

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

New Jersey FCCLA 2026-2027 Chapter Handbook



State Website - www.njfccla.org
National Website - www.fcclainc.org
Instagram - [njfccla](https://www.instagram.com/njfccla)
Facebook - [NJ FCCLA](https://www.facebook.com/NJFCCLA)
Twitter - [@NJ_FCCLA](https://twitter.com/NJ_FCCLA)

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ABOUT NEW JERSEY FCCLA

DESCRIPTION:

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a national, Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) for young men and women in Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) education in public and private schools through grade 12. FCCLA offers intra-curricular resources and opportunities for students to pursue careers that support families. Since 1945, FCCLA members have been making a difference in their families, careers, and communities by addressing important personal, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education.

The work of FCCLA helps students and teachers focus on a variety of youth concerns, including parenting, family relationships, substance abuse, peer pressure, sustainability, nutrition and fitness, teen violence, and career preparation in four specific Career Pathways. Involvement in FCCLA offers members the opportunity to expand their leadership potential and develop skills for life—planning, goal setting, problem solving, decision making, and interpersonal communication—necessary in the home and workplace.

The New Jersey Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America has a membership of over 4,000 middle and high school members. The association provides challenging competitive events, valuable leadership training, and exciting state conferences for its members. NJ FCCLA offers opportunities for leadership development, personal growth, and preparation for college, career and adult life.

MISSION:

To promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. Focusing on the multiple roles of a family member, wage earner and community leader, members develop skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation.

PURPOSES:

1. To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life
2. To strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society
3. To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community
4. To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony
5. To promote greater understanding between youth and adults
6. To provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities
7. To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today's society
8. To promote Family and Consumer Sciences and related occupations

CREED:

We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.
 We face the future with warm courage and high hope.
 For we have the clear consciousness of seeking old and precious values.
 For we are the builders of homes, Homes for America's future,
 Homes where living will be the expression of everything that is good and fair,
 Homes where truth and love and security and faith will be realities, not dreams.
 We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.
 We face the future with warm courage and high hope.

MOTTO:

Toward New Horizons

TAGLINE:

The Ultimate Leadership Experience

“80 Years of Legacy & Leadership”

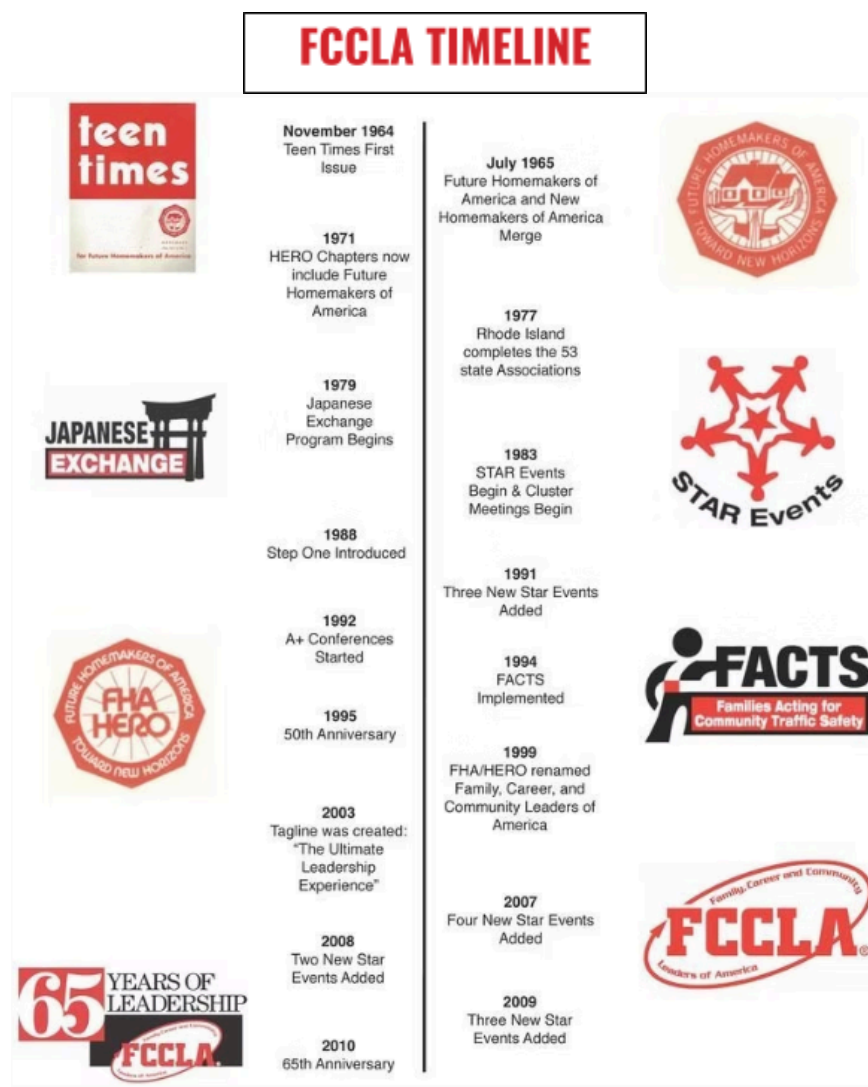
HISTORY OF FCCLA

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), formally known as Future Homemakers of America, was founded at a convention in Chicago, Illinois when 29 Home Economic leaders came together with the idea of creating one national student organization aimed at preparing today's students to be tomorrow's leaders in the home and workplace. On June 11, 1945, National FCCLA began a legacy of making a difference in families, careers, and communities across America. Two years later in 1947, New Jersey chartered NJ FHA.

For over 80 years, FCCLA has been addressing important personal, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) education—previously known as Home Economics. At its height, the organization's membership peaked at 607,175 with members from 46 state associations, including Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and American Samoa. Dolly Parton, Reba McEntire, and Bo Jackson are a few of FCCLA's most nationally recognized alumni.

Today, more than ten million students have been involved in FCCLA and have changed countless lives around the country by participating in National Programs, competing in Competitive Events, exploring Career Pathways, and attending national conferences. FCCLA continues to be the only Career and Technical Student Organization focused on preparing youth for careers that support families and strengthens members' employability skills by preparing students to be college-and career-ready.

This year, New Jersey FCCLA is celebrating its 80th Anniversary!



WHY FCCLA?

Whether you work in a large urban school district, a small rural community, or a mid-sized suburban school, FCCLA can enhance your FCS program and put learning into action for your students.

	STUDENTS CAN:	
	• Develop interpersonal relationship & organizational skills • Learn and apply creative and critical thinking skills • Gain recognition for achievement • Develop skill in the use of parliamentary procedure • Improve communication and public speaking skills • Virtually meet members from across the nation • Learn more about Family and Consumer Sciences	• Use character education principles in everyday life • Learn practical “real life” skills for college & career prep • Develop leadership and career skills • Improve self-esteem • Gain recognition for achievement • Set goals and reach them • Become involved in-service learning • Master career readiness practices • Use current communication technology • Apply & improve 21st century skills • Explore various career opportunities & options
	ADULTS CAN:	
	 • Broaden horizons and contacts through a professional support system • Receive national and state resources to incorporate into curriculum • Guide and lead students activities that leave a real impact on community and student’s lives • Expand professional experience and fulfillment	• Enhance professional development • Learn more about career pathways • Improve rapport with students • Gain assistance in curriculum planning • Gain satisfaction through student growth • Be recognized for personal & professional achievements
	FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES PROGRAMS CAN:	
	• Gain enrichment through school and community projects • Enhance visibility to administrators, parents and communities • Receive national and state resources to incorporate into curriculum	• Motivate students to learn • Create interest through relevant experiences • Gain interest in Family and Consumer Science enrollment
	COMMUNITIES CAN:	
	• Provide young citizens with constructive uses of leisure time • Provide links between service and development of workforce skills	• Provide a link with schools • Increase student participation in civic affairs

A club is just an internal experience, whereas an FCCLA Chapter, because it is part of a national organization, develops an identity and an esprit de corps that an individual local school club lacks. Members have mutual interests and activities with thousands of other students in the nation. FCCLA can be an integrated part of the FCS classroom. FCCLA is a CTSO, a Career and Technical Student Organization that is recognized by the Department of Education and the Department of Labor.

