

TEXAS FFA

The Road to Indianapolis



Plan. Prepare. Experience. Reflect



614 E. 12th Street
Austin, TX 78701

(512) 480-8045
TexasFFA.org

Dear Agricultural Science Teacher,

Thank you for everything you do for the students of Texas. National FFA Convention is more than a trip to Indianapolis. It's an opportunity for students to discover new possibilities, explore careers in agriculture, build lifelong friendships, and return home inspired to make an even greater impact in their chapters, schools, and communities. None of that happens without dedicated teachers like you.

We also know that planning a successful convention experience takes time. Between transportation, lodging, registration, itineraries, parent communication, and countless details, it can feel overwhelming. That's why we created this planner.

Our goal is simple: to help make planning easier so you can spend more time creating meaningful experiences for your students. Inside you'll find planning checklists, travel ideas, suggested educational stops, convention resources, and practical tools designed specifically for Texas agricultural science teachers.

Whether this is your first National FFA Convention or your twentieth, we hope this planner becomes a trusted resource you'll use year after year. Thank you for investing your time, talents, and heart into agricultural education. The experiences you create today will inspire the leaders of tomorrow.

Safe travels, and we'll see you in Indianapolis,

Jennifer Jackson

Executive Director

Texas FFA Association

The journey begins...



Let's Get Started PLANNING DASHBOARD

WHERE ARE YOU IN YOUR PLANNING?



DREAMING
ABOUT INDY



GOING



HOTEL
BOOKED



TRANSPORTATION
BOOKED



NEED
ITINERARY



READY TO
PACK!

PLANNING TIMELINE: WHAT TO DO & WHEN

8



8 WEEKS
PRIOR

REGISTER STUDENTS

RESERVE HOTEL

SECURE
TRANSPORTATION

PARENT MEETING

FINALIZE ROOM
ASSIGNMENTS

COLLECT FORMS

6



6 WEEKS
PRIOR

REVIEW
OFFICIAL DRESS

SHARE
PACKING LIST

REVIEW
EXPECTATIONS

CONFIRM
RESERVATIONS

PRINT SCHEDULES

4



4 WEEKS
PRIOR

CREATE EMERGENCY
BINDER

PACK SUPPLIES

DOUBLE-CHECK
PAPERWORK

VERIFY
TRAVEL DETAILS

COMMUNICATE
UPDATES
TO PARENTS

2



2 WEEKS
PRIOR

REVIEW ITINERARY

CHECK HOTEL
DETAILS

CHARGE
ELECTRONICS

RECONFIRM
TRANSPORTATION

FINAL HEADCOUNT

★



WEEK OF
CONVENTION

ENJOY THE
EXPERIENCE

MAKE MEMORIES

ENCOURAGE
STUDENTS

STAY FLEXIBLE

BRING IDEAS
HOME



Be prepared to roll with the unexpected.
Some of the best memories are not planned

NATIONAL CONVENTION

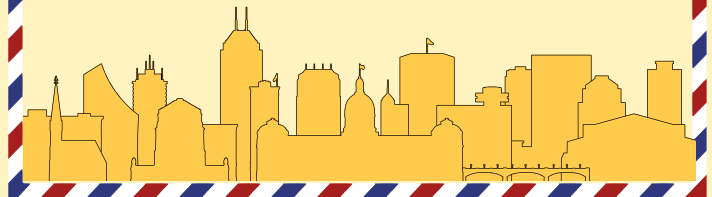
Road Map

Chapter _____
Advisor _____
Students _____
Adults _____
Departure _____
Return _____

Chapter Snapshot

Convention Goal

What is the ONE thing you want every student to gain from this trip?



