



New Jersey Department of Agriculture | Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education
200 Riverview Plaza, 3rd Floor | P.O. Box 330 | Trenton, NJ 08625 | 877-AgEdFFA | jerseyageducation.nj.gov

In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education

Dear 2025 State FFA Convention Delegates:

Congratulations on being chosen as a delegate for the 96th New Jersey State FFA Convention! The role of a delegate is essential to the success of convention. During your time as a delegate, you will be responsible for making decisions that will not only impact your chapter but all of New Jersey's more than 3,000 members from 38 chapters statewide. Your role at convention is to not only contribute to the delegate process but also to showcase your leadership skills and enthusiasm for the FFA. As a delegate you serve as a role model for other members. Whether delegates are dancing in front of the stage at the beginning of sessions, pumping up members with excitement for sessions, or standing and cheering for awesome speakers or FFA members, state convention delegates serve as the heart and soul of the convention with some of the best seats in the house. Your enthusiasm and excitement are what will make this year's convention a success! I ask that you help me show the members how fun and exciting the New Jersey FFA State Convention can truly be.

The materials that are included in this packet will aid in your understanding of the delegate process, so I ask you to review them and discuss them with your advisor. In doing so you will be more informed and better able to make sound decisions at convention. You should also review the rules of parliamentary procedure. This will be crucial to your understanding of what occurs during the business sessions at convention. A summary of the motions has been enclosed for your reference.

Please find the following items in your delegate packet. Bring this material to the delegate meeting on Wednesday, May 21 at 6:00 pm in Pollak Theatre. See you then!

2025 State Convention Delegate Checklist

- _____ **Introductory Delegate letter**
- _____ **Schedule for Delegates**
- _____ **Chapter Committee Assignments**
- _____ **Additional Proposals**
- _____ **Useful Information for Delegate Business Session**
- _____ **Summary of Motions**

Also Bring:

- _____ **Notebook**
- _____ **Pens and Pencils**
- _____ **FFA Manual**
- _____ **Calendar to mark important dates**

Please review the enclosed material carefully. We encourage you to bring discussion to the delegate business meeting during the convention. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Jenny J. Allen, State FFA Specialist, at 877-243-3332 or me at niccoconte@gmail.com. The 2024-2025 New Jersey State FFA Officers look forward to your attendance and participation!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Niccolo Conte". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Niccolo Conte
2024-2025 New Jersey State FFA President

2025 DELEGATE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

- Nominating Committee:** 1:00 pm – Pollak Theatre Room 139
- Delegates arrive:** 1:00 pm – Registration
- Dinner:** 5:00 to 5:45 pm – Magill Commons
- Delegate Orientation:** 6:00 pm – Pollak Theatre, Auditorium
- First Session:** (Delegates in seats at 7:15 pm)
7:30 pm – Pollak Theatre, Auditorium
- Keynote Speaker: Abigale Jacobsen
 - Blue Jackets Bright Futures Presentation
 - FFA Scholarship Presentations

Thursday, May 22, 2025

- Second Session:** (Delegates in seats at 8:15 am)
8:30 am – Pollak Theatre, Auditorium

Committee Meetings: 10:00 am

- **Constitution, Bylaws, POA, and State Convention Evaluation**
Niccolo Conte, State FFA President
Location: BH 227
- **Membership and Chapter Relations**
Nina Weiland, State FFA Reporter
Location: BH 201 (Turrell Board Room)
- **State Leadership Activities**
Tyler Murnaghan, State FFA Secretary
Location: PH 205
- **State Applications**
William Rutherford, State FFA Sentinel
Location: BH 228
- **Career & Leadership Development Evaluation and Review**
Allison Josielewski, State FFA Vice President
Location: PH 206
- **Horticultural Exposition Evaluation and Review**
Abrianna Portillo, State FFA Treasurer
Location: PH 204

- Delegate Business Session*** 1:00 pm – Pollak Theatre, Auditorium
including Committee Reports

- Third Session:** 2:30 pm – Pollak Theatre, Auditorium
Convention Event Awards

- CDE Awards** 4:30 pm – Pollak Theatre, Auditorium

**Ceremony &
Talent Review**

Career Development Event Awards

Fourth Session:

(Delegates in seats at 7:15 pm)

7:30 pm – Pollak Theatre, Auditorium

- Keynote Address: Josiah Cruikshank
- NJ FFA Association Annual Report
- Honorary Garden State FFA Degree Ceremony

***Delegate Business
Session**

This session will be conducted if needed following the Fourth Convention Session

Friday, May 23, 2025

Fifth Session:

(Delegates in seats at 8:15 am)

8:30 am – Pollak Theatre

- Chapter Evaluation Awards
- Distinguished Service Awards
- State Proficiency Award Presentations
- Garden State Degree Ceremony
- Nominating Committee Report
- Installation of 2025-2026 State FFA Officers