CAREER PATHWAYS

REAL WORLD SKILLS:

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a Career and Technical Student Organization functions as an integral part of the Family and Consumer Sciences education curriculum and operates within the school system.



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Since 1945, FCCLA members have been making a difference in families, careers, and communities by addressing important personal, work, and societal issues. Through participation in Competitive Events, becoming involved in community service opportunities, student leadership, and attending leadership conferences, members develop real world skills, explore Career Pathways, and become college- and career-ready.

CAREER PATHWAYS THROUGH FCCLA:

FCCLA has made a concentrated effort to illustrate the connection of FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) to career pathways. A survey of business and industry stakeholders found that FCCLA most directly supports Career Pathways in Art & Design, Hospitality & Tourism, Financial Services, Education & Training, Human Services, and Public Services. FCCLA National Programs and Competitive Events support CTE students' development of knowledge and skills, enhancing the classroom experience and career pathway initiatives. FCCLA is integrated into FCS and is intra-curricular, exposing students to work-based learning, business and industry networks, and industry-recognized certifications.

FCCLA members explore career opportunities and build real world skills by developing projects, engaging in and participating in events, and competing regionally and nationally for scholarships and awards. Through participation in FCCLA and exploration of FCCLA's 6 Career Pathways, members acquire many skills to be college and career ready, including academic knowledge, technical expertise, and a set of general, cross-cutting abilities called "employability skills."

In addition, through FCS education, FCCLA members learn real world skills that are transferable to any career pathway they choose, these real-world skills include:

- ★ Applied Academic Skills: Communications, Math, Science, Basic Literacy
- ★ Critical Thinking Skills: Problem Solving, Organization & Planning
- ★ Resource Management: Time, Money, Materials & Personnel
- ★ Interpersonal Skills: Leadership, Teamwork & Negotiation
- ★ Systems Thinking: Teamwork & Project Management
- ★ Information Use
- ★ Communication Skills
- ★ Leadership Skills
- ★ Personal Qualities
- ★ Technology Use

FCCLA ADVISER

Although FCCLA Chapters are youth-centered, with emphasis on members running the chapters, there is a role for the adult adviser. The adviser should encourage and guide the members; provide them with ideas and resources when needed; and help them develop leadership skills through planning and carrying out chapter activities. The Chapter Adviser should serve as a source of continuity from year to year.

FCCLA provides a wealth of benefits for your students, Family and Consumer Sciences program, school, community, and your own professional development. New advisers find that FCCLA offers a broad spectrum of program choices. The word “choices” is the key to survival and success.

Remember: You don’t have to do it all! FCCLA offers a variety of National Programs and events to help increase the effectiveness of your Family and Consumer Sciences program and motivates students. During your chapter’s first years, guide members toward the programs that seem to best serve your local community needs. As members gain experience and build a tradition of chapter success, they will be ready to branch out into additional programs and events.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Teachers certified to teach Family and Consumer Sciences Education or any FCS pathway, or as determined by the state department of education, can serve as the FCCLA chapter adviser.

THE ADVISER SHOULD:

1. Interpret the organization to the chapter members.
2. Interpret the value of FCCLA to administrators and teachers as a part of growth, leadership, citizenship, school and community.
3. Be ready with suggestions and resources.
4. Be positive, but firm.
5. Help keep the chapter visible in the school and community.
6. Help students learn from their experiences, whether they are successful or not.
7. Identify and encourage outstanding members to run for chapter, state or national office.
8. Organize transportation for chapter members to chapter and state activities.
9. Supervise members at all local, state and national conferences and events.
10. Coordinate all Chapter activities with the FCS department.
11. Check on students’ return of materials for state activities on time (affiliation, nominations, registration for conferences, etc.)
12. Through all of this, be positive and enthusiastic – it’s contagious!

The Chapter Adviser shows enthusiasm, a positive attitude, concern for students, dedication, and a willingness to share. The Adviser’s role is to give support, recognition and opportunities. The chapter is only as successful as the amount of involvement the Chapter Adviser puts into FCCLA activities.

**“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.
Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” - Martin Luther King Jr.**

AFFILIATING A CHAPTER

1. Discuss with school administrators the advantage of starting a local chapter, pointing out the relationship of FCCLA to the Family, and Consumer Sciences curriculum and value to the school program.
2. Contact the State Adviser for information and materials needed to start a chapter at njfccla@gmail.com.
3. Chapter affiliation is an important step in joining FCCLA. Chapters must affiliate by the affiliation deadlines each year to continue to receive access to the resources in the FCCLA portal. Please use the step-by-step instructions to affiliate your chapter for this school year.
4. Follow the chapter checklist for basic guidelines on establishing a chapter.
5. Visit the adviser page on the FCCLA website. <https://fcclainc.org/advisers>
6. Download the "New Adviser Handbook" from the National FCCLA website: <https://fcclainc.org/join/chapter-affiliation> ... And request a new adviser kit from National FCCLA by emailing membership@fcclainc.org
7. Promote FCCLA in FCS classes, explaining the FCCLA Purposes & how they relate to the curriculum.
8. Discuss possible chapter activities. Encourage students to talk with other eligible students about their interest in starting a chapter.
9. Find a mentor and talk with teachers who have chapters. Visit an active chapter so interested students can talk with their members.
10. Invite an FCCLA State Officer to speak to prospective members.
11. Familiarize yourself with the State and National websites; learn as much as you can about the organization.
12. Meet with the students who are interested and collect State and National dues. Pay dues as soon as possible to begin receive chapter communication and state information.
13. At the first meeting with students, brainstorm which leaders, officers and committees will be needed and determine a procedure for selecting them. Set up a date to elect officers and set up committees to involve all members.
14. Develop a calendar for the year's activities. For each activity or concern, use the FCCLA Planning Process to set chapter goals and form a plan for carrying out, evaluating, and publicizing the chapter's activities. Make sure dates are included on the master school calendar. Pull together a Program of Work. Check the state website for the NJ FCCLA Program of Work & Calendar of Activities.
15. Set up a committee to write or update chapter bylaws, using State and National Bylaws as guides. Develop an itemized budget for the year. Keep minutes of each meeting. Plan regular executive and chapter meetings.
16. Become familiar with FCCLA National Programs and State and STAR Events.
17. Create committees to organize chapter initiatives such as fundraisers or community service projects. Select a local leader to serve as a Service Ambassador. Send completed application to the state office.
18. Involve your chapter in local, state and national service projects.
19. Create a fundraising campaign in order to raise money to attend conferences and support chapter functions and service projects.
20. Plan to take students to the Fall Leadership Connection, Leadership Boot Camp, and the State Leadership Conference.



MEMBERSHIP

FCCLA offers programs, contests, scholarships, and opportunities for members to develop real world skills, become college- and career-ready, and make a difference in families, careers, and communities.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) offers members the opportunity to expand their leadership potential and develop skills for life—planning, goal setting, problem solving, decision making, and interpersonal communication—all necessary within the home and workplace. FCCLA is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members.

- FCCLA is integrated into Family and Consumer Sciences education exposing students to work-based learning as well as business and industry experiences.
- FCCLA engages students in industry awareness and through Competitive Events and scholarship opportunities.
- FCCLA provides real world skills: productivity and accountability, flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, leadership and responsibility.

FCCLA has a national membership of over 270,000 young men and women in nearly 6,000 chapters. There are 46 state associations including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa. Since its founding in 1945, FCCLA has involved more than ten million youth. Former members are eligible to become members of the State alumni organization, Friends of FCCLA, and Alumni & Associates, the national organization.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BE A MEMBER OF FCCLA:

Any student who has taken a course in Family and Consumer Sciences, or as determined by the state department of education, middle school through grade 12 is eligible for active membership in an organized FCCLA chapter within their school. Once the state and national dues are paid, the student will be an official affiliated member. Teachers join FCCLA too! Teachers certified to teach Family and Consumer Sciences education, or as determined by the state department of education, can serve as the FCCLA chapter adviser.