School Approval Register Hotel Bus Parent Meeting Indianapolis

Convention Website



Registration 26



F.A.Q.s

WEATHER TODAY



27°C
18°C



Weather Forecast

CONVENTION AT A GLANCE



TRAVEL DATES →



HOTEL →



TRANSPORTATION →



STUDENTS & CHAPERONES →



EMERGENCY PLAN →



REGISTRATION DEADLINE →

PROGRESS CHECKER

	NOT STARTED	IN PROGRESS	COMPLETE
DECIDE & GET PERMISSION			
REGISTRATION			
BOOK HOTEL			
TRANSPORTATION			
PARENT MEETING			
PACKING			
INDIANAPOLIS GOALS			

ADVISOR'S NOTES

CHAPTER BUCKET LIST

- Create a chapter playlist
- Find the funniest roadside attraction.
- Meet people from 5 different states
- Collect info. for 3 career paths
- Write down one idea your chapter will implement this year.

EMERGENCY *Preparation*

In an emergency, every second counts. Having important medical information readily available can help emergency responders quickly assess a situation and provide the appropriate care. National FFA recommends using a S.A.M.P.L.E. Medical Information Card to ensure essential health information is available when it is needed most.

The S.A.M.P.L.E. history is a simple tool used by emergency medical personnel to gather critical information that can help guide treatment decisions. We encourage every advisor to complete and maintain a S.A.M.P.L.E. Medical Information Card for each student.

For the greatest benefit, consider using the card in two ways:

- Keep a copy with you during FFA activities and events.
- Laminate it and have each student carry a copy in their wallet or inside the pocket of their official FFA jacket.

If an emergency occurs and you are not immediately available, this information can be invaluable to first responders and help ensure students receive prompt and appropriate care.

S.A.M.P.L.E.	
(This information may be asked about you in case of an emergency)	
Name _____ Age _____	1. Any S igns or symptoms that are not apparent
Parent/Guardian Name _____	2. Known A llergies-please list any allergies you may have
Parent/Guardian Phone _____	3. M edications that the patient is on-please list any medications you are currently taking
Advisor/Chaperone Name _____	4. P ast medical history
Advisor/Chaperone Phone _____	5. L ast meal and or fluid intake
Chapter Name _____	6. What led up to the E vent
Chapter City _____ State _____	
Hotel Name _____ Phone _____	
School Principal Name _____	
School Phone _____	
State Staff Name _____	
State Staff Phone _____	

Advice from Advisors

TIPS

Who have been there...

- **The Expo is bigger than you think.**
 - It's impossible to see everything in one visit.
 - Visit early in the morning.
 - Give students a purpose (colleges, careers, equipment, scholarships).
 - Plan to return more than once.
- **Comfortable shoes are a must.**
 - You'll walk 8–12 miles each day between the convention center, Expo, hotels, restaurants, and Lucas Oil Stadium.
 - Bring comfortable shoes.
 - Pack blister pads.
 - Students should break in their Official Dress shoes before the trip.
- **Students will want more spending money than expected.**
 - Help them budget before they leave.
 - Meals
 - Souvenirs
 - Expo purchases
 - Emergency money
- **Restaurants fill quickly**
 - Make reservations whenever possible.
 - Eat earlier or later than the crowds.
 - Keep a few quick-service options in mind.
- **Take more chapter photos than you think you'll need.**
 - Chapter photos
 - Candid moments
 - Road trip stops
 - Career exploration

PACK AN ADVISOR SURVIVAL KIT

Keep these items with you—not in the hotel room.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| ✓ Safety pins | ✓ Portable battery |
| ✓ Stain remover pen | ✓ Extra pens |
| ✓ Lint roller | ✓ Tissues |
| ✓ Bandages | ✓ Zip ties |
| ✓ Pain reliever | ✓ Granola bars |
| ✓ Phone charger | |



Let's Get Packed! **PACKING LIST**



OFFICIAL DRESS

- ☐ FFA JACKET
- ☐ WHITE SHIRTS/BLOUSES
- ☐ OFFICIAL FFA TIE/SCARF
- ☐ BLACK SLACKS/SKIRTS
- ☐ BLACK SOCKS/NYLONS
- ☐ BLACK SHOES
- ☐ EXTRA NYLONS

