



**NEW JERSEY**  
**FFA ASSOCIATION**

New Jersey Department of Agriculture  
Office of Agricultural Education  
369 South Warren Street  
P.O. Box 330  
Trenton, NJ 08625

1-877-AgEdFFA (243-3332)  
609-633-2421 (fax)  
[jerseyageducation.nj.gov](http://jerseyageducation.nj.gov)

*In cooperation with New Jersey Department of Education*

## MEMO

September 1, 2017

To: 90<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention & Expo Attendees

From: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Specialist

Re: 90<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention & Expo Details

The 90<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention & Expo will be held in Indianapolis, IN from October 25 – October 28, 2017. Advisor planning information is available online to help you prepare for this event. This memo highlights several items you should be aware of regarding the convention. Information is also available at <https://www.ffa.org/events/conventionandexpo> (you must login to gain access to all information). I encourage you to use this resource as you prepare for convention.

### **Participant Lists, Advisor Statement of Assurances, and Student Codes of Conduct**

If you have not submitted your Participant List, Student Codes of Conduct, and the Advisor Statement of Assurances, please submit them to the Office of Agricultural Education immediately. The Participant List can be found here: <https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/national-convention> and the Student Code of Conduct and Advisor Statement of Assurances can be accessed on the Ag Education Bulletin Board: [http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/ag\\_ed/bulletin/](http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/ag_ed/bulletin/). The Advisor Statement of Assurances and Student Codes of Conduct should be uploaded to your Participant List.

### **National FFA Convention & Expo New Jersey Room Block**

The New Jersey FFA delegation will be staying at the **Holiday Inn Airport AmeriPlex**, 8555 Stansted Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46241 (<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/indianapolis/indax/hoteldetail>) and the **Hampton Inn & Suites Indianapolis Airport**, 9020 Hatfield Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46231 (<http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/indiana/hampton-inn-and-suites-indianapolis-airport-INDARHX/index.html>). *\*Please note: the hotels will NOT have your information until October 1.* Please do not contact the hotel prior to October 1. **Room rate for the Holiday Inn Airport AmeriPlex and the Hampton Inn & Suites Indianapolis Airport per day \$161.00 (NOT including tax).** This amount will be due directly to the hotel upon arrival/departure from the hotel. ***You will need to contact the hotel to get the balance of your hotel expenses for the week, confirm your arrival and departure dates and identify any special room needs. DO NOT contact the hotel before October 1.***

### **Registration Fees (as per National FFA Organization)**

Early Bird Registration is available Wednesday, September 6 at 1:00 pm EDT through Monday, October 2, 2017. The following registration fees have been set for the 2017 National FFA Convention & Expo

**\$55** – for chapters that register before October 2 and use the housing block.

**\$70** – for chapters that register and are NOT staying within the National FFA Housing Block.

**\$80** – for all registrations after October 2, 2017

If you are not in the New Jersey Room Block, the

1 National FFA Chapter Housing Block has limited housing

available. To book housing in the National FFA housing block, log into [ffa.org](http://ffa.org) and click on the housing information under What's New in the Toolbox. Housing will close on September 20, 2017 at 5:00 pm EDT.

### **Courtesy Corps**

The National FFA Convention Courtesy Corps is a great way for FFA members to volunteer their time and go behind the scenes at convention. Members will assist convention staff in fulfilling responsibilities in many areas including career development events, proficiency awards, FFA newsroom and more. Find out more about what Courtesy Corps does at <https://www.ffa.org/events/convention/planning#courtesycorps>.

### **Registration for Convention**

Registration will open on September 6, 2017 at 1:00 pm EDT.

- a. You must have a [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org) account to register.
- b. More information regarding convention registration is available at <https://www.ffa.org/events/convention/advisors> (click "Registration" from the left-hand side menu)

Be sure to include housing and emergency contact information on your registration. Only concert, rodeo, parking and shuttle tickets will be shipped prior to convention.