WHAT IS NEEDED TO FORM A CHAPTER:

In order to create a chapter, a minimum of 12 members (plus an adviser) must be affiliated by paying state and national dues. (See below the many membership options when forming a chapter)

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS!

Once your state and national dues are paid, you will become an official affiliated member which opens a huge FCCLA door of opportunity! By being officially affiliated, you will:

- Be able to participate in the many state activities and events
- Be able to compete in our NJ conference competitive events, i.e. Fall Leadership Connection, State Leadership Conference
- Be able to represent NJ at National events, i.e. the annual National Leadership Conference
- Be able to participate in intensive leadership development, i.e. NJ Leadership Bootcamp
- Be able to access resources that help you develop real world skills that prepare you to be college- and career-ready
- Be able to explore various Career Pathways within Family and Consumer Sciences
- Be able to apply for national scholarships
- Be able to gain access to the FCCLA Student Portal

Not to mention the priceless development of your skills in leadership, creativity, public speaking, responsibility, time management, and self-confidence. Where will your FCCLA membership take you?!

MEMBERSHIP COSTS:

Membership Type	Total	Benefits
Basic Affiliation	\$13 per member +\$9 per adviser	Minimum 12 + 1 adviser
Basic Middle Level	\$300 unlimited members +\$9 per adviser	Unlimited rate for students in 6th-8th grade
Up to 25 Members	\$450 total for up to 25 members	Up to 25 Members Additional students are \$9 each Unlimited Chapter Adviser Affiliations Access to Knowledge Hub in Portal
Unlimited Members	\$875	Unlimited Student Affiliations Unlimited Chapter Adviser Affiliations Access to Knowledge Hub
NEW! Middle School Package	\$450 unlimited members +\$9 per adviser	Unlimited Student Affiliations for students in 6th-8th grade Access to Knowledge Hub
NEW! Urban Package	\$5,500 unlimited members +\$9 per adviser	Unlimited student affiliations for students within eligible urban school districts located in a city with a core population of 100,000 or more Includes access to the FCCLA Knowledge

Access to Knowledge Hub Benefits:

Digital National Programs	Career Connection, Community Service, FACTS, Families First, Financial Fitness, Stand Up, Student Body
Challenge Test Readiness Resources	A digital, self-paced preparation tool designed to support student success on FCCLA Challenge Tests, including sample questions and strategies across content areas.
Competitive Event and National Program Overview Videos	An on-demand library of short video aligned to Competitive Events and National Programs, designed to support classroom instruction and student preparation



RECRUITMENT

TIPS/IDEAS FOR SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING:

Use the tips below to enhance your chapter's activities and boost leadership development.

- **Start simple!** As with everything in FCCLA, start small and work your way up to big projects. Beginning a chapter, recruiting members, and planning a budget are overwhelming so do what you know works. Find out what other advisers in your state are doing or use one of the ideas listed below.
- **Use activities that teach.** The most successful fundraising activities provide extra learning opportunities and leadership experience for students. These can be as simple as a student organized bake sale or as complex as beginning a school store. Choose something that fits the community's needs. Let the students take the reins, hold their hands when needed, and enjoy watching them succeed!
- **Schedule activities throughout the year—and the summer.** Students are busy at the beginning of the year with many back to school activities and readjusting to a school schedule. Additionally, the community is bombarded with fundraising projects during the first semester of the year. Work with a group of students, perhaps officers or a fundraising committee, to develop projects that can be done during the summer. These can include car washes, catering, or running a concession stand at a local ballpark.
- **Set a budget for the year.** As a budgeting exercise, have students set a budget for the year. Make sure they include travel, meeting registrations, project expenses, and the capital necessary to begin raising additional funds. Figuring out how much the chapter will spend, will help motivate fundraising efforts.
- **Build community loyalty.** The most successful fundraisers we hear about are those that are “expected” year after year. These often coincide with other community events and can be easy like selling roses before a Valentine’s Day banquet or an annual community yard sale during Homecoming week.
- **Begin a long-term project.** This year, start a new project that will last several years. Start a catering, childcare, or other business. Repeat clients will not only provide a steady income, but they will help add more clients, and money, to your chapter.
- **Make business and industry connections.** Involving business and industry leaders in your chapter will pay off in the long run. Local businesses who believe in your chapter’s success, may offer grants or sponsorships to attend state or national meetings. With a little finesse, they may be interested in offering mentoring or internships to your members.

EXAMPLES:

Chapters are able to individually tailor fundraising opportunities to meet their own needs.

Some chapters have found success by selling food items, having a car wash, or hosting a game night. Fundraising ideas are limitless; with some creativity, there are ways to raise money for your chapter around each corner.

COMPETITIVE EVENTS

STATE AND STAR EVENTS:

Members will still be able to demonstrate skills and display projects electronically through competitive events, enjoy the inspirational messages of motivational speakers, participate in community service initiatives, and earn recognition for all of their efforts. At the NJ FCCLA State Leadership Conference, a wide array of State and National Competitive events are offered to members. Please check the NJ FCCLA website for further conference details and for additional new competitive events with their guidelines.

NJ FALL EVENTS:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| ★ Apple Bake Off | ★ Get up and Move |
| ★ “Apps” in Education | ★ Go Green |
| ★ Banner | ★ Illustrated Talk: Child Development & Education |
| ★ Battle of the Budget | ★ Illustrated Talk: Food & Nutrition |
| ★ Career Search | ★ Illustrated Talk: Fashion or Interior Design |
| ★ Caregiver Carry-All | ★ Illustrated Talk: Personal/Family Finance |
| ★ Circle Time | ★ Interior Design Challenge Event |
| ★ Community Counts | ★ Lessons in Leadership |
| ★ Consumer Clout | ★ Membership Rocks: Recruitment Rocks |
| ★ Creative Stitches | ★ Passion for Fashion Design Challenge |
| ★ Cultural Food Fusion | ★ Say Yes to FCS |
| ★ Cupcake Challenge | ★ T-shirt Expressions |
| ★ Edible Centerpiece | ★ Tune Into FCCLA: Health & Safety/ Social Justice |
| ★ FCCLA Chapter Spotlight | ★ Virtual Read Aloud |
| ★ Financing Your Future | ★ Web Connect |
| ★ Food Fascination | ★ What’s the Buzz |

NJ SPRING STATE EVENTS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| ★ Art of Garde Manger | ★ Luncheon Menu Showcase |
| ★ Bread Basics | ★ Manners Matter |
| ★ Cake Decorating | ★ Peer to Peer |
| ★ Civic Engagement | ★ Personal Patchwork |
| ★ Fashion Runway | ★ Program Cover Design |
| ★ Food Fascination | ★ Reinventing Spaces |
| ★ Food Truck Feud | ★ Storybook Ethics |
| ★ FCCLA Speaks | ★ Successories |
| ★ Hospitality 101 | ★ Toys That Teach |
| ★ Info Graphic | ★ Windows of Fashion |
| ★ International Food | ★ Yarn Art |
| ★ Lessons Learned | |



STAR EVENTS:

AI for Impact	Interior Design
Baking & Pastry	Interpersonal Communications
Career Investigation	Job Interview
Chapter Service Project Portfolio	Leadership
Chapter in Review Display	National Programs in Action
Culinary Arts	Nutrition and Wellness
Culinary Math Management	Parliamentary Procedure
Early Childhood Education	Professional Presentation
Entrepreneurship	Promote and Publicize FCCLA!
Event Management	Public Policy Advocacy
Fashion Construction	Recycle and Redesign
Fashion Design	Say Yes to FCS Education
Focus on Children	Sports Nutrition
Food Innovations	Sustainability Challenge
Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation	Teach and Train

ONLINE STATE EVENTS:

NOTE: These are not judged at SLC. Materials sent directly to National FCCLA

Digital Stories for Change	Instructional Video Design
FCCLA Chapter Website	Red Talks on Education

AWARDS & NATIONAL PROGRAMS**AWARDS:**

Recognition is an integral component of FCCLA and a cornerstone of developing membership. Students are recognized for their individual achievements through completion of Power of One. Chapters are recognized for their outstanding work through National Program Awards and for their efforts in membership recruitment. In addition to these recognition programs, the following opportunities for recognition are also available.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

FCCLA recognizes the importance of higher education, and awards several scholarships to FCCLA national members through sponsorship from partners and universities. The New Jersey State Association has also created partnerships with several post-secondary schools, awarding over \$500,000 worth of scholarship money at the State Leadership Conference.

