

May 5, 2025 WV Team Ag Ed Bulletin

GENERAL

103 American Degree Applications have been submitted for national review! Thank you so much for all you do in guiding your students toward such an honor! 🎉🎉🎉

Reminder: Proficiency Awards must be submitted to the state by May 15, 2024.

Please continue to send Membership Payments ASAP. West Virginia FFA Association must be paid in full by May 15 to ensure our 5 state delegates are eligible to participate in the business that occurs at the National Convention.

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WV FFA Advisory meeting minutes: [WV FFA Advisory Meeting Minutes](#)

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The WVDE website has been updated.

How to access WV Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources Content Standards:

- ☐ Link: [Career Exploration & Student Engagement - West Virginia Department of Education \(wvde.us\)](#)
 - ☐ Scroll Down to Blue Box - "CTE Programs & Standards," click View Standards (you may have to request access)
 - ☐ Then "Program Standards" to the left....
 - ☐ Then click the "AFNR" tile to access all ag. complete pathways.
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WVA AE/NAAE Updates & Opportunities

Please remit NAAE dues nationally to
<https://www.naae.org/members/membership/join-renew/>

Please refer all WVA AE inquiries to Allyson Lewis @ alewis@k12.wv.us

Teachers Turn the Key (TTK) – Applications Due May 5, 2025 by 10:00 AM

TTK is a national professional development opportunity designed to support early-career ag teachers (in their 2nd–4th year of teaching) through skill-building, networking, and classroom support strategies. Access application <https://www.naae.org/professional-development/explore-naae-professional-development-opportunities/national-programs/teachers-turn-the-key/> WV

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applicants can submit materials at: <https://tinyurl.com/25WVTTTK> or email materials to: teachagwv@gmail.com

Future Agriscience Teacher (FAST) Symposium – Applications Due May 15, 2025

A dynamic professional development event for preservice ag education majors. The 2025 FAST Symposium will be held **September 11–13 in Lexington, KY** and focuses on diversity, inquiry-based instruction, and quality PD.

Apply via the NAAE website by **11:59 PM EST on May 15, 2025.**

Questions about FAST? Contact Cameron Earlywine cearlywine.naae@uky.edu.

Don't miss these great opportunities to grow in ag education! 🌱 If you have general questions or issues, please email wvaaeleadership@groups.k12.wv.us

eXcellence in Leadership for Retention (XLR8) – Applications Due June 16, 2025

XLR8 is a year-long professional development program that targets agriculture teachers in their 7th-15th year of teaching. The program aims to meet the needs of these mid-career teachers by developing teacher leaders who will mentor other teachers in the profession and increase overall longevity and satisfaction among the teaching profession.

The XLR8 program includes participation in an intensive professional development experience (multiple sessions) during the NAAE convention, recurring virtual learning experiences, and online collaboration using the NAAE professional learning community, Communities of Practice, as well as other social media tools. Access

application: <https://www.naae.org/professional-development/explore-naae-professional-development-opportunities/national-programs/xlr8-excellence-in-leadership-for-retention/>

Apply via the NAAE website by **11:59 PM EST on June 16, 2025.**

The Latest National FFA News

New! Culvers Virtual Field Trip

Follow the process as we go from cow to counter in this exciting [Virtual Field Trip with Culver's](#)! Students will learn about the process and many careers it takes for milk to travel from the farm to their local restaurant. You will also find turn-key resources to implement in your classroom as students move through each step. Find additional accompanying [resources, information and lessons](#).

Honorary Awards Submission Reminder

Please consider submitting nominations for individuals and companies that have made outstanding contributions to the National FFA Organization and/or agricultural education. Submit your [nominations](#) today. The deadline to submit nominations is June 15. As a reminder, [guidelines](#) for nominations and [application directions](#) are available on FFA.org. Please contact honorary@ffa.org with any questions.

Awards and Recognition Historical Awards Database

Did you know you can access the Awards and Recognition Historical Database through FFA.org? To navigate to the database, please use [this article](#). State Staff and teachers have access to the database through profile. If you have questions, please reach out to Madeline Young, myoung@ffa.org.

Webinar scheduled for Ag Tech Curriculum and Credential Program

The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) is hosting a webinar exclusively for state FFA and agricultural education leaders at 1 p.m. EDT on Thursday, May 8, to share information on the newly launched [Ag Tech curriculum and credential program](#) in partnership with Pearson, the National Council for Agricultural Education, and the National FFA Organization. [Register](#) or [contact us](#) for more information. An educator-focused webinar will be held later this summer.

