



## Nebraska FCCLA No Campaigning Policy: A Guide for Candidates

To protect the process and integrity of elections for officers of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, the National and Nebraska Associations have very strict “no campaigning” policies. However, there is some confusion as to what this means and what it could look like in the process of elections.

### What is campaigning?

According to the Nebraska FCCLA Operational Policies (04.07), campaigning includes but is not limited to the following:

- Soliciting/asking for votes prior to or during the election/meeting
  - “Vote for me as your next...”
  - “I would appreciate the opportunity to lead...”
  - “Consider voting for someone who...”
- Distribution or posting of printed materials in support of a candidate or bearing candidates name including brochures or business cards prior to or during the election/meeting
- Use of electronic devices or social networking sites to show support of a candidate by the candidate themselves or their supporters prior to or during the election/meeting
- Advisers, parents, members and/or supporters requesting votes for the candidate prior to or during the election/meeting
- Passing out paraphernalia including state pins, etc. prior to or during the election/meeting
- Using statements of merit outside the speech setting including but not limited to
  - “As a chapter/district/national officer I have...”
  - “Thanks to my outstanding leadership in FCCLA...”

### What is not campaigning?

- Writing truthful statements about qualifications and experiences in a candidate’s application
- Speaking truthful statements about qualifications and experiences in a candidate’s interview or speech (Note: This is only okay in the interview and speech setting)
- Answering “Yes” when someone asks if you are a State Officer Candidate, however, this is where it would be prudent to redirect the conversation rather than be tempted to speak about your qualifications/goals/etc.

### What if campaigning takes place?

If a member or adviser feels that a candidate has violated this policy, such violation must be reported, in writing, the appropriate adult staff personnel. A committee will be appointed to investigate the allegation. Alleged violations must be reported prior to the close of the voting process. If the review committee determines the candidate or his/her supporters have violated this policy, that candidate will be disqualified from the election. The decision of the review committee is final.

### Who do I ask if I have questions?

Questions about this policy should be directed to the Nebraska FCCLA State Adviser, Kristin Vest at 402-471-4814 or by email at [kristin.vest@nebraska.gov](mailto:kristin.vest@nebraska.gov).