FCCLA members may also apply to participate in the Japanese Exchange Scholarship opportunity. This is an opportunity for FCCLA members to travel to Japan for 4-6 weeks as an exchange student. This scholarship is funded by Kikkoman Foods Corporation & coordinated by Youth For Understanding USA (YFU). Based on the premise that international understanding can be achieved through individuals, the Japanese Exchange program emphasizes family living as the core of the overseas learning experience. The opportunity to experience the day-to-day life of another country & its people enhances members' awareness of international issues.

THE ULTIMATE CHAPTER AWARD

The FCCLA Ultimate Chapter Award is the highest honor an FCCLA Chapter can achieve, recognizing those who excel in leading purposefully, serving with passion, and engaging their members in transformative experiences embodying the *Ultimate Leadership Experience*.

<https://fcclainc.org/join/ultimate-chapter-award>

ADULT AWARDS

The National Adviser Recognition Program seeks to reward outstanding local advisers for their significant contributions to FCCLA. Details regarding Adviser recognition can be accessed via the National FCCLA website <https://fcclainc.org/lead/advisers/awards>. In addition, New Jersey FCCLA offers the Administrator's, Alumni Achievement, Distinguished Service, and Friend of FCCLA Awards for outstanding service to the organization. Several awards are also presented on the state level to Chapter Advisers.

NATIONAL PROGRAMS

Get informed about the National Programs offered through FCCLA. Every project makes a difference! All chapters that complete a National Program should take advantage of recognition opportunities for their accomplishments and submit a Recognition Application, which can be found on the National website.

	Learn how to explore career pathways and skills for success. Leaders at Work is now part of Career Connection
	Take action in your community and discover the difference you can make.
	Put the brakes on impaired driving, traffic crashes and lower the number one cause of death for youth.
	Discover how you can strengthen family relationships or learn about other families through the Japanese Exchange Program.
	Make, save and spend your money wisely through financial fitness.
	Make a positive change in your families, careers and communities, one goal at a time.
	Develop, plan, carry out, and evaluate advocacy activities to improve the quality of life in your communities. Develop your voice to make a positive impact.
	- Eat right, be fit and make healthy choices with Student Body! <i>The Healthy You</i> <i>The Fit You</i> <i>The Real You</i> <i>The Resilient You</i>

RED ROSE CHAPTER AWARD

2026 – 2027
NJ FCCLA PRESENTS
RED ROSE CHAPTER AWARD



Why? This program is designed to recognize well rounded chapters who contribute to the State Program of Work! They must take part in member development, community service, conferences, leadership activities, national programs, and competitive events.

How? In order to be recognized with this award, chapters must complete all of the required elements as well as 20 out of 105 possible points of the Additional Point Options. The point values are in red next to the description below. An official application form must be filled out to give proof of completion.

When? Applications are due on Tuesday, February 9 and chapters will be recognized at the SLC during the Recognition Dinner. The chapter presidents will go on stage to receive the award.

Requirements:

- *Increase your chapter's membership.
- *Chapter participation at the Fall Leadership Connection (8 members)
- *Participated in 4 Fall Competitive Events
- *Chapter attendance at Leadership Bootcamp (at least 6 members and 1 adviser)
- *Participate in the State Leadership Conference (10 members minimum)
- *Compete in competitive events at the SLC (at least 5 event entries)
- *Complete Power of One (at least 5 members)
- *Appoint a Chapter Service Ambassador; participate in the FLC and SLC service initiatives
- *Schedule and complete a chapter visit from the State Officers
- *Print Fall and Winter Newsletter for a chapter meeting and read selected articles.

Additional Point Options: (must complete a minimum of 20 points)

1	Apply for a State or National award for recognition at NLC	3	Complete an adviser award application
1	Proof of Adviser appreciation with thank you notes etc.	3	Submit Scholarship application
1	Adviser participation in 2026 Adviser Summit	3	Make a Chapter website
1	Post Chapter activities on chapter social media page.	3	Compete in STAR Events at SLC. (3 events)
2	Chapter participation in "FCCLA @ the table" (Show promotion and proof of participation)	3	Participate in 3 of the FCCLA Week initiatives
2	Three members completed the Taking Down Tobacco Program	3	Members competed in 2026 NLC STAR Events
2	Chapter participation in the FLC Community Counts Event	3	Chapter Participation in the "Safe Rides Save Lives" PSA Contest
2	Create a retention program for returning chapter members.	3	Affiliate 3 members (alumni) in NJ Friends of FCCLA
2	Send Chapter Photos and testimonials of activities, events, or NJ FCCLA conferences	4	Submitted a service project in the Explore, Act, Tell. service program
2	Chapter entry in the FLC Membership Matters competitive event	4	Provide an article for the New Directions Newsletter
2	Compete in NJ or STAR: Say Yes to FCS Competitive Event	4	Submit and have published an article for a local newspaper
2	Create or maintain chapter social media account	4	Complete a national program other than Power of One
2	Create an FCCLA bulletin board at your school	4	STAR Events project recognized as top 10 at 2026 NLC
2	Chapter attendance at the 2025 NLC (2 members 1 adviser)	4	Meet with your district administrator and speak at a BOE meeting about the value of FCS and FCCLA
2	Invite State Officers to present and participate at a chapter meeting.	5	Meet with a member of NJ State Legislature to advocate for FCCLA and FCS Education
2	Sponsor a creative fundraiser	5	Mentor a new chapter
2	Sponsor a membership drive	5	Submit a State Officer application by February 1 st
2	Members participation in the Safe Roads App	5	Member participated in the Japanese Exchange Program
3	Participate in a collaborative effort with another CTSO or business/industry partner.	5	Link NJ FCCLA to a new business partner who is willing to sponsor a state scholarship

NATIONAL BE A TEACHER DAY

Be a Teacher Day™ is a nationwide initiative that empowers students to explore the teaching profession and discover meaningful careers in education.

Held on the second Thursday in October, this campaign provides schools and communities with tools, resources, and inspiration to host impactful events that connect students with educators, colleges, and real-world insights into the field. Led by FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America), Be a Teacher Day™ reflects a strong commitment to building the next generation of educators.

Join NJ FCCLA for Be a Teacher Day this year at 2:30 PM on Thursday, October 8, 2026!



Teaching Starts With You!

National Be a Teacher Day™

Thinking about a future in teaching? Be a Teacher Day™ is your chance to explore the world of education and discover what it takes to inspire the next generation. Held annually on the second Thursday of October, this event gives students hands-on experiences, career insights, and a glimpse into the impact of becoming a teacher. Take the first step toward a rewarding career—access the toolkit and register your event at BeATeacherDay.org!

Specialized Toolkit

Use the Be a Teacher Day™ Toolkit to access everything you need to host a well-organized, impactful event that highlights the rewards of a career in education.

What's Included in the Toolkit?

- Ready-to-use Templates
- Student Engagement Ideas
- Educational Pathways Information



Scan to access the toolkit!

Editable Resources

Visit BeATeacherDay.org to access a range of editable resources in Canva, Microsoft Word, and Excel, allowing you to customize event materials to fit your school or community's unique needs.



