

Nebraska FCCLA Red Leader

FCCLA®



Running for an FCCLA Office

By Sophia Birch, Vice President of Development

Winter is fast approaching, which means holidays, hot cocoa, and...FCCLA Office? That's right - deadlines for FCCLA Office are coming up soon, meaning that this is the perfect time to consider running for an FCCLA leadership position at the Chapter, District, State or even National Level!

There are so many reasons to run for office in FCCLA. Leadership positions of any level are wonderful opportunities to learn about your strengths and weaknesses, as essay questions on applications and interviews often ask about them. Additionally, running for a leadership office may inspire you to read books or guides about leadership and self-improvement. Leadership also helps you grow as a person. Much of FCCLA is about learning to work with others and leaving your comfort zone. Plus, FCCLA Officers have many opportunities to improve their organization and public speaking skills. Finally, FCCLA leadership looks great on a resume: colleges, employers, and internships respect people who have the drive to seek leadership roles.

Nebraska FCCLA offers leadership opportunities at the Chapter, District, and State Level. Chapter Office involves only you and your chapter. Chapter Officers typically lead local meetings and initiatives. The next level of leadership is District Office. District Officers coordinate their District Leadership Conference and work on programs within their district. State level leadership is composed of two teams: the State Peer Officer Team and the State Officer Team. The State Peer Officer Team (known as SPOT) is a leadership team that is unique to Nebraska and just a few other states. SPOT promotes National Programs, presents at District Leadership Conferences, and runs the Peer Education Conference in February. SPOT is a great introduction to state-level leadership and opens doors down the road. The highest level of leadership at the state level is the State Officer Team, a group of eight officers that create programs and initiatives for Nebraska FCCLA as a whole. The State Officer Team conducts chapter visits, presents at conferences, and runs both Fall Leadership Workshop and State Leadership Conference. The National FCCLA Association also offers an opportunity to run for the National Executive Council, the highest leadership position available to FCCLA members. The NEC creates programs for the entirety of FCCLA and leads all national conferences. If you are passionate about FCCLA and want to make a difference in this organization, these leadership opportunities may be for you!

One of the biggest questions I had when running for State Office was how the process worked. Chapter and District office candidacy procedures are different in each district, so be sure to ask your chapter adviser about your chapter's and district's policies. To run for the State Officer Team (SPOT is a little different), all candidates must first fill out an application. The next phase includes taking an FCCLA Knowledge Test (here's a link to some current study materials: https://quizlet.com/Sophia_A_Birch/folders/sot-study-materials?x=1xqt&i=is30z), then be interviewed by current State Officers, Board of Directors members, and other advisers. If they make the cut, candidates will present a short introduction at State Leadership Conference. Next, candidates participate in a team-building exercise, and finally give a 2-3 minute speech. If a candidate makes the team, they will be inducted into their office by the former State Officer Team at State Leadership Conference.

Leadership in FCCLA at any level is well worth the time and effort and helps to prepare members for adult life. Even if you think you're not up to the task, remember that there's no harm in applying. You might even discover a new passion for leadership along the way! So sip your hot cocoa and fill out some applications for leadership positions this winter!

November 2020

Inside this issue

Sailing Off with the Nebraska State Degree.....	2
Overton FCCLA	2
Competitive Family Fun for the Holidays.....	3
Maxwell FCCLA.....	3
Career Connection	4
Plainview FCCLA.....	4
Adviser, Chapter, & Member of the Month	4

COMING UP...

November

- 23 Commissioner's Virtual Recognition (invitation only)
- 30 Chapter Spotlight & Flash to the Past for December *Red Leader* due
- 30 December Adviser, Member, & Chapter of the Month nominations due

December

- 14 SPOT applications due to State Adviser
- 21 State Officer Team Hangout
- 31 Chapter Spotlight & Flash to the Past for January *Red Leader* due
- 31 January Adviser, Member, & Chapter of the Month nominations due



Sailing Off with the Nebraska FCCLA State Degree

By Alexis Richmond, President



The time has come, seniors! Between working on college and scholarship applications, keeping the grades up, and participating in extra-curricular activities, it might seem that there isn't a lot of time for other things. However, the FCCLA state degree should fall at the top of the list! Nebraska FCCLA is filled with a pool of talented seniors, and we want to recognize all the hard work you have done for our state association!