### **New Jersey FFA Breakfast – RSVP by Wednesday, September 20, 2017**

The New Jersey FFA Breakfast will be held on **Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at the Hard Rock Café Indianapolis (49 South Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46204) from 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.** Breakfast will begin at 7:00 am. Please arrive promptly at 7:00 am, you may leave as your schedule permits, but it is important that you arrive by 7:00 am. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at <https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/NatConRSVP> with the number of attendees you will have at the breakfast and the approximate time of your arrival. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

### **State Suite**

A limited number of tickets for each session are available in the state suite. Please submit the form at <https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/NatConRSVP> by September 20 to request suite tickets. Tickets will be distributed on a first come first served basis. New Jersey's suite is in Bankers Life Field House Suite #37.

### **State Photo**

Information regarding New Jersey's State Photo will be communicated closer to the event.

### **State Booth – Hall of States**

The New Jersey FFA Association will have a booth in the Hall of States at the Career Show highlighting New Jersey agriculture. Allison Finn, State FFA Parliamentarian will be working with the Allentown FFA Chapter, the 1<sup>st</sup> place Hall of States team and Nicole Haralampoudis (Freehold FFA), National Convention Scholarship recipient in coordinating the booth.

We encourage chapter members to visit the booth during convention. Career show hours are:

- Wednesday, October 25- 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- Thursday, October 26 – 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Friday, October 27 – 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

### **Transportation and Parking**

Ground and air transportation arrangements should be made by individual chapters to meet your needs and to take full advantage of low cost travel and most convenient arrival and departure locations. An FFA member will not travel to the National Convention without his/her FFA advisor/chaperone, who is responsible for members at all times.

Parking passes for buses and personal vehicles can be purchased through online pre-registration only. Please contact your hotel for hotel parking information.

Additional parking information is available at <https://www.ffa.org/events/convention/advisors> (click on “Parking and Hotel Shuttles” in the left-hand side menu)

### **New Jersey State Housing Block Hotel Shuttle**

Hotel shuttle passes can be purchased through online pre-registration as well as on-site at registration located at the Indiana Convention Center, Hall K. Both hotels in the New Jersey State Housing Block are on the **Blue Route** and have boarding locations at the front entrance. Final shuttle schedules will be posted on October 7. Final schedule and route timing will depend on demand.

### **Indiana State Fairgrounds Shuttle**

A free shuttle between the Indiana Convention Center and the Indiana State Fairgrounds is provided for all registered convention and expo participants.

### **Career Development Events**

If there are any changes in the Career Development Event team registration, this must be done on the Online Add/Delete form through your [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org) account. The Online CDE team member add/delete form must be submitted by 12:00 NOON EDT on October 18 (Any add deletes after this deadline will be completed in person at the convention no later than one hour prior to the first official activities for the respective CDE). CDE Team Orientation Packets and Schedule of Events are available online - <https://www.ffa.org/participate/cdes> (click on respective event on the left hand side of this page). You should also receive a link to this information when you submit the online certification. CDE teams must be certified by September 15 by 5:00 pm EDT using the online certification connected to your [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org) account. Waivers must be sent directly to National FFA by October 1.

Refer to your team orientation packet for event locations including photos, award banquets, team meetings, etc.

### **Attire**

Official dress is required at all sessions for the 89<sup>th</sup> National Convention. It is important to maintain the professional, positive image that FFA has earned. Proper official dress lends members a unique identity. Refer to the Official FFA Manual for a complete description of official dress or go to [http://issuu.com/nationalffaorganization/docs/ffa\\_english\\_manual\\_2014\\_01-15-2015/23](http://issuu.com/nationalffaorganization/docs/ffa_english_manual_2014_01-15-2015/23).

Casual clothing needs to be selected for the trip with attention given to presenting the proper image for New Jersey FFA and the school district you are representing.

### **National FFA Day of Service**

Registration for National Days of Service is available through the convention online registration. Go to <https://www.ffa.org/events/convention/advisors> (click “National Days of Service” in the left-hand side menu) for more information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 877-AgEd FFA.



*The New Jersey FFA Association is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the state FFA constitution, bylaws or policies."*