STATE MEETINGS

FALL LEADERSHIP CONNECTION

Monday, November 23, 2026

Pines Minor- Edison, NJ

Every November, the New Jersey delegation of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America begins the year with an exciting and dynamic conference. New and returning chapters gather at the Pines Manor in Edison for the Fall Leadership Connection which includes engaging public speakers, informative round tables, state competitive events, and energetic pullout sessions. NJ FCCLA encourages members to participate in their various community service initiatives. The Fall Cupcake Challenge is a fall competitive event and charity fundraiser; members are able to buy delicious cupcakes baked by NJ FCCLA members and all the money is used to end childhood hunger. NJ Fall Leadership Conference is a great way to learn more about NJ FCCLA and kick starts the school year!

- 2026-2027 State Theme: **80 Years of Legacy and Leadership**
- Registration fee per person = \$63
- Registration is due on Friday, Oct 16, 2026
- More detailed info regarding registration forms, permission slips and other important info can be found on NJ FCCLA state website: <https://www.njfccla.org/fall-leadership-connection>

LEADERSHIP BOOTCAMP

Saturday, January 9, 2027

Virtual School Watch Parties

At the Leadership Bootcamp, NJ FCCLA members will receive dynamic leadership training and benefit from fun personal growth experiences. Members will receive exclusive leadership development training that was once only available to the state officers.

- Registration fee per person = \$38
- Registration is due: Dec 11, 2026
- More detailed info regarding registration forms, permission slips and other important info can be found on NJ FCCLA state website: <https://www.njfccla.org/leadership-bootcamp>

STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

March 17-18, 2027

Cherry Hill, NJ

The State Leadership Conference, held annually in March, is the crowning conference dedicated to NJ FCCLA members. Members are able to demonstrate skills and display projects, while enjoying the inspirational messages of motivational speakers. At the NJ FCCLA State Leadership Conference, a wide array of State and National Competitive events are offered to members. Members will have the opportunity to listen to captivating speakers, attend informative workshops and exciting sessions, participate in service projects, and compete in state and national competitive events. Members are able to network throughout the conference.

- Registration fee per person = \$60
- Registration is due: Feb 13, 2026
- More detailed info regarding registration forms, permission slips and other important info can be found on NJ FCCLA state website: <https://www.njfccla.org/state-leadership-conference>

NATIONAL MEETINGS

FALL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

October 17-20, 2026

Orlando, FL

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort

November 12-15, 2026

Anaheim, CA

Embassy Suites Anaheim South

In Fall 2026, FCCLA will host the third annual Fall Leadership Institutes in two dynamic locations across the country. In partnership with Disney Imagination Campus in Anaheim and Orlando, this exclusive experience features Disney-led sessions focused on leadership, teamwork, creativity, and innovation—hosted right inside the parks.

Participants build real-world skills in small, interactive learning groups while experiencing the energy and creativity that make Disney a global leader in innovation and guest experience.

* More detailed information can be found on FCCLA Headquarters website:

<https://fcclainc.org/attend/fall-leadership-institute>

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

June 22-26, 2027

San Antonio, Texas

The National Leadership Conference is held each summer to allow members to attend new & captivating workshops, participate in the Leadership Academy, compete in STAR Event competitions, work together to impact the community, immerse themselves in exciting & impactful general sessions, speakers, and other exciting events that are planned throughout the conference. Members will be able to learn about themselves, forge friendships for a lifetime, explore educational and career opportunities, and more!

- More detailed information can be found on FCCLA Headquarters website:

<https://fcclainc.org/attend/national-leadership-conference>

AI POLICY

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF AI

FCCLA competitive events are designed to assess the authentic, original work and critical thinking of the student. **The following policy outlines the expectations for the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and generative tools in all project components, including written reports, research, and presentations.** NJ FCCLA is committed to academic integrity. Members are expected to demonstrate honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in the preparation of their competitive events and related materials.

1. AI Usage Parameters

AI tools may be used for spelling, grammar, and punctuation. AI may not be used to generate original content, ideas, research, or complete drafts. All projects must demonstrate authentic student work and process. To maintain fairness and academic integrity, the fundamental policy is that AI is allowed for refinement but prohibited for generation of core content.

Category Recommended Policy Examples of Use

Allowed Use (Refinement)

- AI tools may be used for spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- AI may be used for brainstorming ideas surrounding a broad topic. AI is not meant to be a substitute for your own ideas.
- It can be used in research to suggest credible sources.
- Grammar/spelling checks, rephrasing for flow, formatting reports, fixing punctuation.
- If you are working with a national program and want to focus on Financial Fitness, you might use AI to brainstorm current issues regarding personal finance.

Prohibited Use (Generation)

- AI tools may not be used to generate original content, ideas, research, analysis, or complete drafts.
- Generating the core written report, creating the fundamental ideas for a project, fabricating data or sources, or writing the descriptive text for a presentation.

2. Required Authenticity Check: Document History

To verify the work is authentic and original, all written reports and project documents must be submitted with a clear record of the creation process.

Authenticity Measure Purpose & How to Implement

- Document History Requirement

Students must submit a shared link to their project document (Google Doc, OneDrive, etc.) allowing view access to the edit history. Judges will look for gradual, organic writing versus massive text blocks pasted in a single edit, which strongly indicates bulk AI generation. When submitting the final project link, the sharing settings must be configured to allow judges to view the document's complete edit history (sometimes labeled Version History).

Judges will look for gradual, student-driven development. Projects that show evidence of large blocks of text being pasted in a single action (indicating bulk AI generation) will be subject to a policy violation review.

High-Weight Q&A/Interview Judges must ask specific questions that relate directly to the content, methodology, or decisions presented in the project. The students must demonstrate deep knowledge of their choices.

3. Failure to Adhere to Set Policies

Failure to follow the AI Policy (Section 1 and 2), or the inability to demonstrate knowledge of the project's content and development process during the Q&A session, will be treated as a violation of the Original Work Policy (similar to plagiarism) and will result in a possible 20 point deduction or immediate disqualification depending on the severity of the infraction.

4. The FCCLA competitive events are numerous and complicated. It may not be possible for the judges and staff to identify AI misuse in the 10 minutes that they are examining a project. NJ FCCLA reserves the right to rescind awards after the Fall Leadership Connection and/or State Leadership Conference if misuse of AI is identified. This could impact a team or an individual's opportunity to compete at the National conference or receive scholarships.



ORGANIZING A CHAPTER

1. **PREPARE AN EFFECTIVE MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN IN THE FALL.** Use daily announcements, Bulletin Board displays, and special activities.
2. **CHOOSE AND TRAIN LEADERS.** Discuss qualifications for the different officers. The State bylaws will help you elect officers. A written ballot is recommended.
3. **DETERMINE AND COLLECT ALL DUES MONEY NECESSARY.** Factor state and national dues together with local dues. Will dues money come from members or be subsidized by chapter fundraising?
4. **DRAFT CHAPTER BYLAWS.** Select a committee to write by-laws for the Chapter, subject to membership approval. The State by-laws should be used as a pattern, and where possible, local by-laws should conform to them. By-laws should also reflect the local chapter's structure and the policies and procedures dictated by the local school district.
5. **AFFILIATE EARLY AND OFTEN.** As soon as possible, affiliate with the State and National organizations, since only affiliated chapters can use the name and emblem. A chapter must have at least twelve members (plus an adviser) who pay State and National dues.
6. **ESTABLISH A PROGRAM OF WORK.** The Program of Work outlines the "goals" for the year. It is a plan of action that lists the things the chapter is going to do and helps the chapter members see the "why, how and who?"
7. **CREATE A CALENDAR OF EVENTS.** Once the Program of Work is completed, a calendar of all of the events should be prepared.
8. **PREPARE A BUDGET.** Figure out sources of income – dues, donations, fundraising. Note the expenses – affiliation dues, conference registrations, mailings and supplies.
9. **SUPERVISE FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES.** Make sure the fundraising falls within school guidelines. Fundraising should be educational, profitable, and involve all members. They should be short in duration and not include expensive items. Try to establish a tradition. Develop an accurate and detailed accounting system.
10. **HELP WITH SCHEDULING AND PLANNING MEETINGS.** Train members to use Parliamentary Procedure. Teach students to prepare and use agendas. Plan an activity or have a guest speaker. Make meetings meaningful.
11. **PREPARE MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS.** Prepare articles for local and school newspapers. Send information to radio and television stations. Have an open house and invite parents and community groups. Set up bulletin boards or a showcase in your school
12. **PREPARE STUDENTS FOR COMPETITIVE EVENTS.** Review events and explain the relationship between events, courses, National Programs and the competencies that the students will gain. Teach the use of the Planning Process and guide student selection of events. See the state website for information and guidelines.