The State Degree portfolio focuses on four main areas: Personal Growth, Leadership Development, Promotion of FCS and Related Skills, and Involvement in FCCLA. It is focused on recognizing the well-rounded leaders within our organization. Besides having four overarching goals, the State Degree includes eight different portfolio categories. In each category, members have to complete a set number of tasks that show their participation in that arena throughout all their years as an FCCLA member. This will be shown by a compilation of explanations and pictures.

After completing the portfolio, members who advance, will take part in a presentation and interview. Members should be prepared to explain their portfolio more in-depth as well as answer questions about their experiences in and out of FCCLA. In order to receive the Nebraska FCCLA State Degree, members must score a 90 percent or higher on the presentation aspect.

The timeline of completing the State Degree program has been outlined by the state association. The initial review of the state portfolio is January 1st. This is an optional step, although I would highly recommend it! The firm due date for the portfolio is January 10th. After you turn your portfolio in, it will be reviewed by the Nebraska FCCLA Board of Directors. On February 1st, you will be notified if you have qualified for a presentation and interview, which will take place in late February.

More information on the State Degree can be found on the Nebraska FCCLA website. This is also where you will find both the portfolio and presentation rubrics, an example portfolio, and the evidence reports that need to be completed. I would recommend getting started NOW! If you aren't a senior, I would suggest taking a look at the aspects of the state degree because it requires work over the span of your FCCLA career; this will give you a great jump-start to earning the State Degree as a senior!

Seniors, continue your leadership and dedication and make sure to sail off with the FCCLA State Degree!



Chapter Spotlight: Overton FCCLA

Overton FCCLA volunteered to help clean up the gym after the October 20th home volleyball game. After each game a school organization helps the custodial staff and administration clean the gym. This project was started after our head evening custodian was diagnosed with cancer. Almost all of our FCCLA members showed up to help and we were done cleaning in no time.

Competitive Family Fun for the Holidays

By Samuel Coble, Vice President of Competitive Events

As the holiday season approaches we are all curious to see how our time old and aged traditions are going to look different. Maybe with the extra time you and your family find this holiday you can start some new traditions! Friendly competition could be something you engage in to help pass some empty time and create memories. Whether you enjoy hours of board games or the wild outdoor energy, here are three ideas for family fun this holiday season!



1. **Board Games.** Hold on, before you skip this section because you “don’t have time for these games” think about what else you’ll be spending time on; you’ll be staring at a rectangular screen. *Monopoly*, *The Game of Life*, *Connect 4*, and *Checkers* are all classics and will be sure to offer some laughs and friendly fights as you and your loved ones battle it out over dice and colored round coins. For a lazy snow day or Black Friday at home, these games would be a great way to get some quality time in with those closest to you!
2. **Backyard Sports.** Depending on the temperature outside, it might be a great opportunity to spend some final hours being active outdoors. If the sun is shining and Nebraska weather isn't having a crazy day, grab some of your younger family members and play a game of touch football, soccer or kickball. This may seem like a cheesy idea, and a waste of your time but the truth is, in a few years you’ll be off to college and this may be one of the last opportunities you have to create lasting memories with younger family members.
3. **Get a head start on STAR Events.** The short break in November and (hopefully) other long snow day weekends are a great chance to get some work done on your STAR Project. Be sure to find and dedicate time to work on your project and finish it in time to practice presenting before Districts!

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season, and remember to make some memories while we are all spending more time at home!



Chapter Spotlight: Maxwell FCCLA Honoring Veterans & First Responders

The Maxwell School FCCLA arranged a presentation from the press box during halftime of the football game. Chapter leader Jett Simpson talked about the importance of remembering September 11th and named local veterans and first responders who were in attendance at the game. The chapter also purchased American flags for the football team to wave as they ran onto the field while patriotic music played. “I think it’s a very prideful moment for our community to be able to honor those who have sacrificed everything for our country and our safety,” Simpson said.