CLOTHING

- ☐ CASUAL SHIRTS
- ☐ PANTS/JEANS
- ☐ COMFORTABLE SHOES
- ☐ SLEEPWEAR
- ☐ UNDERWEAR & SOCKS
- ☐ JACKET OR SWEATER
- ☐ RAIN JACKET/UMBRELLA
- ☐ ACTIVEWEAR

TOILETRIES & PERSONAL ITEMS

- ☐ TOOTHBRUSH/PASTE
- ☐ SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER
- ☐ BODY WASH/SOAP
- ☐ DEODORANT
- ☐ HAIRBRUSH/COMB
- ☐ SKINCARE
- ☐ PERSONAL PRODUCTS
- ☐ MEDICATIONS (IN ORIGINAL CONTAINERS)

ELECTRONICS

- ☐ PHONE
- ☐ PHONE CHARGER
- ☐ PORTABLE CHARGER
- ☐ LAPTOP/TABLET (IF NEEDED)
- ☐ HEADPHONES/EAR BUDS
- ☐ POWER STRIP

CONVENTION ESSENTIALS

- ☐ CONVENTION BADGE
- ☐ LANYARD
- ☐ SCHEDULE/ITINERARY
- ☐ PEN/PENCILS
- ☐ NOTEBOOK
- ☐ BACKPACK/BAG - CLEAR
- ☐ WATER BOTTLE
- ☐ SNACKS

MONEY & DOCUMENTS

- ☐ SPENDING MONEY
- ☐ CREDIT/DEBIT CARD
- ☐ DRIVERS LICENSE/ID
- ☐ INSURANCE CARD
- ☐ MEDICAL INFORMATION
- ☐ EMERGENCY CONTACTS
- ☐ COPIES OF IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS



Be sure to pack some Travel Comforts: Tissues, gum, hand wipes

Your booster club/support group/parents may even be willing to make goodie bags for your students.

CONVENTION *Checklist*

ADVISOR

- ☐ Register students
- ☐ Reserve hotel rooms
- ☐ Confirm transportation
- ☐ Complete travel paperwork
- ☐ Collect medical forms
- ☐ Share itinerary with parents
- ☐ Review student expectations

PARENTS

- ☐ Emergency contact information
- ☐ Departure and return times
- ☐ Hotel information
- ☐ Packing list
- ☐ Medication instructions
- ☐ Student expectations

STUDENT

- ☐ Official Dress
- ☐ Comfortable shoes
- ☐ Casual clothes
- ☐ Jacket or sweater
- ☐ Name badge
- ☐ Phone charger
- ☐ Spending money
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Notebook & pen

PRO TIP

Preparation is the key to a successful convention. Having important documents and contacts in one place will save time and reduce stress throughout the trip.

FFA ROAD TRIP

Make time to visit...

FROM TEXAS TO INDIANAPOLIS, IN

- [Pops 66](#), Arcadia, OK
- [OKC National Memorial and Museum](#), Oklahoma City, OK
- [Hot Springs National Park](#), Hot Springs AR
- [Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site](#), Little Rock, AR
- [Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium](#), Springfield, MO
- [Bass Pro Shops](#), Springfield, MO
- [Gateway Arch](#), St. Louis, MO
- [City Museum](#), St. Louis, MO
- [Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum](#), Springfield, IL
- [Churchill Downs](#), Louisville, KY
- [Louisville Slugger Museum](#), Louisville, KY
- [Graceland](#), Memphis, TN

IN INDIANAPOLIS, IN

- [Visit National FFA Center](#)
- [2026 Career Success Tours](#)
- [2026 Educational Tours](#)
- [Zooboo at Indianapolis Zoo](#)
- [Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum](#)
- [White River State Park](#)
- [Fair Oaks Farms, Fair Oaks, IN](#)

LOOKING FOR DEALS?

Make the most of your time in Indianapolis with Show Us Your Badge! Enjoy exclusive discounts at popular restaurants, attractions, and local experiences. Simply sign up, have the pass delivered to your phone, and show it along with your conference badge to start saving.