Health and safety are of primary importance to FCCLA.
Practice and follow safety protocols.

OFFICER POSITIONS

A BEGINNING CHAPTER:

The organization of a chapter can be adapted to suit the needs for each individual chapter. The list below is an example of offices and descriptions for a beginning chapter:

PRESIDENT – Shall preside over all business meetings of the organization, appoint committees, and be a member ex-officio of all committees.

VICE-PRESIDENT – Shall assume responsibility in the absence of the President and assist the President in the discharge of his or her responsibilities.

SECRETARY – Shall take the minutes of all meetings and record votes when taken.

TREASURER – Shall maintain the budget and report on the financial status of the organization at each executive meeting.

A LARGER CHAPTER:

For larger chapters you can extend your officer team to include the following:

PRESIDENT – Shall preside over all business meetings of the organization, appoint committees, and be a member ex-officio of all committees.

VICE-PRESIDENT – Shall assume responsibility in the absence of the President and assist the President in the discharge of his/her responsibilities. Shall take the minutes of all meetings.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF FINANCE – Shall maintain, track, and report on all the budgetary and finances of the chapter's activities and programs.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP – Shall provide leadership planning and implementing programs for membership promotion and development.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS – Shall provide leadership in planning and implementing of the association's public relations program.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE – Shall provide leadership in planning, implementing and promoting community service projects.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT – Shall provide leadership information and resources for promoting strong team leadership in general.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF PARLIAMENTARY LAW – Shall provide direction and assure all meetings are conducted in accordance with acceptable parliamentary law.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS – Shall prepare official correspondence, maintain an accurate history of the association, and maintain the chapter website.

WANT A STATE OFFICER TO VISIT YOUR CHAPTER?

NJ FCCLA's State Officers would love the opportunity to visit your chapter! State Officers can demonstrate how to set up an effective chapter meeting, attend your meeting to share state updates and answer any questions your members or advisers have about FCCLA. At this time, chapter visits will take place via Zoom. Chapters can request a visit tailored to a certain topic (such as competitive events or community service) or the state officers will provide a visit jammed packed with FCCLA! If you have any questions or would like to request a chapter visit, EMAIL: njfccla@gmail.com. Looking forward to seeing you soon!



LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP

FCCLA is a student-led organization with leadership development as a primary focus. All FCCLA members have the opportunity to become leaders within the organization. The skills gained, connections formed, and opportunities experienced through serving as an officer in FCCLA will elevate students as they take the lead in families, careers, and communities of today and tomorrow.

FCCLA equips members with skills for life as members take responsibility in planning, implementing, and evaluating chapter service projects and activities, running for Chapter, District/Region, State, or National Office, participating in Competitive Events, and more! **Are you looking to take your leadership to the next level?** Consider using your leadership s

Local or State office! Ask yourself if you have the skills it takes:

- ★ Enthusiasm
- ★ FCCLA knowledge
- ★ Active in FCCLA programs
- ★ Innovative
- ★ Futuristic
- ★ Committed and passionate about FCCLA



In serving as a local and or state officers, youth leaders have the opportunity to:

- ★ Further improve leadership skills
- ★ Increase personal growth and awareness
- ★ Meet new people
- ★ Travel
- ★ Serve as a spokesperson for FCCLA
- ★ Help FCCLA reach its goals

Elevate your ultimate leadership experience and enhance your leadership skills—consider running for an officer position today!

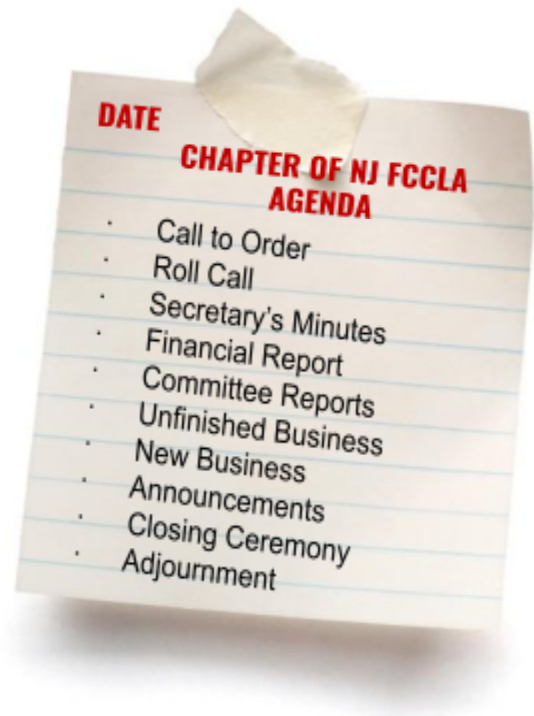
Leadership is a primary focus of FCCLA. As students take responsibility for planning, implementing, and evaluating chapter projects and activities, they develop the skills needed to take the lead in their families, careers, and communities.

All members have leadership potential whether or not they hold formal chapter leadership positions. It often comes down to exploring abilities, taking risks, and developing a personal leadership style. A successful chapter will recognize that it needs different kinds of leaders for different experiences and will encourage leadership diversity.

CHAPTER MEETINGS & CEREMONIES

Many activities and components of FCCLA are planned and carried out at chapter meetings. It must be remembered that there are several types of meetings, each with its own function. The meeting types below can help your chapter meet many needs; be sure to plan meetings with each function in mind. A chapter meeting may be a combination of any of the functions below; adapt meetings to suit the needs of your chapter!

- **BUSINESS FUNCTIONS:** Some functions of the business meeting may be to discuss and plan activities, carry out responsibilities, present officer/committee reports, elect officers, and establish committees.
- **EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION:** Educational meetings are those at which special presentations are made through films, PowerPoint Presentations, guest speakers, panel discussions or field trips.
- **SOCIAL FUNCTION:** These functions are usually held outside of class and are of a recreational nature, such as dances, bowling, ice cream/pizza parties, etc.
- **SERVICE FUNCTION:** Service functions are usually community-based and include activities for the benefit of people within the community such as special needs groups, the elderly or terminally ill children.



When planning meetings, it is important to use an **agenda** to keep meetings on track and cover the business that needs to be discussed. An agenda template is pictured on the right.

Ceremonies have always been an important part of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Below are the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for the organization.

FCCLA OPENING CEREMONY

PRESIDENT: Gives a rap with the gavel signaling the officers and members to stand and begins the meeting by stating, "We are members of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Our mission is to promote personal growth and leadership development through family and consumer sciences education."

OFFICERS: "Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner and community leader, members develop skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge and career preparation."

MEMBERS: "As we work toward the accomplishment of our goals we learn cooperation, take responsibility, develop leadership and give service."

PRESIDENT: "This meeting of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is now in session. You may be seated."

FCCLA CLOSING CEREMONY

PRESIDENT: “Members, please stand. FCCLA members, we are challenged to accept the responsibility of making decisions that affect our lives today and the world tomorrow. Let us repeat our Creed.”

MEMBERS: (Repeat Creed)

We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. We face the future with warm courage and high hope.

For we have the clear consciousness of seeking old and precious values. For we are the builders of homes, Homes for America’s future, Homes where living will be the expression of everything that is good and fair, Homes where truth and love and security and faith will be realities, not dreams.