National Program Highlight: Career Connection

By Cassidy June, Vice President of Programs



This month's National Program is Career Connection! Whether you are in 7th grade or senior this year, everyone has thought about what their options are for after high school. As a junior this year I still have some time, but graduation is getting scarily close. I

have had to debate back and forth what I wanted to do for college and for the rest of my life. And today I want to help you guys start navigating your many... many... many options! And then I'm going to tell you about the resources Career Connection offers and how you can use this month's National Program to help your peers explore more careers!

To begin a career search it's a simple process. Just grab a computer and start to research different career clusters. There are even some FCCLA Career Pathways, which are Human Services, Hospitality and Tourism, Education and Training, and Visual Arts and Design. While those may be a good place to start, you can look up whatever you want. Be sure to check out the job's requirements, traits that help employees survive in that area, and how the work/life balance would look for you. If a job will require a lot of hours but your main focus is on family, then maybe that job wouldn't be ideal for you.

Another way to prepare for your future career is by doing job shadows. The best way to do these is through job shadowing programs, like the Nebraska FCCLA Day in your Future Program! The deadline for this year is already closed, but you can also get ready to participate next year. Another great resource is to talk with your high school counselor about opportunities. When on a job shadow make sure to listen and ask questions, you want to make sure you get a good feel for what the career is like.

Outside of job shadows, you can also start to prepare for how you will get to that career. Will you need a bachelor's degree, experience, or a masters? Each career has its own qualifications so make sure to check all of those out. If you realize you need to go to college then it might be a good idea to start looking at schools. Most schools allow you to set up college visits online at their websites. Though some schools are only allowing virtual visits. If you are able to set up a College Visit I recommend getting a list of questions ready, for students and for adults. Also it might be a good idea to request an appointment with someone from the field of study you are interested in.

Through Career Connection you can find resources on the fclclainc.org website or on the nebraskafccla.org. Also you can encourage your classmates to get involved in career research. I recommend virtual career fairs! Remember any project you do for Career Connection can be turned in for recognition at the State Leadership Conference in April.



Apply for SPOT recognition through the Career Leader Team for your observation of November as Career Awareness Month! For more information visit: <http://www.nebraskafccla.org/programs/peer-education/>

Chapter Spotlight: Plainview FCCLA Annual Food Drive

Plainview FCCLA members held their Annual Food Pantry Drive on October 12th. Members selected different areas of town to pick-up non-perishable food items that were left outside front doors. Members spent the next hour masked-up and driving throughout Plainview collecting the food for our local Food Pantry, covering the neighborhoods several times. Members were excited to find out that they had collected a total of 195 items. Phone calls continued throughout the week to come pick up items as some households weren't home or forgot to put out items. By the end of the next week, an additional 100 items had been collected for the Food Pantry!



October Adviser of the Month: Miss Jenn Cramer, Kearney

Miss Cramer not only goes above and beyond to support her chapter officers in this different year, but she continues to provide opportunities for Community Service and fundraising opportunities for her entire chapter. Her positivity, consistently warm smile, and caring attitude have helped keep her chapter running smoothly this fall!

October Chapter of the Month: Howells-Dodge

The Howells-Dodge FCCLA chapter has been very busy this year! Participating in Virtual FLW and the District 5 Leadership Conference, hosting a 5K, working concession stands, recycling 1,302 lbs. of paper, conducting a seat belt survey, picking up trash on their adopted highway, and adopting “grandparents” within their community, these members sure are making a difference in their school and community!



October Member of the Month: Milli Ciprian, Kearney

Milli has gone above and beyond for her chapter this fall! Even with spending time in quarantine, she has led a Student Body committee and Community Service committee as well as hosting socials and completing National Programs for her chapter.

Nebraska FCCLA

Nebraska Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic student organization which holds the family as its central focus. We promote leadership and service in the family, career, school and community and help members improve themselves and the world in which they live.

FCCLA is a national Career and Technical Student Organization that provides personal growth, leadership development and career preparation opportunities for students in Family and Consumer Sciences education.



Nebraska FCCLA

Chelsey Greene, State Adviser
chelsey.greene@nebraska.gov
402-471-4337

Kristin Vest, FCS Career Field Specialist
kristin.vest@nebraska.gov
402-471-4814

PO Box 95167
Lincoln, NE 68509



NEBRASKA
STATE ASSOCIATION