Committee Assignments

Chapter	Region	Delegate #1	Delegate #2
Allentown	Central	C	E
Bankbridge Regional	Southern	A	B
BCIT- West Vet	Central	A	B
Belvidere	Northern	B	D
Bergen County Academies	Northern	B	E
Bergen Tech Paramus	Northern	A	E
Buena Regional	Southern	D	F
Camden Penn Tech	Southern	B	E
Camden Tech East	Southern	A	D
Cape May County Tech	Southern	C	D
Cumberland Regional	Southern	C	E
Delsea Regional	Southern	A	F
Essex County VTS Agriscience	Northern	C	D
Freehold	Central	D	F
High Tech	Northern	B	C
Hunterdon County ESEA	Northern	C	E
Hunterdon County Polytech	Northern	A	B
MCTS Sypek Center	Central	A	F
Middlesex East Brunswick	Central	D	F
Middlesex Piscataway	Central	B	F
Monmouth County	Central	E	F
Montague Township Middle	Northern	A	B
Newton	Northern	D	E
North Warren	Northern	A	E
Northern Burlington	Central	E	F
Northern Burlington Middle	Central	B	D
Pemberton Township	Central	A	C
Penns Grove	Southern	C	D
Phillipsburg	Northern	D	F
Salem Tech	Southern	C	D
Somerset	Northern	A	C
South Hunterdon	Northern	C	E
South Hunterdon Middle	Northern	A	B
Sussex County	Northern	B	F
Union County	Northern	D	F
Vineland	Southern	E	F
Warren Hills	Northern	B	F
Woodstown	Southern	C	E

KEY TO COMMITTEES:

- A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program of Activities & State Convention Evaluation
- B. Membership and Chapter Relations
- C. State Leadership Activities
- D. State Applications
- E. Career and Leadership Development Event Review & Evaluation
- F. Horticultural Exposition Review & Evaluation

Preview of Proposals

National FFA Organization Constitution & Bylaws

Proposal A – Modifications of the National FFA Constitution as related to shifting from individual member dues to universal chapter affiliation fees.

Proposal B – Modifications of the National FFA Bylaws as related to shifting from individual member dues to universal chapter affiliation fees.

Program Affiliation Fee Proposal

New Jersey FFA Association: No fee increase to Program Affiliation.

**2025 Proposed Amendments
for the 2025 National FFA Constitution Amendments**

Submitted by the National Board of Directors and 2024-2025 National FFA Officers

SUBJECT #1: Replacing language to shift from individual member dues to universal chapter affiliation fees.

MOTION: Move to amend the National FFA Constitution including:

1. Article IV. Procedures for Determining Standing of State Associations and Chapters, Section A, Item 1 by removing the words “dues or”. (Reference Line 80)
2. Article IV. Procedures for Determining Standing of State Associations and Chapters, Section B, Item 1 by removing the words “dues or”. (Reference Line 102)
3. Article V. Membership, Section B by removing items 2 and 3, renumbering item 4 to be number 2 and revising language to read, “Display conduct consistent with the ideals outlined in the Code of Conduct, which includes the Code of Ethics, Value Statements, FFA Code of Behaviors, and purposes of the National FFA Organization.” (Reference Lines 139-144)
4. Article V. Membership, Section B by adding the language, “Upon being granted FFA membership, students are encouraged to strive for active engagement in the activities and operations of the local chapter.” (Reference Lines 147 and 148)
5. Article V. Membership, Section B by removing the words, “payment of dues or” and “paying dues and” (Reference Lines 155 and 161)
6. Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of membership, Section A by inserting the words, “for all members that meet the membership requirements in Article V., Section B and are listed on a local chapter's membership roster.” (Reference Lines 174-176)
7. Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of membership, Section B by deleting Item 2 and renumbering the remaining Items. (Reference Lines 188 and 189)
8. Article VI. Degrees and Privileges of membership, Section E by deleting, “and paid membership dues” from Item 2. (Reference Line 239)
9. Article XIV. Dues by replacing “Dues” with “Program Affiliation” (Reference Line 512)
10. Article XIV. Dues, Section A by deleting “membership dues and” and “dues and” throughout Section. (Reference Lines 515, 517, 518, and 520)
11. Article XIV. Dues, Section C by deleting “membership dues and” (Reference Line 527)
12. Article XIV. Dues, Section D by deleting “The annual membership dues and program affiliation fees of a chapter shall be established by a majority vote of the members at a regular chapter meeting.” and inserting, “A local chapter may not charge a per-member fee or impose a participation requirement that solely determines an individual’s membership status within the chapter. Chapters retain the right to raise, collect, manage, and allocate funds to support chapter activities, and operations, as long as these funds are not tied to determining FFA membership eligibility.” Reference Line 531-538)

Note: See the 2025 NFFA Constitutional Amendment Redline file in the Virtual Appendix for references.

