



MARYLAND FFA ASSOCIATION, INC

P.O. Box #564
29 Frederick Road #564
Funkstown, MD 21734-0564
301-491-5686

To: Maryland Agriculture Teachers/FFA Advisors
From Terrie Shank, FFA Executive Director/Naomi Knight, FFA Program Coordinator
RE: Maryland FFA State Convention Registration
Date: April 15, 2024

The Maryland FFA State Officer team and State Staff invite all members of the Maryland FFA and Advisors to attend the 96th Maryland FFA State Convention. The convention will be held Monday, June 24 through Wednesday, June 26, 2024, on the campus of Garrett College and the WISP Resort in McHenry, Maryland.

There are many career and leadership development events, student and advisor workshops, agribusiness tours and inspirational speakers lined up to assist our students and guest to be “Fearless” in demonstrating their passion for agriculture and the Maryland FFA. We are excited to have our National FFA President, Amara Jackson from Michigan joining us for the convention.

Our students, Advisors and guests will be housed at the WISP Resort, 296 Marsh Hill Road, McHenry, Maryland 21541. Breakfast and dinner will be served at the WISP Resort in the McHenry Lodge for those who have full convention registrations. Guests may purchase tickets for dinner at a cost of \$25.00 per person The link to purchase dinner tickets: <https://form.jotform.com/240656124075150>.

- Student quad room for 2 nights (6/24 & 6/25 with all meals) will be \$325.
- Student quad room for 3 nights (6/23-6/25) will be \$380 which includes breakfast on Monday morning and all meals during the convention.
- Student triple rooms for 2 nights (6/24-6/25 with all meals) will be \$350.
- Student triple rooms for 3 nights (6/23-6/25 with all meals including Monday breakfast) are \$415.
- Adult Single rooms are \$550 for 2 nights (6/24- 6/25 with all meals) and \$715 for three nights, (6/23-6/25 and breakfast on Monday).
- Adult double rooms will be \$400 for 2 nights (6/24- 6/25 with all meals) and for 3 nights (6/23-6/25 with breakfast on Monday morning) will be \$490.

On-site check-in and registration will be held in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center on the campus of Garrett College. Shuttle buses will be available to transport participants to and from the WISP Resort and Garrett College on Monday and Tuesday from 8:30-10 am; 3-5 pm.



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Daily lunches will be available at Garrett College in Building #950, Gymnasium, for those with convention registration and those registered as a daily commuter.

Single day commuter rates are \$80/day for Monday and Tuesday which includes convention activities, lunch and dinner each day. **Breakfast is not provided as a part of the commuter rate.** **Convention shirts are not included in the commuter rate.** There is no charge for commuters on Wednesday as there are no meals provided that day.

Career and Leadership development events will begin on Monday morning at 10:00 am. The cost of each event will be \$10/individual and/or \$40/team. Events will be held in the classroom buildings on the Garrett College campus, 687 Mosser Road, McHenry, MD 21541. Parking will be available in the lots on the college campus at no additional cost. All buildings are one level and handicapped accessible. Buses are to park in Parking Lot B.

The opening session will begin on Monday evening, June 24th in the McHenry Lodge at the WISP Resort. There will be a second session on Tuesday night and the final session on Wednesday morning. Interested parents and family members are more than welcome to join us during the sessions at no cost.

Each chapter should designate two members to serve as voting delegates to attend the delegate meetings on Monday and Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday morning. Their attendance is also expected during the general convention sessions.

The Maryland FFA Foundation is again sponsoring one first year member from each region to attend the State Convention through the Star Greenhand program. Applications are due to Terrie Shank by May 15, 2024, and can be found on the Maryland FFA website under the Awards tab. Here is the link to the application and scoring rubric https://mdffa.org/awards/star_award. The Advisors of the Regional Stars will be notified prior to the convention and the Chapter will receive a check from the Maryland FFA Foundation, upon the member participation in the award ceremony at the Convention on Monday, June 24, 2024.



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Be sure to register students for a CDE/LDE or workshop in each time frame. Students not registered for a CDE/LDE are expected to participate in one of the workshops provided. A schedule for the convention events is included in the Blue Panda Registration packet.

Chapter Registration must be submitted online via the Blue Panda Registration system by Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Payment in full is due by Saturday, June 15, 2024.

The following CDE/LDE materials must be mailed postmarked or emailed by Wednesday, May 15, 2024, to Maryland FFA Attn: Terrie Shank, P.O. Box 564, Funkstown, Maryland 21734

- Junior and Senior Prepared Public Speaking Manuscripts
- Portfolios/Plans for Agriculture Issues, Agriculture Communications, Marketing Plan events.
- National Chapter Award Application for National recognition.

Student Special Needs Request form for support and accommodation and a copy of the IEP are also due by May 15th.

Students registered to participate in the Employment Skills LDE will receive a separate communication with the due date to submit materials, access to complete the online application.

Should you have any questions about the registration process, please contact Naomi Knight, MD FFA Program Coordinator at nknight@maefonline.com

We look forward to hosting the members, advisors, and supporters of the Maryland FFA Association in Garrett County June 24-26, 2024.

Maryland FFA State Officer Team and State Staff