- [Show Us Your Badge Pass](#)
 - Mobile exclusive
 - Instantly delivered via text and email, no apps to download
 - New deals added regularly
 - Save on the best of Indy



What agricultural practice did you notice that's different from Texas?

THE ROAD TO INDIANAPOLIS

Chapter's Travel Plan...



Dress for today:

- ☐ Departure Time
- ☐ Lunch Time
- ☐ Fuel Stop
- ☐ Hotel
- ☐ Educational Stop
- ☐ Dinner

☐ Arrival Time



Dress for today:

☐ Departure Time



Dress for today:

☐ Departure Time



Dress for today:

☐ Departure Time



Dress for today:

☐ Departure Time

☐ Arrival Time

Plan with purpose. Travel with confidence. Lead with impact.

CONVENTION *Schedule*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST

- Opening Session 1A | 3:30 p.m.
- Expo and Shopping Mall
- Career Success Tours
- Student Showcase Stage
- Concert
- Rodeo

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

- Second General Session | 2 p.m.
- Third General Session | 7 p.m.
- Expo and Shopping Mall
- Student and Teacher Workshops
- Career Success Tours
- National Days of Service
- Student Showcase Stage
- Rodeo
- Hypnotist Shows

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

- Fourth General Session | 8 a.m.
- Fifth General Session | 2:30 p.m.
- Sixth General Session | 7 p.m.
- Expo and Shopping Mall
- Student and Teacher Workshops
- Career Success Tours
- Rodeo

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

- American Degree Ceremony
- Seventh General Session | 1 p.m.



Visit the Expo early before the crowds.

Wednesday, Oct. 21

Expo: 9-4

Shopping Mall: 8-6

Thursday, Oct. 22

Expo: 9-4

Shopping Mall: 8-6

Friday, Oct. 23

Expo: 8-1

Shopping Mall: 8-4

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Bucket List

EXPERIENCE

- ☐ Opening Session
- ☐ Closing Session
- ☐ National FFA Center
- ☐ Lucas Oil Stadium
- ☐ Official Dress



CONNECT

- ☐ Meet members from 5 states
- ☐ Exchange chapter pins
- ☐ Meet a National Officer
- ☐ Thank a volunteer
- ☐ Group photo



EXPLORE

- ☐ Career Tour
- ☐ College
- ☐ Expo
- ☐ New Career
- ☐ Ag Company



CAPTURE

- ☐ Stadium Photo
- ☐ Chapter Photo
- ☐ New Friend
- ☐ Advisor
- ☐ Favorite Moment



BRING IT HOME

- ☐ One chapter idea
- ☐ One SAE idea
- ☐ One leadership lesson
- ☐ Thank your advisor
- ☐ Favorite memory



REFLECT

- ☐ Best Road Trip Stop
- ☐ Best Restaurant
- ☐ Best Educational Experience
- ☐ Best Session
- ☐ One Thing Different Next Year



CONVENTION *Schedule*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST

Arrive. Explore. Experience.

Today's Mission: Get students oriented, explore the Expo, and experience the excitement of National Convention.

MUST DO:

- ☐ Opening Session
- ☐ Expo
- ☐ Career Success Tours
- ☐ Student Showcase
- ☐ Chapter Photo

GAME PLAN:



Morning:



Afternoon:



Evening:

ADVISOR CHECKLIST

- ☐ Head Count
- ☐ Room Keys
- ☐ Tomorrow's Plan
- ☐ Charge Cell Phones
- ☐ Student Curfew
- ☐ Transportation

Student Challenge:

- ☐ Meet 2 members from another state
- ☐ Visit three colleges
- ☐ Talk to an industry professional
- ☐ Take a chapter picture

Today's Highlight

Chapter Spotlight

CONVENTION *Schedule*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

Learn. Connect. Discover

Today's Mission: Dive into leadership, explore career opportunities, attend sessions, and build connections with FFA members from across the country.

