



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 1, 2025

The Maryland FFA State Officer team and State Staff invite all members of the Maryland FFA and Advisors to attend the 97th Maryland FFA State Convention. The convention will be held Monday, June 23 through Wednesday, June 25, 2025, on the campus of Garrett College, Garrett County Fairgrounds 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 "FIRED UP" in demonstrating their leadership skills, passions for agriculture and the Maryland FFA. We are excited to have our National FFA Western Region Vice-President, Abigale Jacobsen from California, 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, lunch on Wednesday, and dinner each night will be served at the WISP Resort in McHenry Lodge for those who have full convention registrations. Guests may purchase tickets for evening dinners at a cost of \$30.00 per person.

- **Student quad** room for **2 nights** (6/23 & 6/24 with all meals) = **\$345.**
- **Student quad** room for **3 nights** (6/22-6/24 w/all meals & Monday breakfast) = **\$405**
- **Student triple** rooms for **2 nights** (6/23-6/24 w/all meals) = **\$370.**
- **Student triple** rooms for **3 nights** (6/22-6/24 w/all meals & Monday breakfast)= **\$440.**

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- **Adult double** rooms for **2 nights** (6/23- 6/24 w/all meals) = **\$420;**
3 nights (6/22-6/24 w/breakfast on Monday) = **\$515.**
 - **Adult Single** rooms for **2 nights** (6/23- 6/24 w/all meals)= **\$570;**
3 nights (6/22-6/24 w/breakfast on Monday) = **\$740.**



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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.

Daily lunches will be available at Garrett College in Building #950, Gymnasium, for those with convention registration and those registered as a daily commuter. The full convention commuter rate is \$180 which includes three lunches, two dinners plus a convention shirt. The Single day commuter rate is \$85/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 single day commuter rate.** There is a charge of \$20 for commuters on Wednesday to cover the cost of the lunch.

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. The Animal Science events will be held at the Garrett County Fairgrounds, and the Forestry CDE will be held at Deep Creek Lake Park. Parking will be available in lots on the college campus and at the fairgrounds at no additional cost. All buildings are one level and handicapped accessible. The general convention sessions will begin on Monday evening, June 23rd in McHenry Lodge at the WISP Resort. There will be a second session on Tuesday night and the final two sessions on Wednesday concluding by 3:00 p.m. 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, 2025, 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



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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 23rd, 2025.

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 Tuesday, April 29, 2025**. Payment in full is due by Sunday, June 15, 2025.

The following **CDE/LDE materials must be mailed postmarked or emailed by Thursday, May 15, 2025**, to Maryland FFA Attn: Terrie Shank, P.O. Box 564, Funkstown, Maryland 21734

- **Manuscripts** for Junior and Senior Prepared Public Speaking.
- **Portfolios/Plans** for: Agri. Issues, Agri. Communications, Marketing Plan events.
- **National Chapter Award Application** for National Recognition.

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

Students registered to compete in the Employment Skills LDE will receive separate email with the due date to submit materials, and instructions 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 23-25, 2025.

Abby, Ella, Scarlett, William, Katelyn and Mia, Maryland FFA State Officer Team