NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION, INC.
Division of Agricultural & Natural Resources
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
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IN COOPERATION WITH NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TO: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Educators/ FFA Advisors

FROM: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Specialist

C: Nancy J. Trivette, Program Leader, Agricultural Education/ State FFA Advisor

DATE: September 1, 2009

RE: State and National FFA Dues and subscriptions to ***FFA New Horizons*** for 2009-10

Submitting an FFA chapter membership roster and paying dues is a requirement to keep your chapter in "good standing" with the New Jersey FFA Association and retain your chapter's charter. Your cooperation in submitting rosters early in the year is appreciated. Last year, New Jersey's membership was 1,828.

HOW DO I DOWNLOAD THE CHAPTER ROSTER?
The National FFA Organization provides downloadable zip files of Excel membership rosters for all New Jersey chapters. You will receive your chapter's roster download password from our office via e-mail. ***Note: These passwords are different from the passwords you used last year.*** If you do not receive your password by Tuesday, Sept. 15, please contact the Office of Agricultural Education and it will be provided to you. Upon receipt of your e-mail you may download your roster from **http://www.ffa.org/index.cfm?method=c_membership.DownloadRosters**

HOW DO I COMPLETE MY ROSTER?
Please refer to the instruction manual (http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/chapter/membershipmanual.pdf) and Quick Reference guide (http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/chapter/membershipquickguide.pdf) supplied by the New Jersey FFA Association when filling out the roster. **Please make sure all home addresses are complete and provide all information requested on the roster.** ***Rosters will be returned if all information is not completed.*** To assist you in gathering the necessary data, an "FFA Membership Data" form is available on the National FFA Membership Excel Roster Support page. This page and additional information from National FFA about completing your roster, is available at http://www.ffa.org/index.cfm?method=c_membership.Excel

You may choose to direct the completion of the roster to the chapter treasurer and secretary, as indicated under "Chapter Officers" in the *Official Manual*. This does not relinquish your responsibility to the accurate completion and timely submission of the roster. If you need help,

please contact our office at (877) 243-3332.

WHEN ARE ROSTERS DUE?
Chapter rosters may be submitted to the state office **anytime before the JANUARY 29, 2010** due date. You are encouraged to submit your roster early. We will forward your roster to the National FFA Organization upon receipt. The sooner we receive your rosters, the sooner members are eligible to receive *FFA New Horizons* and get connected to FFA.

WHO CAN AND SHOULD BE A MEMBER?
Your chapter should consider paying dues for all agriculture, food, and natural resources students. Public Law 105-225 (formerly 81-740) recognizes the importance of FFA as an integral part of the instructional program in high school agricultural education. FFA is not a club! **To receive recognition in state and national FFA activities, each student participating must be a currently paid member.** Do not allow dues to become a barrier to an educational opportunity provided by the FFA.

CAN PROGRAM GRADUATES BE MEMBERS?
Yes! There are many opportunities for FFA members after high school including State FFA Office, member of the month, proficiency awards, State and American FFA Degrees, and scholarships. Help build membership and enthusiasm by keeping your program graduates active through the "1+3 Membership Package" for seniors, paying for their senior year and the next three years of membership.

IS GRADUATE MEMBERSHIP ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP?
No. Graduate FFA membership after high school graduation is not alumni membership. Anyone can be an FFA Alumni member, prior to or after graduation. Alumni membership is paid to an Alumni affiliate or state Alumni association, which is separate from state and national FFA dues. Alumni membership information can be found at
http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/partners/AlumniBro.pdf

CAN POST-SECONDARY ADULTS BE MEMBERS?
Yes, but on the state level only and therefore, adult student (post secondary agriculture student) membership is not to be included on this roster unless the member would like a magazine subscription. A separate New Jersey FFA Association Post-Secondary roster is available at http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/chapter/postsecondary.pdf. Adult students must be dues-paid adult student members to compete in state level activities. Competition beyond the state level is not available for post-secondary or adult students.

WHAT IF OUR SCHOOL IS ON BLOCK SCHEDULING?
It is recommended that you complete and submit your roster for the first semester, as soon as possible. You can then submit a supplemental roster for additional students by April 1st, 2010.

HOW DO I ADD STUDENTS ONCE MY ROSTER HAS BEEN SUBMITTED?
If you have additional students to add once your roster has been submitted, please e-mail ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us and request we send you a supplemental roster. We will send you the supplemental roster and you can complete it and return it to ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us .

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?
Regular in-school dues are $11.00 per year ($6.00 state dues/$5.00 national dues). This includes one year's (6 issues) subscription to the national FFA magazine, *FFA New Horizons* that is sent directly to the member's home. **A complete outline of 2009-10 dues options follows**:

1. **Regular Dues (One Year Members)** includes:
   National FFA Dues (*FFA New Horizons* Magazine included) **. $5.00**

   New Jersey State FFA Dues (supports state activities) **. $6.00**

   Amount due for all regular in-school members $11.00

2. **"1+3" Membership Package -** Senior year dues @ $11.00
   + 3 remaining years @ $23.50 **. $34.50**
   Continues membership for three years after high school graduation

3. **3 Year Membership Package** (paid after senior year) **. $23.50**

4. **FFA New Horizons** magazine subscription;
   1 year (recommended for friends of FFA, school board members, administrators, school library, local businesses, etc.) **. $12.00**

CAN I CHANGE MY ROSTER AFTER SUBMITTING IT?
Members can be added and address corrections made using the supplemental roster, however, members cannot be deleted after the roster has been submitted.

WHAT IF I DON'T SUBMIT THE ROSTER AND DUES BY JANUARY 29, 2010?
Chapters not submitting rosters and dues by JAN. 29, 2010 cannot submit other state registrations unless accompanied by the dues and roster. For example, registrations will not be accepted for the Horticultural Exposition, Advocacy and Legislative Leadership Day, Spring CDEs or State Convention without your chapter's membership dues being paid. *If chapter dues payment is not received by **March 1**, there will be a $75 fee charged for overdue rosters.*

"The New Jersey FFA Association is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the state FFA constitution, bylaws or policies."

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