MUST DO:

- ☐ Workshops
- ☐ Career exploration
- ☐ Leadership
- ☐ Networking

GAME PLAN:



Morning:



Afternoon:



Evening:

ADVISOR CHECKLIST

- ☐ Head Count
- ☐ Room Keys
- ☐ Tomorrow's Plan
- ☐ Charge Cell Phones
- ☐ Student Curfew
- ☐ Transportation

Student Challenge:

- ☐ Meet an FFA member from 3 different states
- ☐ Visit two agricultural companies
- ☐ Ask a college recruiter one question
- ☐ Discover one new agricultural career

Today's Highlight

Chapter Spotlight

CONVENTION *Schedule*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

Inspire. Achieve. Celebrate

Today's Mission: Celebrate student achievement, experience the excitement of awards and recognition, and discover new ideas to bring back to your chapter.

MUST DO:

- ☐ Awards
- ☐ Inspiration
- ☐ Career pathways
- ☐ Student Showcase

GAME PLAN:



Morning:



Afternoon:



Evening:

ADVISOR CHECKLIST

- ☐ Head Count
- ☐ Review Saturday Departure
- ☐ Student Curfew
- ☐ Confirm Hotel Checkout
- ☐ Charge Devices

Student Challenge:

- ☐ Cheer on another state
- ☐ Find one chapter idea to take home
- ☐ Visit your favorite exhibitor again
- ☐ Thank a volunteer or convention staff member

Today's Highlight

Chapter Spotlight

CONVENTION *Schedule*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

Reflect. Celebrate. Return

Today's Mission: Celebrate an unforgettable week, reflect on what you've learned, and begin the journey home inspired to make a difference.

MUST DO:

- ☐ Closing Session
- ☐ Pack luggage
- ☐ Hotel checkout
- ☐ Travel home
- ☐ Final headcount
- ☐ Thank chaperones

GAME PLAN:



Morning:



Afternoon:



Evening:

ADVISOR CHECKLIST

- ☐ Final Head Count
- ☐ Hotel Room Inspection
- ☐ Collect Room Keys
- ☐ Load Luggage
- ☐ Confirm Parent ETA
- ☐ Thank Chaperones

Student Challenge:

- ☐ Meet 2 members from another state
- ☐ Find a new SAE idea
- ☐ Set a goal for this year
- ☐ Take a chapter picture

Today's Highlight

Chapter Spotlight

BRINGING INDY HOME

Three Ideas We'll Implement...

NEW ACTIVITY

**NEW RECRUITMENT
IDEA**

NEW SAE IDEA

NEW FUNDRAISER

**FAVORITE
WORKSHOP**

FAVORITE SPEAKER



*Choose one thing your chapter will
commit to doing before Thanksgiving.*

Road Trip

B-I-N-G-O

world's largest...



