be handled on a first come first serve basis. Additional rooms are available at the Hotel ML whose property is next door and a short walk from the Westin.** Failure to secure rooms by this date may result in the inability to secure lodging rooms and/or a higher room rate. Payment for lodging rooms MUST be made directly to the hotel. **To reserve rooms, please call 856-780-1184 and ask for Tammi Vetterl. Please reference “Office of Agricultural Education/FFA” when contacting the hotel.** Participants can be roomed with up to four individuals per room. **Please submit your Participant List by Thursday, September 15, 2022 by completing this form: <https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/LEAD>.** PLEASE forward a check in the amount listed on your invoice to: **TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY with “FFA LEAD” identified in the memo section prior to October 7. Payment for lodging rooms will need to be made directly to the hotel.** Chapters with Basic Affiliation will receive up to a \$140 discount on LEAD Leadership Resources. Chapters with Basic and Blue Affiliation will receive up to a \$280 discount on LEAD Leadership Resources. These discounts will be taken off on the electronic invoice.

### IMPORTANT!

**In addition to submitting a participant list, each student attending must submit the Student Code of Conduct Waiver PRIOR to the event. The Student Code of Conduct can be found in the Participant Form (<https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/LEAD>). You can print as many copies as you need. Advisors/Chaperones are required to complete the Advisor Statement of Assurances (also found in the Participant Form).**

The conference will begin with check-in at 12:00 pm Friday and end at approximately 4:30 pm on Saturday. **Official dress is required for the first session. It is recommended that your students arrive in official dress.**

## IMPORTANT LEAD FACTS:

1. Conference sign-in is 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch is on your own.
2. LEAD will kick-off with a joint I Am and SGC session promptly at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. LEAD will conclude with a wrap-up session on Saturday. Dinner will NOT be served on Saturday night. Members and advisors must come and stay the entire time.
3. Workshops are designed for dynamic participation where every member will be engaged in discussion, activities and interaction.
4. Awards for each conference will be presented to recognize leadership skills evident during the weekend. Award recipients will be recognized at the conclusion of each respective conference for their achievements.
5. Official dress is required during the first session and up until dinner. When not in official dress, appropriate attire is required (NO flip flops). Please see the definition of causal and official dress below. Members will be asked to wear the State Theme t-shirt they receive on Saturday.
6. Every member and advisor needs to bring:
  - Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc.)
  - FFA Manual (recent)
  - Pen/ Pencil
  - Official FFA Dress (see description of attire below)
  - Recreational clothing for team building challenge (appropriate footwear is mandatory - no flip flops)
  - Other personal items
  - Chapter POA – COLT participants only
  - One Computer/Tablet per chapter – COLT participants only

*Note: There is no need for iPods, tablets, TVs, or other expensive electronic equipment (unless otherwise noted)*
7. Friday night activities include a dance. Members are encouraged to bring a costume. Prizes will be awarded.
8. Teachers are responsible for their students at all times. No student should be in the hotel rooms during L.E.A.D. sessions.
9. Teachers will play an integral role in the conference and workshops will be provided.

## DESCRIPTION of ATTIRE

### **Official Dress (OD):**

- ✓ An official FFA jacket zipped to the top
- ✓ Black slacks and black socks or black skirt and hosiery
- ✓ White collared blouse or white collared shirt
- ✓ Official FFA tie or Official FFA scarf
- ✓ Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe
- ✓ Official garb of recognized religions may be worn with official dress

### **Business Causal (BC):**

Includes khakis type pants, and a polo or button-down shirt. No jeans.

### **Casual Dress (CD):**

Includes everything except tank tops, halter-tops, extremely short shorts or short skirts and cut-offs. NO flip flops! Please use your best judgment. This is not a fashion show.

## [DIRECTIONS TO The Westin](#)

*555 Fellowship Road, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054*

### **Driving Directions**

From the North using the Turnpike: NJ Turnpike South to Exit 4. Merge onto NJ-73 North. Make a right onto Fellowship Road. Destination will be on the left.

From the North using I-295: I-295 South to exit 36A. Merge onto NJ-73 South. Take the Fellowship Road N exit and make a right onto Fellowship Road. Destination will be on the left.

From the South using the Turnpike: NJ Turnpike North to Exit 4. Merge onto NJ-73 North. Make a right onto Fellowship Road. Destination will be on the left.

From the South using I-295: I-295 South to exit 36A. Merge onto NJ-73 South. Take the Fellowship Road N exit and make a right onto Fellowship Road. Destination will be on the left.

