



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

Maryland Agriculture Teachers/FFA Advisors
From: Terrie Shank, MD FFA Executive Director, Naomi Knight, MD FFA Program Coordinator
RE: 2021 National FFA Convention Information
Date: July 15, 2021 Updated August 4, 2021

It is time for Maryland FFA members to represent our State at the 94th National FFA Convention to be held, October 26- October 30, 2021 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

KEY INFORMATION TO KNOW AS YOU PLAN TO ATTEND...

*Accommodations:

Maryland State Housing block will only be available from July 14th at 6:00 p.m. through September 8th at 5:00 p.m. You must access the housing information through this link: <https://book.passkey.com/go/2021MDState>

Our room block includes rooms with a check-in Tuesday 10/26/21 and a check out Saturday 10/30/21.

Rooms in the housing block are not available on Monday or Saturday nights, so plan your travel accordingly. The rooms are either a Standard Double or a King with a Pullout Sofa. Both types of rooms will house up to four people. You, as the Advisor, will make the room assignments. The cost of the room is \$189.00 per night plus 17% taxes and fees. **Total cost per room per night is \$222.00.** This is only \$6.00 more than the cost in 2019. Payment is to be made directly to the hotel prior to your stay.

The Maryland State Housing block is in the: Courtyard by Marriott Capitol Indianapolis Hotel
320 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

If you choose not to register through the Maryland State Housing block, general convention housing will be available through the ffa.org convention website starting August 1st, 2021.

*CDE/LDE WAIVERS

National FFA requires a CDE/LDE waiver and Integrity statement to be completed for each participant in a career or leadership development event. This waiver will be sent electronically to the CDE/LDE participants prior to their participation in the event. Special Needs accommodations for students in competitive events were due to National FFA by July 1st. **All waivers must be submitted online prior to the start of the virtual portion of the CDE/LDE .**

*FFA Member/Advisor Attire:

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.

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.

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

*Travel-

Each chapter is responsible for their own transportation to and from the convention.

There will be a charter bus offered for traveling from Maryland. It will be through Atlantic Coast Charters.

The cost to ride the bus will be \$150/person. To obtain seats for you and your students on the bus, you must complete the State Bus Request form and submit it through the Maryland FFA Wufoo link by **September 1, 2021.**

Please understand that we must have a full bus to provide the charter. The bus schedule will be determined once those riding the bus have been identified.

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.
- f. When it is completed and saved log onto <https://mdcte.wufoo.com/forms/maryland-ffa-registration/>
- g. Go into the wufoo.com account listed above and upload/attach the excel sheet to the site and submit it.
- h. The program will then send a confirmation report back to you and to MD FFA Association.
- i. An invoice will be sent directly to you once you have registered.
- j. **Registration for riding the bus will close on September 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**

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

*Convention Registration

The National FFA Registration portal will open on September 15th at 6pm and closes October 4th. FFA Advisors must go online to the National FFA Convention portal to register their students, chaperone and themselves for the convention. **The cost of registration per person is \$70 if in a housing block. Individuals staying outside of the housing blocks will be charged \$90/person for full registration.** 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 events.

*Tickets for the concert and rodeo

Tickets for the concert and rodeo will be available through Ticketmaster 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.

*State Photos:

There will be no organized State Photos taken this year. There will be many photo sites available throughout the convention complex for Chapters to take group pictures.