



NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION

New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Office of Agricultural Education
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TO: New Jersey Teachers of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and FFA Members

FROM: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Specialist and State FFA Executive Board

CC: Nancy J. Trivette, State FFA Advisor

RE: Leadership Experience and Development (L.E.A.D.)

- Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT)
- Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC)
- State Greenhand Conference (SGC)

Friday, October 6, 2017 12:00 pm - Saturday, October 7, 2017, 4:30 pm (NEW END TIME)

LOCATION The Hotel ML in Mt. Laurel, NJ (*directions on last page*) **(NEW LOCATION)**

DATE: August 9, 2017

The 2017-2018 State FFA Executive Board is excited to announce – **Leadership Experience and Development (L.E.A.D.)**. L.E.A.D. is a three-conference experience meeting the needs of **ALL** FFA members!

The NJ FFA Association welcomes ALL FFA members to attend L.E.A.D. Here's how...



- **State Greenhand Conference (SGC):** All first-year FFA members in 7-10th grade **ONLY** are invited to attend State Greenhand Conference (SGC) where the State FFA Executive Committee will help participants discover FFA opportunities, plan for Supervised Agricultural Experience programs, develop relationship building skills, and develop career, personal and leadership goals. By the end of the conference,

participants will be awarded certificates of completion for meeting the requirements of the Greenhand FFA Degree.

- **360°:** Remaining FFA members (including chapter officers) are invited to attend 360° where the State FFA Officers will take them full circle through chapter leadership development. The theme for this year's conference is Influence. 360° will have two tracks – Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) and Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC).
 - **Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT):** Chapter FFA Officers are invited to participate in two additional workshops exclusive for chapter officers – Chapter Operations Challenge and POA Challenge. State Officers will facilitate these additional workshops and spend time bonding with the participants.
 - **Leadership and Opportunities Conference (LOC):** Members that are not chapter officers are invited to participate in two additional workshops exclusive for growing members. Past State FFA Officers will facilitate these additional workshops and help the members unLOCK the possibilities within the FFA.

In addition to enhancing leadership skills, FFA members will meet other members from New Jersey's 37 FFA Chapters and connect with the state officer team, the State FFA Executive Committee and New Jersey FFA Alumni. During COLT, advisors will play an integral role in working with the chapter officers to develop the POA activity goals and timeline. Advisor workshops and meetings are scheduled throughout the weekend.

CONFERENCE FEES

LEADERSHIP RESOURCES:	\$35.00
MEALS & Other INCIDENTALS:	\$80.00
TOTAL (without lodging):	\$115.00 – to be paid to “Treasurer, State of New Jersey”
LODGING (per room):	\$128.52 (inclusive of tax) – to be arranged/paid directly to The Hotel ML

The \$35 Leadership Resources fee covers conference materials. The \$80 Meals and Other Incidentals fee covers three meals (Friday Dinner, Saturday Breakfast, and Saturday Lunch), a 2017-2018 state theme t-shirt, conference room fees and other costs to run the conference. Lodging is separate and will depend on the number of rooms needed. **Please make lodging reservations DIRECTLY with the hotel NO LATER than September 15.** Failure to secure rooms by this date may result in the inability to secure lodging rooms and/or a higher room rate. Payment for lodging rooms MUST be made directly to the hotel. **To reserve rooms, please contact Nolan Cox at 856-802-3906. Please reference “Office of Agricultural Education/FFA” when contacting Nolan.** Participants can be roomed with up to four individuals per room. **Please submit your Participant List by Friday, September 15, 2017 by completing this form: <https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/LEAD>. PLEASE forward a check in the amount listed on your invoice to: TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY with “FFA LEAD” identified in the memo section prior to October 6. Payment for lodging rooms will need to be made directly to the hotel.** Chapters with Basic Affiliation will receive up to a \$140 discount on LEAD Leadership Resources. Chapters with Basic and Blue Affiliation will receive up to a \$280 discount on LEAD Leadership Resources. These discounts will be taken off on the electronic invoice.

IMPORTANT!

In addition to submitting a participant list, each student attending must submit the Student Code of Conduct Waiver PRIOR to the event. The Student Code of Conduct can be found in Participant Form (<https://form.jotform.us/NJFFA/LEAD>) and on the Ag Education Bulletin Board. You can print as many copies as you need. Advisors/Chaperones are required to complete the Advisor Statement of Assurances (found in the excel document).

The conference will begin with check-in at 12:00 pm Friday and end at approximately 4:30 pm on Saturday. **Official dress is required for the first session. It is recommended that your students arrive in official dress.**

IMPORTANT LEAD FACTS:

1. Conference sign-in is 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch is on your own.
2. LEAD will kick-off with a joint 360° and SGC session promptly at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. LEAD will conclude with a wrap-up session on Saturday. Dinner will NOT be served on Saturday night. Members and advisors must come and stay the entire time.
3. Workshops are designed for dynamic participation where every member will be engaged in discussion, activities and interaction.
4. One award for each conference will be presented to recognize leadership skills evident during the weekend. Award recipients will be recognized at the conclusion of each respective conference for their achievements.

Awards to be presented are as follows:

<u>Chapter Officer Leadership Training</u>	<u>Leadership and Opportunities Conference</u>	<u>State Greenhand Conference</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding Chapter Officer Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing Leader Award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding Greenhand Award

5. Official dress is required during the first session and up until dinner. When not in official dress, appropriate attire is required (NO flip flops). Please see the definition of causal and official dress below. Members will be asked to wear the State Theme t-shirt they receive on Saturday.
6. Every member and advisor needs to bring:
 - Toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc.)
 - FFA Manual (recent)
 - Pen/ Pencil
 - Official FFA Dress (see description of attire below)
 - Recreational clothing for team building challenge (appropriate footwear is mandatory - no flip flops)
 - Other personal items
 - Chapter POA – COLT participants only
 - One Computer/Tablet per chapter – COLT participants only

Note: There is no need for iPods, tablets, TVs, or other expensive electronic equipment (unless otherwise noted)
7. Friday night activities include a Halloween dance. Members are encouraged to bring a costume.
8. Teachers are responsible for their students at all times. No student should be in the hotel rooms during L.E.A.D. sessions.
9. Teachers will play an integral role in the conference and workshops will be provided.

DESCRIPTION of ATTIRE

Official Dress (OD):

- ✓ An official FFA jacket zipped to the top
- ✓ Black slacks and black socks or black skirt and hosiery
- ✓ White collared blouse or white collared shirt
- ✓ Official FFA tie or Official FFA scarf
- ✓ Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe
- ✓ Official garb of recognized religions may be worn with official dress

Business Casual (BC): Includes khakis type pants, and a polo or button down shirt. No jeans.

Casual Dress (CD): Includes everything except tank tops, halter-tops, extremely short shorts or short skirts and cut-offs. NO flip flops! Please use your best judgment. This is not a fashion show.

DIRECTIONS TO The Hotel ML

915 Route 73, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

Driving Directions

From the North using the Turnpike: NJ Turnpike South to Exit 4. Merge onto NJ-73 North. Destination will be on the right.

From the North using I-295: I-295 South to exit 36A. Merge onto NJ-73 South, Right onto Fellowship Road. Left onto NJ-73 North. Destination will be on the right.

From the South using the Turnpike: NJ Turnpike North to Exit 4. Merge onto NJ-73 North. Destination will be on the right.

From the South using I-295: I-295 South to exit 36A. Merge onto NJ-73 South, Right onto Fellowship Road. Left onto NJ-73 North. Destination will be on the right.