Last Week's National FFA News

Dates announced for ILSSO 2026

The 2026 International Leadership Seminar for State Officers (ILSSO) will be held Jan. 4-16, with Jan. 4 being a travel day. Participating in ILSSO will cost \$5,000, which will cover international airfare, hotel costs, transportation and tours while in the country.

Students who have traveled on ILSSO before are not eligible to travel again. The location of ILSSO will be announced soon. Find out [more information about ILSSO](#).

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Application Deadline for Next Gen: Emerging Technology Approaching

Do you have students interested in emerging technology? Next Gen provides an opportunity for them to explore pathways through informational sessions, industry roundtables and tours. Applications for Next Gen: Emerging Technology, held in Fargo, N.D., Sept. 9-13, close on Thursday, May 15. [Apply now!](#)

Call for Delegate Coordinators

The delegate experience is guided by a team of adult consultants known as delegate coordinators, who work with National FFA staff. Delegate coordinators guide the process through committee work at the State Officer Summit in July and at the National FFA Convention & Expo this fall. Delegate coordinators serve a three-year term and must meet one of the following requirements to be considered for the position:

- State FFA staff
- Agriculture education teacher
- Teacher educator at the postsecondary level
- Exceptional knowledge of FFA (including current facilitators of National FFA programs/former National FFA Officers, etc.)

Find out [more information](#) about the delegate coordinator position. To be considered for the position, complete this [application](#) by Thursday, May 15

New! Careers in Power, Structural and Technical Systems: Lesson Plan

Introducing [a new 8-lesson series](#), with each lesson building upon the previous one. It is in partnership with John Deere and dives into the careers needed to take a new product from idea to finished product and beyond through a unit-long project that puts them into the shoes of various careers at John Deere.

Career and Leadership Development Events The 2025 CDE/LDE General Orientation and overview schedule has been posted on FFA.org. Start planning with the General Orientation guide and review the schedule, which includes dates for competitions, finals, awards programs, and General Session presentations. To access the documents, go to the [CDE/LDE webpage](#) and select Key Resources>2025 Planning, Schedules and Guides.

2027 National SAE Award Type and Area Descriptions Posted

As previously announced, in 2027, when the current Agricultural Proficiency Award and Agricultural Research Proficiency Award programs expand into the SAE Award program, a total of 101 award areas will be offered across the five SAE types. The complete award type and area description list is now posted as the [2027 SAE Award Area Descriptions](#). Please remember these do not go into effect until the 2027 award year.

National Center for Education Statistics: 2023-24 School Data

The 2023-24 school data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) has been released and is now updated in the FFA/School Comparison tab under Association Student/Member Data on your FFA.org State Profile. It now includes grades 5 and 6, where available.

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Give the Gift of Blue

Through generous donations, the Gift of Blue program allows members who would not otherwise be able to afford their own official FFA jacket to apply or be nominated to receive a jacket. You can nominate a member to be gifted a jacket or learn more at [ffa.org/give blue](https://ffa.org/give-blue).

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

In January, the board of directors approved sending a constitutional amendment to the delegates of the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo. The amendment would remove the barrier of individual membership dues and move the organization to a full affiliation model. To learn about the amendment and find resources for states and chapters regarding full affiliation, visit the Removing Barriers page on FFA.org. The link is also available at the top right of the website, in the teacher, state staff and state officer dashboards, and on the delegate experience page.

News from West Virginia FFA

New Advisors-If you need access to your chapter's FFA account, you must follow these steps, so we can get you approved. You need to do this ASAP, so we can ensure you are able to enter membership! [Request administrative access to a chapter - FFA Help Center](#)

State Officer Request Form Link- <https://forms.gle/ZRLbLkJytNpFXpHG9>

***Don't forget to email kari.brown@k12.wv.us when you submit!

WV FFA Chapter Voting Delegate Allotment - 1 Delegate per 25 members.

WVU & AGEE Updates

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Other Upcoming Deadlines & Dates:

- **Spring LDES -, Agriscience, and Agronomy** - May 6, 2025 - WVSU
- **State Officer & Nom Com** apps due - June 1 - [Programs](#)
- **Honorary State Degree-Teacher** apps due - June 1 (email to KB)
- **National Honorary Awards & Honorary American Degree Applications** - (By Nomination Only) - Due to Nationals June 15
- **WV State FFA Convention** - July 9-12, 2025
- **WV CTE Conference** - July 29-30, 2025 - Charleston, WV (Details TBA)
- **State Fair of WV** - Aug. 7-16, 2025
- **Fall CDEs** - Sept. 25-26, 2025 - WVU
- **Fall Leadership Conference** - Oct. 1-3, 2025