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 in urban and suburban schools in addition to the rural communities from which FFA rose in 1929. FFA gives students the opportunity to apply practical classroom knowledge to real world experiences through local, state and national competitions.

Today Texas FFA is the nation’s largest state FFA association with a membership of more than 115,000 members. The Texas FFA continues to help the next generation rise up to meet challenges by helping its members to 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 the Future Biologists, Future Chemists, Future Veterinarians, Future Engineers and Future Entrepreneurs of America, too.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resource industries. Through agricultural education, students are provided extensive opportunities for leadership development, personal growth and career success. Instruction is delivered through three major components: classroom/laboratory instruction (contextual learning), supervised agricultural experience programs (work-based learning) and student leadership organizations (National FFA Organization, etc.).

CAREER PREPARATION

FFA classroom activities include hands-on work experience and development of life skills, helping members discover their career path. Through 28 state career development events and 49 national proficiency areas, members are challenged to real-life, hands-on tests of skills used to prepare them for more than 200 careers in the agriculture industry. Texas FFA prepares members for careers in agriculture-related jobs such as veterinary science, marketing, food processing and natural resource development. It is estimated one in five people in the United States are working in jobs connected to agriculture.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Texas FFA is a organization of, by and for students. The Association operates programs which support the work of local chapters. These programs include 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. Ten state officers are elected each year by the delegates at the State FFA Convention. The state FFA president and 1st vice-president visit more than 400 schools and travel more than 60,000 miles during their year of service representing the Texas FFA.

STATE CHARTER

The Texas FFA was chartered in 1929 for students enrolled in agriculture, food and natural resources programs and pursuant to the Texas Education Code Section 29.182, is an integral part of the agricultural, food, and natural resources career and technical education program.

THE FUTURE IS HERE

STUDENT LEADERS TODAY. DYNAMIC INFLUENCERS TOMORROW.
QUICK QUESTIONS

WHAT DO THE LETTERS "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 growing?

Yes! The Texas FFA Association has expanded by more than 47,000 members in the past 10 years and continues to see growth.

How do I get involved?

The FFA is an integral part of the school’s agricultural science program. The first step is to enroll in an agricultural class.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Through FFA programs, members begin to discover their unique talents and values. Programs provide them with the opportunity to travel, discover careers in agriculture and develop their leadership skills. The Texas FFA is a sanctioning organization for competitive events, scholarships and leadership development events. FFA helps members develop public speaking skills, conduct and participate in meetings, manage financial matters, strengthen problem solving abilities and assume civic responsibilities. The Texas FFA encourages its 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 and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Students with an SAE learn by doing. With help from their teachers, students develop an SAE project based on one or more categories: entrepreneurship, placement, exploratory and research and experimentation. Texas FFA members who wish to initiate or improve their Supervised Agricultural Experiences can apply for an SAE grant. Grants are awarded based primarily on financial need.

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 87th annual Texas FFA Convention, 2,210 students received the Lone Star FFA Degree. The National FFA Organization awards top members from each state with the American FFA Degree.

INDUSTRY SUPPORT

Agriculture is the nation’s largest employer, with more than 23 million jobs involved in some facet of American agriculture. In 2015, sponsors provided more than $1 million to Texas FFA and agricultural education programs. The Texas FFA Foundation provides a way for businesses and industry, foundations and individuals to contribute financially through designated gifts to the growth of scholarships and program services, which help provide for the continued strength of a distinguished youth program. Nearly 400 students of agricultural education benefited from FFA scholarships and awards for the 2015-2016 school year.