



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

Maryland Agriculture Teachers/FFA Advisors
From: Terrie Shank, MD FFA Executive Director, Naomi Knight, MD FFA Program Coordinator
RE: National FFA Convention Information
Date: September 1, 2019

It's time for Maryland FFA members to represent our State at the 92nd National FFA Convention to be held, October 27- November 2, 2019 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Key Information

***Convention Registration has changed.** The National FFA Registration portal will open on September 10th at 6pm. FFA Advisors must go on line to the National FFA Convention portal to register their students, chaperone and themselves for the convention. This includes participation in CDE, tickets for award functions, special entertainment, convention registration buttons, career success tours, parking permits for cars and buses. **Registration ID badges will be issued to all participants at the convention and will be required to enter the venues including the sessions, concerts, rodeo and other event.**

*Tickets for the concerts and rodeo will be available through Ticket Master again this year. To access the private event site, you must have your convention registration confirmation number and will only be able to purchase tickets for the same number of individuals you have registered for the convention.

*Travel- Each chapter must provide their own transportation to the convention center, hotel and the airport. There will be a charter bus traveling from Maryland provided by Atlantic Coast Charters, 16126 Business Parkway, Hagerstown, MD 21740. The cost to ride the bus will be \$130/person from Central Maryland and \$150 from Chesapeake College/Eastern Shore. You must indicate on the registration form if you and your students wish to ride the bus. The bus schedule will be determined once those riding the bus have been identified.

*State Photo: The state photo will be taken on Friday, October 31st at 10:45 am in Lucas Oil Stadium. FFA members are expected to be in official dress unless they are coming directly from their CDE event in which other attire is required. The cost for the photo is \$15 and can be purchased by Chapters at the convention photo booth.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Our room block includes rooms with a check-in Tuesday 10/29/19 and a check out Saturday 11/2/19. It is now full. Rooms in the housing block are not available on Monday or Saturday nights, so plan your travel accordingly. Payment is to be made directly to the hotel prior to your stay. General convention housing is still available through the website and you must reserve housing for your students and adults on the ffa.org website under the convention housing link.

The Maryland housing block is in the: Courtyard by Marriott
 Capitol Indianapolis Hotel
 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

CDE WAIVERS

National FFA requires a CDE waiver be completed for each participant in a career event. This waiver will be sent electronically to the CDE/LDE participants once they are declared on their CDE team. Special Needs accommodations for students in competitive events were due to National FFA by August 15th.

All CDE waivers must be submitted on line by October 1st.

Keep in mind that members should plan on bringing spending money to cover their meals, personal expenses and souvenirs while traveling to, from and during the convention.

FFA Member/Advisor Attire:

FFA Official Dress: members are expected to wear FFA Official Dress as outlined in the official FFA manual and on the National FFA website throughout the convention. Convention sessions, tours and time at the career show are not considered casual time.

Casual FFA Dress: FFA Shirt, Jeans, Sneakers / closed shoes are appropriate for the concerts, rodeo and at the hotel.

Advisors and chaperones are expected to dress in business attire during the convention including team orientations, team photos, award programs and events. It is imperative that advisors, chaperones and students keep in mind that their dress/clothing is a reflection on the organization.

The National FFA Board of Directors expects FFA Advisors to ensure ALL FFA members who attend the National FFA Convention follow the standards of official dress as outlined in current Official Manual.

REGISTRATION

To Register your Chapter with the Maryland FFA Association ***to ride the bus:***

- a. Open the excel sheet attached to this email, enable it,
- b. Fill in your Chapter Name
- c. Add the names of those riding the bus and indicate student or adult.
- d. Be sure to add yourself as the advisor(s) attending and any chaperones as well.
- e. Save the excel sheet with your chapter name and National Convention on your desktop. When it is completed and saved log onto <https://mdcte.wufoo.com/forms/maryland-ffa-registration/>
- f. Go into the wufoo.com account listed above and upload/attach the excel sheet to the site and submit it.
- g. The program will then send a confirmation report back to you and to MD FFA Association.
- h. An invoice will be sent directly to you once you have registered.
- i. Registration for riding the bus will close on September 10, 2019 at 5 p.m.

Receipt of Confirmation obligates you for the entire cost of riding the bus.

Checks are to be made payable to: MD FFA Association, Inc.

Send all correspondence to: Terrie Shank, tshank@maefonline.com

MD FFA Association, Inc.

925 North East Street

Frederick, MD 21701

Fax: 301-663-4305