

New Jersey Department of Agriculture Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education 369 South Warren Street P.O. Box 330 Trenton, NJ 08625

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In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education

TO: New Jersey Teachers of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources and FFA Members

FROM: Kristianne M. Dowd, State FFA Specialist and State FFA Executive Board

CC: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Advisor

RE: Leadership Experience and Development (L.E.A.D.)

- Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT)
- Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC)
- State Greenhand Conference (SGC)

Monday, September 28, 2020 - Saturday, October 3, 2020

LOCATION Virtual

DATE: August 25, 2020

The 2020-2021 State FFA Executive Board is excited to announce – **Leadership Experience and Development. (L.E.A.D).** L.E.A.D. is a three-conference experience meeting the needs of **ALL** FFA members!

The NJ FFA Association welcomes ALL FFA members to attend L.E.A.D. Here's how...

Leadership Experience and Development will be held virtually in 2020. This experience will incorporate asynchronous and synchronous experiences. Students will participate in asynchronous sessions hosted through a virtual platform that will go live on Monday, September 28. Students should complete all recorded sessions by the end of Friday, October 2. A schedule of the programming can be found on page 4 of this announcement.



Synchronous Learning - Sessions classified as synchrous will occur live where members will sign into the experience and engage directly with state officers, past state officers and other members.

Asynchronous - Session classified as asynchronous will be pre-recorded and accessed via Nearpod when decided upon by the teacher or student.

- **State Greenhand Conference (SGC):** All <u>first-year</u> FFA members in 7-10th grade ONLY are invited to attend State Greenhand Conference (SGC) where past state officers will help participants discover FFA opportunities, plan for Supervised Agricultural Experience programs, develop relationship building skills, and develop career, personal and leadership goals. By the end of the conference, participants will be awarded certificates of completion for meeting the requirements of the Greenhand FFA Degree. SGC participants will take part in a live session on Saturday, October 3 at 10:00 AM with LOC participants to explore the opportunities available in the FFA.
- **LEAD With Purpose**: Remaining FFA members (including chapter officers) are invited to attend LEAD With Purpose where the State FFA Officers will help them along their adventure of navigating a virtual school year. Students will work to finalize their Purpose Plan that they have developed throughout the week during a live session on Saturday, October 3 at 1:00 PM. LEAD With Purpose will have two tracks Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) and Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC).
 - Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT): Chapter FFA Officers are invited to participate in two additional workshops exclusive for chapter officers POA Challenge (Friday, October 2 at 3:00 PM) and Chapter Officer Challenge (Saturday, October 3 at 10:00 AM). State Officers will facilitate these additional workshops and spend time bonding with the participants.
 - **Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC):** Members who are not chapter officers are invited to participate in an additional workshop exclusive for growing members. LOC participants will take part in a live session on Saturday, October 3 at 10:00 AM with SGC participants to explore the opportunities available in the New Jersey FFA. Past State FFA Officers will facilitate this workshop and help the members un**LOC**k the possibilities within the FFA.

In addition to enhancing leadership skills, FFA members participating in synchronous sessions will have the opportunity to meet other members from New Jersey's 36 FFA Chapters and connect with the state officer team and past state FFA officers. During the POA Challenge, advisors will play an integral role in working with the chapter officers to develop the POA activity goals and timeline.

CONFERENCE FEES

LEAD With Purpose (COLT & LOC) Flat Fee (up to 25 students): \$140.00 State Greenhand Conference (SGC) Flat Fee (up to 15 students): \$140.00 Additional Student Cost \$5.00

Through a flat fee structure, chapters will gain access to Leadership Experience and Development curriculum and materials. Access to both the LEAD With Purpose and SGC tracks are \$140.00 each. The \$140 covers curriculum access and leadership materials which will be shipped to chapters prior to September 28. For chapters with more than 25 students in LEAD with Purpose or 15 students in SGC will be assessed an additional student cost of \$5.00 per student. Please submit your Participant List by Tuesday, September 15, 2020 by completing this form: https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/LEAD. PLEASE forward a check in the amount listed on your invoice to: TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY with "FFA LEAD" identified in the memo section prior to October 2. Chapters with Basic Affiliation will receive up to a \$140 discount on LEAD Leadership Resources. Chapters with Basic and Blue Affiliation will receive up to a \$280 discount on LEAD Leadership Resources. These discounts will be taken off on the electronic invoice.

CONFERENCE T-SHIRTS

Conference t-shirts will be available for purchase through our new online store at www.bestclubgear.com/njffaconvention.html. Chapters are recommended to order as a group in order to take advantage of the bulk pricing. Students are strongly urged to wear their conference t-shirt on Saturday during the live sessions.

FRIDAY NIGHT EVENT

The New Jersey State FFA Officers are excited to get to interact with members during a Trivia Night. All conference participants are welcome to participate and are encouraged to pull out their favorite costumes to partake in the annual costume contest. Details will be shared closer to the event.

IMPORTANT LEAD FACTS:

- 1. Sessions will be active beginning Monday, September 28. Students are responsible for completing asynchronous experiences by the close of Friday, October 2.
- 2. Workshops are designed for dynamic participation where every member will be engaged in discussion, activities and interaction.
- 3. Students are strongly urged to wear the conference t-shirt on Saturday during live sessions. Students should be prepared to be up and moving for activities during live sessions in a location with appropriate backgrounds. During all other live events, students are encouraged to wear FFA t-shirts.
- 4. Students should come prepared to session with:
 - Internet Enabled Computer (video conferencing capabilities needed for live sessions)
 - A quiet space with no external distractions as much as possible, including silencing and being ready to stay away from cell phones unless instructed to use them
 - FFA Manual (recent)
 - Pen/ Pencil
 - Chapter POA COLT participants only
 - Learnbook
- 5. Conference in a Boxes are included in the cost of registration. Included in each box is:
 - 5 Pads of Post Its
 - Half Ream of Paper
 - Drawstring Bags (number based upon registration)
 - Pen (number based upon registration)
 - Learnbooks (number based upon registration)
 - FFA Manual (only for SGC participants)
- 6. At the time of registration, teachers should determine where conference materials should be shipped in order to allow for dispersal among conference attendees. Materials will be shipped by September 18 to allow for adequate arrival and dispersal time prior to the sessions launching on September 28. Changes in registration numbers will not be accepted after September 15. Chapters registered after September 15 will not be guaranteed to receive their materials prior to September 28.



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

2020 Overall LEAD Schedule

Updated 8/13/20

Leadership Experience and Development will be held virtually in 2020. This experience will incorporate asynchronous and synchronous experiences. Students will participate in asynchronous sessions hosted through a virtual platform that will go live on Monday, September 28. Students should complete all recorded sessions by the end of Friday, October 2.

ASYNCHRONOUS PROGRAMMING

Monday, September 28 - Friday, October 2, 2020	
	LEAD Opening Session (please view prior to beginning
	sessions)
	<u>COLT/LOC</u> : 6 Sessions
	SGC: 5 Sessions

SYNCHRONOUS PROGRAMMING

Friday, October 2, 2020	
3:00 pm	<u>COLT</u> : Program of Activities Challenge
8:00 pm	Trivia Night (Only open to registered LEAD participants)

Saturday, October 3, 2020		
9:30 am	Flag Raising – Aired Live via YouTube	
10:00 am	COLT: Officer Challenge	
	SGC/LOC: New Jersey FFA Opportunities	
12:45 pm	Reflections – Aired Live via YouTube	
1:00 pm	COLT/LOC: Lead With Purpose	