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RATIONALE:

- Full affiliation reaffirms that FFA is an integral and intracurricular component of agricultural education. Every enrolled student is an FFA member, providing the teacher the opportunity to engage all students in the school-based agricultural education three-component model.
- This proposal meets the Guiding Design Principles established by the Board Committee for Membership of: (1) Simplifying the current program affiliation options and process; (2) Moving FFA

to a chapter-based instead of a member-based fee; (3) Accounting for existing chapter and state participation in affiliation; (4) Providing financial viability for FFA at the local, state and national level; and, (5) Allowing state flexibility in implementation.

- The current use of affiliation and the traditional per-member dues structure has resulted in a disparity in the cost of access to FFA for members and chapters. The tiered, chapter-based fee would eliminate that disparity and give all chapters equal access to FFA membership for all SBAE students.
- The delegates of the Student Perspectives on Affiliation Committee of the 96th National FFA Convention and Expo encouraged the National FFA Board of Directors to continue to explore the adoption of the tiered model as National FFA proceeded with the adoption of 100% affiliation.
- The amendments to Article V. Membership, Section B were designed to: (1) encourage active engagement by members while not making meeting attendance and individual payment of dues a requirement of membership; and (2) provide clarification on the ideals of the organization and expected behavior to support teachers and state leaders in the event that a member needs to have membership revoked due to inappropriate behavior.
- The amendments to Article XIV. Dues, Section D were designed to clarify the ability of local chapters to still meet their annual financial needs with the limitation of not imposing a per-member fee that is a requirement for membership.

Effect:

The proposed amendments would move FFA at all levels to a chapter-based fee instead of a member-based fee that would include all students enrolled in each school-based agricultural education program. Ultimately, the proposal removes individual student dues as a barrier to membership and engagement.

STATE FFA EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

The State FFA Executive Board recommends voting in favor of this amendment.

**2025 Proposed Amendments
For the 2025 National FFA By-Laws Amendment**

Submitted by the National Board of Directors and 2024-2025 National FFA Officers

SUBJECT#2: Replacing language to shift from individual member dues to universal chapter affiliation fees.

MOTION: Move to amend the National FFA Bylaws Article VIII, Section C, Item 5 by removing the words, “dues or”. (Reference Line 187)

Note: See the 2025 NFFA Constitutional Amendment Redline file in the Virtual Appendix for references.

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RATIONALE:

- Full affiliation reaffirms that FFA is an integral and intracurricular component of agricultural education. Every enrolled student is an FFA member, providing the teacher the opportunity to engage all students in the school-based agricultural education three-component model.
- This proposal meets the Guiding Design Principles established by the Board Committee for Membership of: (1) Simplifying the current program affiliation options and process; (2) Moving FFA to a chapter-based instead of a member-based fee; (3) Accounting for existing chapter and state participation in affiliation; (4) Providing financial viability for FFA at the local, state and national level; and, (5) Allowing state flexibility in implementation.
- The current use of affiliation and the traditional per-member dues structure has resulted in a disparity in the cost of access to FFA for members and chapters. The tiered, chapter-based fee would eliminate that disparity and give all chapters equal access to FFA membership for all SBAE students.
- The delegates of the Student Perspectives on Affiliation Committee of the 96th National FFA Convention and Expo encouraged the National FFA Board of Directors to continue to explore the adoption of the tiered model as National FFA proceeded with the adoption of 100% affiliation.

Effect: The proposed amendments would move FFA at all levels to a chapter-based fee instead of a member-based fee that would include all students enrolled in each school-based agricultural education program. Ultimately, the proposal removes individual student dues as a barrier to membership and engagement.

STATE FFA EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

The State FFA Executive Board recommends voting in favor of this amendment.

Additional Proposals

1. No Program Affiliation Fee Increase – New Jersey FFA Association

There are no changes to the fee structure for the 2025-2026 year.

STATE FFA EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the delegates vote in favor of this proposal.



Useful Information for the Delegate Business Session

The Meaning of "Motion"

The primary purpose of the delegate business session is for the delegates to make decisions. To begin the process of making any decision, a member offers a proposal by "making a motion." A **motion** is a formal proposal by a member, in a meeting, that the group take a certain action.

How a motion gets before a group

How to make a main motion

1. Raise your delegate card.
2. Be recognized by the chair.
3. State your name and chapter.
4. State "**I move that . . .**" or "**I move to . . .**" and then clearly describe the proposal. It is important to say precisely what the words of the motion are to be. The group votes on exact language, not a vague idea.