Buc-ees



grain elevator



pump jack



state line sign



tractor



county courthouse



cattle hauler



windmill



sunset



route 66 sign



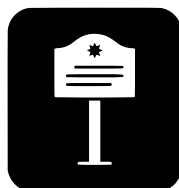
rest area



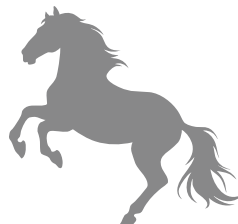
covered bridge



historical marker

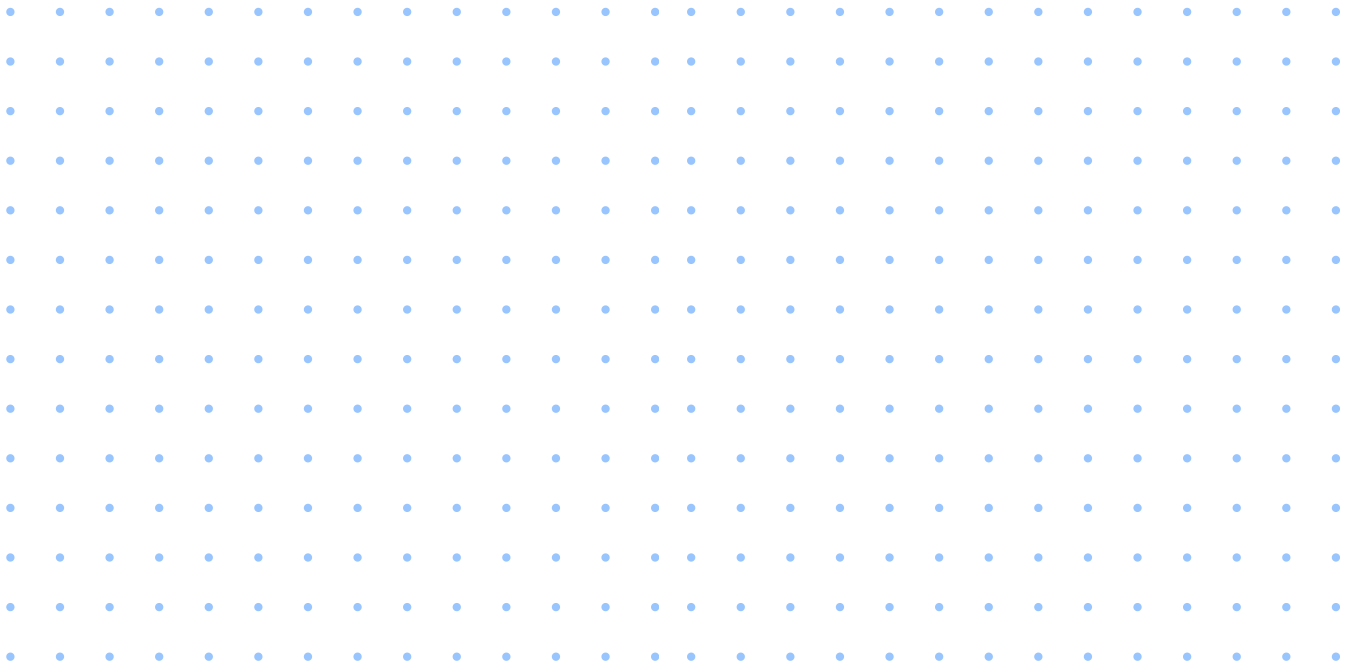


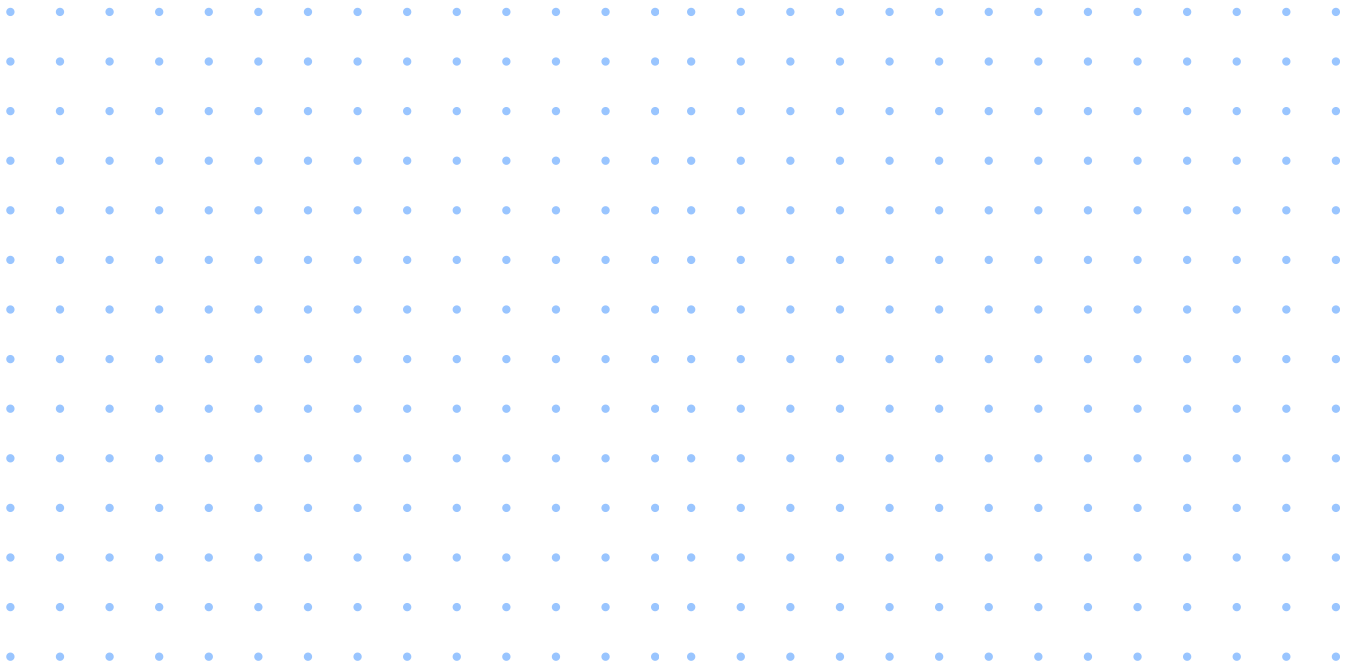
horse



