



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: January 20, 2026

The Maryland FFA State Officer team and State Staff invite all members of the Maryland FFA and Advisors to attend the 98th Maryland FFA State Convention. The convention will be held Tuesday, June 23 through Thursday, June 25, 2026, on the campus of Garrett College, Garrett County Fairgrounds and the WISP Resort in McHenry, Maryland. Our theme this year is “UNWRITTEN”. The State Officer team has been assisting members to write their leadership stories. During the Convention, there are many career and leadership development events, student and advisor workshops, agribusiness tours and inspirational speakers lined up to assist our students and guests to continue to write their story and demonstrate their leadership skills, passions for agriculture and the Maryland FFA. We are excited to welcome our National FFA President, Trey Myers from Oklahoma to our convention.

Our students, Advisors and guests will be housed at the WISP Resort, 296 Marsh Hill Road, McHenry, Maryland 21541. Breakfast, lunch on Thursday and dinner each night will be served at the WISP Resort in the McHenry Lodge for those who have full convention registrations. Guests may purchase tickets for evening dinners at a cost of \$30.00 per person through a separate link.

- Student quad room for 2 nights (6/23 & 6/24 with all meals) will be \$350.
- Student quad room for 3 nights (6/22-6/24) will be \$410 which includes breakfast on Tuesday morning and all meals during the convention.
- Student triple rooms for 2 nights (6/23-6/24 with all meals) will be \$375.
- Student triple rooms for 3 nights (6/22-6/24 with all meals including Tuesday breakfast) are \$445.
- Student or Adult Double rooms will be \$425 for 2 nights (6/23- 6/24 with all meals) and for 3 nights (6/22-6/24 with breakfast on Tuesday morning) will be \$520.



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- Adult Single rooms are \$575 for 2 nights (6/23- 6/24 with all meals) and \$745 for three nights, (6/22-6/24 and breakfast on Tuesday).

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 Tuesday and Wednesday.

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 \$200 which includes three lunches, two dinners plus a convention shirt.

Career and Leadership development events will begin on Tuesday 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 Tuesday evening, June 23rd in McHenry Lodge at the WISP Resort. There will be a second session on Wednesday night and the final two sessions on Thursday, 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 Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and Thursday 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 April 20, 2026, 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



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receive a check from the Maryland FFA Foundation, upon the member participation in the award ceremony at the Convention on Tuesday, June 23, 2026.

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/tours 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 Thursday, April 30, 2026. Payment in full is due by Monday, June 15, 2026.

The following CDE/LDE materials must be mailed postmarked or emailed by Friday, May 15, 2026, 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.

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

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

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 in Garrett County June 23-25, 2026.

Hailey, Connor, Sam, Kaitlynn, Katlyn and Lilly

Maryland FFA State Officer Team and State Staff