We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. We face the future with warm courage and high hope.

PROGRAM OF WORK

The Program of Work outlines the “goals” for the year. It is a plan of action that lists the things the chapter is going to do and helps the chapter members see the “why, how and who?” The Program of Work gives direction and meaning to all activities, spelling out the chapter’s goals and objectives. Be sure to plan your Program of Work early in the school year.

WHO PLANS THE PROGRAM OF WORK?

Using the Planning Process, chapter members, with the support and guidance of the adviser, determine their concerns and agree on the action to be taken.

WHEN IS THE PROGRAM OF WORK PLANNED?

Usually, this planning process takes place at the beginning of the chapter/school year. Ideally, it is better to plan at the end of the previous school year, but this may be difficult due to membership turnover.

WHAT ARE THE STEPS IN PLANNING A PROGRAM OF WORK?

Follow the steps of the Planning Process:

1. Identify concerns
2. Set your goals
3. Form a plan
4. Act
5. Follow up

Always publicize your accomplishments after the activities have taken place!

WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE PLANNED?

FCCLA activities can be grouped into three categories – cooperative or group activities, individual activities, or group activities in competition with others. By employing all three kinds of activities, a chapter provides opportunities for all members to participate and develop their leadership skills. Types of activities might include:

- Fundraising activities
- Membership promotion
- Curriculum-related projects
- Social events
- Public Relations events
- Business meetings
- Competitive events
- Community Services

QUESTIONS FOR EVALUATING THE PROGRAM OF WORK:

1. What did the chapter members gain from the programs and projects?
2. Did our programs and projects meet the intended objectives?
3. Did our Program of Work meet the concerns and interests of the chapter members?
4. Did the activities of the Program of Work coordinate with classroom experiences?
5. Were the various activities promoted effectively?

2026-2027 New Jersey FCCLA Program of Work

Membership	State & National Programs and activities	Leadership Development	Public Relations & Communication	Financial Development
NJ FCCLA will increase the number of its advisers and members by welcoming members of diverse populations and providing a friendly environment that support the needs of diverse members and advisers.	Promote chapter and state participation in the National Programs: Career Connection Community Service FACTS Families First Financial Fitness Power of one Stand Up Student Body	Encourage personal development through character education in workshops, competitive events, community service initiatives, and programs.	Encourage interaction with local BOE and adult education support groups *Attend and deliver a speech at a school board meeting *Meet with school superintendents *Contact local PTA groups and make plans to speak at a meeting *Meet with local, state, and federal legislators * Send testimony to the State BOE	Promote fundraisers that boost the image of FCS by featuring entrepreneurial activities
Promote "Go for the Red" National Membership Campaign and the digital National Membership Tool kit.	Encourage excellence through 8 National Programs Recognition Applications.	Motivate students to be active FCCLA members in their chapters and the pursuit of leadership positions.	Encourage the chapters to use the new state theme as a public relations tool	Promote chapter fundraisers that support chapter affiliation
Increase the membership of special populations including students with/ from: - IEPs /504 plans/physical disabilities - chronic illness - foster care - economically disadvantaged families - a parent active in the armed forces - language barriers (ELL) - incarcerated parents - single parent families - teen parents - Justice system involvement - LGBTQ+	Promote Chapter and State recognition programs: Most Valuable Member Chapter President's Award Outstanding Administrator Award Alumni Achievement Friend of FCCLA Years of Service Distinguished Service Spirit of Advising Outstanding Adviser Rookie of the Year Enthusiast Award Master Adviser Adviser Mentor Red Rose Chapter Award Ultimate Chapter Award National Member of the Year Award Adviser of the Year Japanese Exchange Program	Promote leadership development through participation in the 2025 Leadership Bootcamp through the participation of chapter watch parties.	Encourage local chapters to: *submit press releases to newspapers *Submit articles for the state newsletter *Launch a chapter FCCLA website * Create and utilize a chapter Instagram account.	Raise state charitable donations by making and selling cookies and cupcakes at state conferences to support state charities.
Increase the NJ FCCLA State membership 65 chapters and 5001 members.		Work with other CTSOs in a collaborative effort to encourage leadership development.	Present FCCLA at Family and Consumer Sciences professional conferences.	Promote successful fundraising ideas through the website, newsletter, social media and other electronic communication
Increase occupational membership by adding 2 Career and Technical Schools.	Promote service initiatives and the Explore.ACT.Tell service program.	Participate in the chapter president's workshop at the Fall and State Conferences	Encourage corporate support of FCCLA programs through Career Pathways Project and partnerships	Inspire members to apply for scholarships through the national organization and NJ FCCLA
Increase the middle level by 4 new chapters	Promote participation in all competitive events at the state and national levels.	Collaborate with NJ CTSOs to create a legislative day during CTE month.	Publish and distribute a NJ FCCLA Newsletter 3 times a year	Promote chapter outreach to increase business and industry support.
Increase members by promoting membership via the website, social media, 3 VLOGs, and the President's Email Blast.	Promote FCCLA@ the Table through conferences, FCCLA Week and the website. Create a Cookbook with recipes from diverse cultures.	Boost participation in all state and national leadership conferences through exciting workshops and competitive events	Update and maintain an FCCLA website and link the state and local chapter websites.	Encourage chapters who are in need of financial assistance to look for chapter and individual grants through the National Ultimate Leadership Fund.
Create 3 membership PowerPoint presentations to promote and strengthen NJ FCCLA Membership.	Increase the number and diversity of the state events offered to members and increase integration in the FCS classroom.	Promote participation in obtaining certifications like the Americal Culinary Federation and the National Association of parliamentarians	Produce 3 NJ FCCLA promotional videos on a variety of topics that promote membership	Encourage chapters to commit to a Sock Fundraiser. "We Help Two" benefits both the community and the chapter.
Send a promotional video to prospective advisers.	Recognize a minimum of 10 chapters for strong and active participation on the state and local levels by meeting the expectations of a Red Rose Chapter Award.	Encourage members to participate in a job shadowing experience related to the FCCLA Career Clusters.	Investigate the opportunity to sponsor a North Atlantic Region leadership meeting with state officers.	Create a sock fundraiser to support our NJ National Officers to donate to the Ultimate Leadership Fund.
Increase NJ Friends of FCCLA by 25 members	Promote activities that support business and industry partnerships.	Incorporate Robert's Rules of Order in business meetings as appropriate.	Promote FCCLA with Administrators and public officials.	Promote Zwilling knife kits to benefit the Ultimate Leadership Fund.
Invite FCS teachers to participate in State Conferences	Create Community Service initiatives that unite chapters and communities.	Encourage more members to run for local and state office positions.	Increase NJ FCCLA's social media presence with Facebook and Instagram.	Promote Chapter outreach to increase business and industry support.
Promote membership at the Advisers' Summit.	Create 3 universal FCS/FCCLA service projects that can be integrated into the classroom.	State officers participate in Monthly FCCLA National Network Meetings.	Create a new Membership Video.	Promote participation in competitive events that include finance and budgeting.
Target Administrators to promote NJ FCCLA	Promote activities that improve driving such as TrtpScore.		Seek alumni testimonials and put selected ones on the website	
Promote the NJ FCCLA Membership Award	Submit 5 applications for National FCCLA Awards		Create a NJ FCCLA marketing campaign.	

THE PLANNING PROCESS SHEET

The Planning Process is a decision-making tool that supports the organization's overall philosophy about youth-centered leadership and personal growth. It can be used to determine group action in a chapter or class or plan individual projects.