How to second a motion

Once a member makes a main motion, it must be seconded to be considered by the group. This shows that at least two members want the motion considered. If there is no second, the motion dies and is not put before the group for discussion.

1. Raise your delegate card.
2. Be recognized by the chair.
3. State your name and chapter.
4. State "**I second the motion**" or "**Second**"

Some other motions you may hear in the delegate business session

Amendments

Amendments are used to modify the wording, and within limits, the meaning of the motion on the floor. Amendments should say exactly where the change is to be made and precisely what words to use. To make this motion, you would state "**I move to amend the main motion by . . .**" and then you would identify what you want to do. This action can include adding words, striking out words or adding and striking out words. An amendment may not change the original intent of the motion. The vote on the amendment *does not* decide whether the motion will be adopted, only whether the wording in the motion will be changed. After an amendment is adopted, the motion as amended can be further debated. If an amendment is adopted, a vote will be taken on the main motion as amended. Only if the motion as amended passes will the group decide to do what was proposed.

Previous Question

The adoption of previous question immediately closes debate and also prevents the making of any amendments. It may be made at any time while a debatable amendment is on the floor. Since it limits a member's rights, the motion for previous question requires a two-thirds vote. It is not debatable. The proper wording to close debate and immediately vote on the motion on the floor is to say, **"I move the previous question."** If previous question passes, the main motion will get voted on immediately. If previous question fails, discussion may continue on the main motion before voting on it.

Division of the House

When you, as a delegate, reasonably doubt the result of a voice vote, you have the right to demand that the vote be re-taken as a counted vote, by calling division of the house. Immediately following the vote and prior to the next action of the chair, you would call out **"Division of the house."** No second is needed and once called the chair proceeds to give directions for a counted vote.

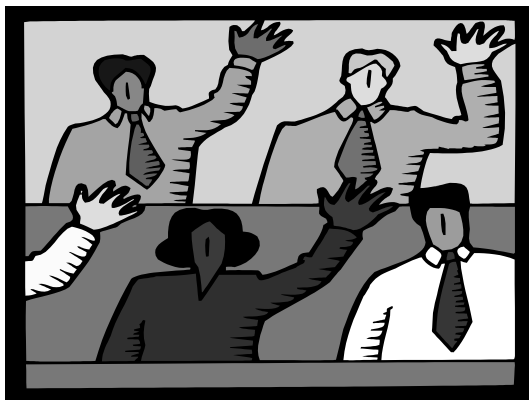
Voting

Majority

A **majority vote** is normally required to adopt a motion or to elect office. It is defined as "one more than half of the votes cast by persons legally entitled to vote." The result of a majority vote is decided through a voice vote.

Two-thirds

A two-thirds vote is required in particular circumstances, most notably to suspend the rules or to limit, extend, or close debate. It is defined as "at least two-thirds of the votes cast by persons legally entitled to vote." Whenever a two-thirds vote is required to pass a motion, the chair will take a standing vote.



Summary of Motions

TABLE OF MOTIONS						
	Interrupt?	Second?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?	Reconsider?
PRIVILEGED MOTIONS						
Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	Yes
Adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	No
Recess (12)	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	No
Raise a Question of Privilege	Yes	No	No	No	(1)	No
Call for the Orders of the Day	Yes	No	No	No	(15)*	No
SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS						
Lay on the Table	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	(3)*
Previous Question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes
Limit or Extend Limits of Debate (12)	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	Yes
Postpone to a Certain Time (or Definitely) (12)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes
Commit or Refer (12)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes
Amend (12)	No	Yes	(5)	Yes	Maj	Yes
Postpone Indefinitely (12)	No	Yes	Yes (16)	No	Maj	(4)
MAIN MOTIONS						
Main Motion	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Maj	Yes
INCIDENTAL MOTIONS (11)						
Suspend the Rules	No	Yes	No	No	(9)*	No
Withdraw a Motion	*	*	No	No	Maj (13)*	(3)
Objection to the Consideration of a Question (10)	Yes	No	No	No	2/3 Neg.	(3)
Point of Order	Yes	No	No*	No	(1)*	No
Parliamentary Inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	(1)	No
Appeal	Yes	Yes	Yes*	No	(7)	Yes
Request for Information	Yes	No	No	No	(1)	No
Division of the Assembly	Yes	No	No	No	(14)	No
Division of a Question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Maj	No
MOTIONS THAT BRING A QUESTION AGAIN BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY (8)						
Reconsider* (2)	No*	Yes	(5) (16)	No	Maj	No
Rescind	No	Yes	Yes (16)	Yes	(6)	(3)
Take from the Table	No	Yes	No	No	Maj	No
Discharge a Committee	No	Yes	Yes (16)*	Yes	(6)	(3)
Amend Something Previously Adopted	No	Yes	Yes (16)	Yes	(6)	(3)