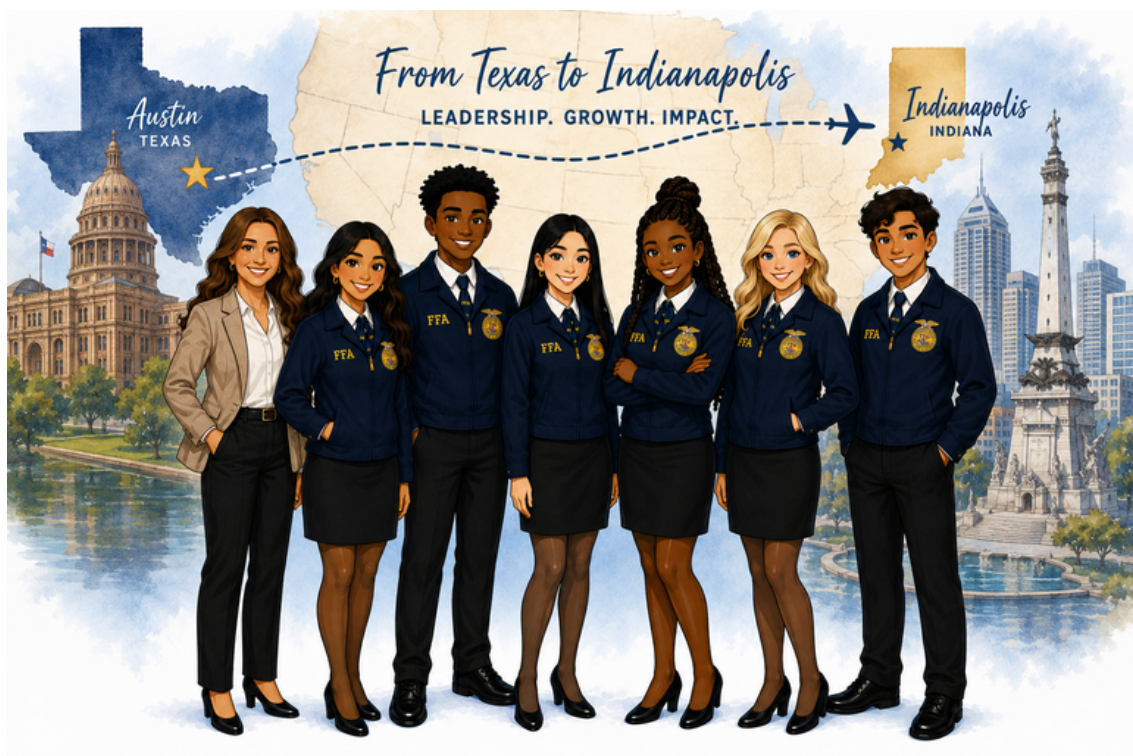
different school vehicle



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Every mile traveled, every session attended, every conversation shared, and every memory made becomes part of your chapter's story. We hope this planner helped make the journey a little easier, and the experience a little more meaningful.



Safe travels, and we'll see you next year.