	IDENTIFY CONCERNS The circle represents a continuous flow of ideas and has no beginning or end. As a target, it symbolizes zeroing in on the one idea around which you would like to build a project. • Brainstorm to generate ideas or state the activity or problem you want to address if already determined. • Evaluate your list and narrow it down to a workable idea or project that interests and concerns the majority of all your members.
	SET A GOAL The arrow stands for deciding which direction you will take. It points toward the goal or end result. • Get a clear mental picture of what you want to accomplish and write your ideas down as your goal. • Make sure your goal is one that can be achieved and evaluated. • Consider resources available to you.
	FORM A PLAN The square represents the coming together of ideas – the who, what, where, when and how of your plan. • Decide what needs to be done to reach your goal. • Figure out the who, what, where, when and how. • List the abilities, skills and knowledge required on your part. • List other available resources, such as people, places, publications and funds. • Make a workable timetable to keep track of your progress. • List possible barriers you might face and develop plans if necessary. • Decide ways to recognize your accomplishments along the way.
	ACT The different squares in this symbol represent the activities to be carried out to meet your goal. It represents acting on the plan. • Use family and community members, advisers, committees, task forces and advisory groups when needed.
	FOLLOW UP The broken squares suggest examining the project piece by piece. This symbol also represents a “window” through which to review and evaluate the plan. • Determine if your goal was met. • List ways you would improve your project or plan for future reference. • Share and publicize your efforts with others, including the media if appropriate. • Recognize members and thank people involved with your project.

SETTING CHAPTER GOALS**THIS TEMPLATE WILL ASSIST YOU IN LAYING OUT YOUR PROGRAM OF WORK.****START BY LISTING YOUR CHAPTER'S GOALS FOR THE YEAR.**

SETTING CHAPTER GOALS	PLANS FOR ACHIEVING GOALS	EVALUATION
Include goals for student growth and local chapter, state, and national participation. Include fundraising and community service efforts as well.	Consider the Planning Process Steps.	How will accomplishments be measured?

DEVELOPING A PROGRAM OF WORK

Develop a Program of Work by identifying key activities throughout the year.

Month	Community Service	Fundraising	National Programs	Competitive Events
September				
October				
November				
December				
January				
February				
March				
June				

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

By using effective Marketing and Public Relations skills, chapters, members, and advisers can spread the word about FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences education. NJ FCCLA chapters do great things every day – it's up to all of us to spread the word and let others know about them! Members and advisers can encourage participation and support for the organization by implementing strong PR campaigns.

WHY IS MEDIA IMPORTANT?

If you want the media to know your chapter, you must first know the media! Pay attention to radio, television, and newspaper reports. Ask yourself why they're covering what they do, and make special note of stories related to FCCLA programs. Look for instances where someone from your chapter could have easily been a resource. If a reporter does a story even remotely related to the issues you cover, send the person a nice note praising the story. Attach a brochure, fact sheet, or one of the program information sheets about FCCLA, available on the national website, for future use.



The media can position your chapter as a vital community resource. But don't limit your media outreach to planned events. Be proactive. Get to know reporters and media professionals who are interested in your chapter activities and suggest stories to them throughout the year. This helps you elevate the importance of volunteer action! As you develop relationships with media members, make sure they realize that you can be a valuable resource on many community concerns. The more recognizable FCCLA and your chapter names are, the more likely media representatives are to respond to your story ideas.

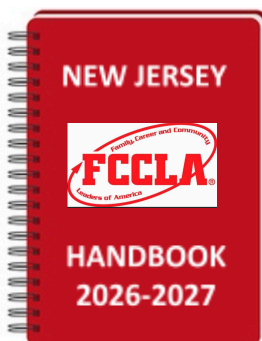
WHAT TYPES OF MEDIA SHOULD MY CHAPTER CONCENTRATE ON?

There are many ways to involve the media in your public relations campaign. Some examples are:

- Submit an article for your school newspaper
- Create a chapter website
- Use social media websites
- Submit a press release to a local newspaper
- Contact the local access cable station to do a story on your chapter



COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN NJ FCCLA



At the heart of every outstanding organization is a solid communication plan among its members. The most effective communication tools used ensure that all members are clear on policies and procedures, provide detailed information on upcoming events and deadlines, and provide helpful resource information. One of NJ FCCLA's most useful communication tools for its members is the NJ FCCLA Handbook. Now, it's conveniently available online with embedded hyperlinks making resource information always available and at all members' fingertips!

<https://www.njfccla.org/chapter-handbook>

FCCLA WEEK**FEBRUARY IS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH:**

Each year, FCCLA joins the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) and the entire CTE community to celebrate CTE Month! During the month of February, ACTE encourages everyone to explore and learn the amazing accomplishments, achievements and contributions of career and technical education (CTE) professionals, students and alumni with the theme "Opportunities for Career Success."

FCCLA WEEK – FEBRUARY 8 - 12:

Mark your calendars now for February 8-12, 2026 and prepare for FCCLA Week "Incredible" by participating in a fun-filled week of celebrating FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences education. Whether you're currently in the classroom or learning from home, every day of FCCLA Week has a unique theme and an opportunity for your chapter to create a customizable experience for each student and supporter!

FEBRUARY 2027						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Presidents' Day	16	17	18	19 Full Moon	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Utilize the resources to get the most out of your chapter and classroom's FCCLA Week participation. When downloading the social media graphics, be sure to click 'File' and then 'Copy' so you can create your own posts. Don't forget to use #fcclaweek and tag @NationalFCCLA when posting on social media for a chance to be reposted by National FCCLA and included in the 2027 FCCLA Week in review video.

FCCLA WEEK – WEEKLY CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

- Have a chapter potluck or have lunch together in-person or virtually!
- Go on the morning announcements and share why FCCLA and FCS education is important
- Create a video of your chapter and share with the school about the importance of FCS education and post it on social media.
- Have a spirit day with everyone wearing their favorite FCCLA gear either in-person or virtually!
- Play FCCLA Bingo with your class!
- Encourage your students to interact with @NationalFCCLA social media stories throughout the week.
- Print Beyond Measure graphic and write in an adjective that describes how you've gone beyond measure this year and take a photo!
- Participate in the FCCLA "What's Your Why" social media campaign. Record a video of your "why" and help inspire others who may be wondering why they should participate in FCCLA this year.
- Use FCCLA Week Lesson Plan
- Share the FCCLA Press Release



FCCLA WEEK – DAILY SOCIAL MEDIA CHALLENGES & ACTIVITIES

- Monday is "FCCLA Member Monday"
 - Launch FCCLA week by showcasing your chapter members and what FCCLA means to you!
- Tuesday is "FCCLA Day of Service"
 - Serving your community with leadership skills and a stellar attitude is the foundation of FCCLA. Share who your influences are and how you've influenced others through your acts of service.
- Wednesday is "FCS Educator Day"
 - Celebrate Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Educator Day by thanking the educators in your life and showing appreciation for everything they taught you and your chapter.
- Thursday is "Alumni Day"
 - Share with others how FCCLA (or FHA/HERO) has allowed you to sharpen your skills for your future careers as well as your independent adult life.
- Friday is "FCCLA Spirit Day"
 - Show off your FCCLA spirit! Rock the red and fill your day with red clothing, signs, food, decorations & more!

RESOURCES

PUBLICATIONS:

The **New Directions Newsletter** is the official NJ FCCLA state electronic publication. It is published three times a year and can be found on the state website. The newsletter is designed to keep members and advisers up to date with FCCLA events in both the state and national arenas. The newsletter also features articles of interest to teens. The NJ FCCLA Vice President of Public Relations is the editor of the newsletter and welcomes articles from members and advisers. Contact the state headquarters to submit newsworthy articles.

WEBSITES:

National FCCLA website: www.fcclainc.org

The website for the national organization can provide in-depth descriptions about each facet of the organization.

New Jersey State website: www.njfccla.org

The website for the NJ state organization is changed often and has a tremendous amount of information.

NEW JERSEY FCCLA HEADQUARTERS:

The State Office for New Jersey is located at John P. Stevens High School in Edison. Although the tentative office hours are Monday through Friday, 12pm-5pm, please do not hesitate to e-mail the state director if you have any questions. (We will do our best to address your question remotely when the office is closed. Please don't forget to include your contact phone # in your email.)

The State Headquarters contact information is as follows:

Stacey Dworzanski, NJ State Director and Patricia DiGioia-Laird, NJ State Adviser

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