



# Alaska FFA State Association

## Constitution

Palmer, AK 99645

9/12/22

# **Constitution of the Alaska State FFA Association**

*A chartered association of the  
National FFA Organization  
Revised Sept. 2022*

## **Article I Name**

The name of this chartered association of the National FFA Organization shall be the Alaska State FFA Association. Recognized chapters and members of the Alaska State FFA Association may officially use the letters "FFA" and/or the words 'Future Farmers of America' to designate the organization, the association, the chapters and members.

## **Article II Activities and Objectives of this Association**

The objectives of this association shall be consistent with Section 3 of the organization's charter, Public Law 81-740. The association shall cooperate with national state governing agencies and officials for vocational education in accomplishing the following objectives:

1. To be an integral part of organized instructional programs in agricultural and natural resources education which prepare students for a wide range of careers in agricultural, agribusiness natural resources, marine fisheries and other agricultural related occupations as qualify for assistance under federal vocational occupational education legislation.
2. To strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and in their work by developing desirable work habits and the effective usage of their time; and by learning to assume responsibility, and by developing competencies in communications, human relations, and social abilities leading to the viable choice of career and successful employment or enterprise in the agricultural industry.
3. To provide agricultural and natural resources related programs and activities which will develop pride, leadership, character, scholarship, citizenship, patriotism, thrift, such that shall improve the economic, environmental, recreational, and human resources of the community.
4. To encourage and recognize achievement in supervised agricultural and natural resource experience programs, scholarship, leadership and other individual and group activities by pro awards to deserving members and chapters.

## **Article III Organization**

### **Section A**

The Alaska State FFA Association is the organization of, by, and for students enrolled in agriculture and/or natural resources education programs. It shall consist of not less than four chartered by this association and having a total active membership of not less than 125 members. In the event that this state association falls below the 125 members and chapters, it may remain as a chartered state association of the National FFA Organization. More than one chapter may be chartered in a school when deemed appropriate by the state's governing body.

## **Section B**

The governing bodies of the Alaska State FFA Association shall consist of the state officers, state advisor/director, executive secretary and other state staff, Alaska Association of Agriculture and Natural Resource Educators (AAANRE), and Alaska FFA State Board of Directors. These governing bodies shall have the responsibilities as they are laid out in the subsections listed here:

1. State Officers: To act as student leaders in representing and conducting the business of Alaska FFA, and other duties as described in the state officer application.
2. State Advisor/Director: To be the key person responsible for the development and direction of Alaska FFA Association; and other duties as described in job description.
3. Executive Secretary and other state staff (when available): To assist in the day-to-day operations of the Alaska FFA Association, including but not limited to: assisting in all duties held by the state advisor/director; and correspondence with chapters; and chapter development and support; and development of the annual budget plan; and fundraising and building partnerships with sponsors; and state convention planning and execution; and etc.
4. Alaska Association of Agriculture and Natural Resource Educators (AAANRE): To provide a vehicle by which Alaska FFA Chapter advisors may exchange ideas, information, and create a united voice representing the interests of local chapters and students to the Board of Directors, State Advisor/Director, and state staff. This organization shall elect a chair and a secretary by whatever means they deem fit. They shall also nominate an individual to serve on the state FFA Board of Directors to represent the will of the AAANRE. This individual may already hold an office in the AAANRE.
5. Alaska FFA State Board of Directors: To provide budgetary oversight and final approval of the annual budget plan as laid out by the state advisor/director; provide effective communication between various organizations; establish public information efforts on behalf of the AAANRE/Alaska FFA; and to provide input, deliberation, and approval of major decisions that affect the operations of Alaska FFA and/or its membership. The Alaska FFA Board of Directors shall heed the counsel of the Alaska FFA Advisor/Director and, as appropriate, allow the state advisor/director leeway to use their best judgment to guide and develop the state association. The Alaska FFA Board of Directors will be responsible for providing an annual evaluation of the Alaska State FFA Advisor/Director and recommendations to the Alaska Division of Agriculture.

## **Section C**

1. The Alaska FFA Board of Directors shall be composed of the following:
  - a. Current FFA State President (1-year term)
  - b. Current FFA State Advisor/Executive Secretary and other state staff will serve as ex-officio members
  - d. Two representatives involved in Career and Technical Education (2-year term)
  - e. Two representatives from the Natural Resource Industry, Ag Industry, or Business (3-year term)
  - f. Current FFA Alumni Coordinator or State FFA Foundation
  - g. A Representative from the Alaska Association of Agriculture and Natural Resource Educators (AAANRE) (2-year term)
2. The Board of Directors will have, amongst other duties, final approval power over the Alaska FFA State Budget plan, responsibility to review on an annual basis the performance of the Alaska FFA State Advisor/Director, and assist the advisor/director as requested. The Board of Directors shall elect a chair and a secretary/treasurer, and any voting member will be eligible to serve in those positions. The Board of Directors will have the authority to approve any board appointments as vacancies occur based on recommendations from AAANRE and current board members. The Board of Directors shall receive no monetary compensation for their services. but will receive free FFA Alumni annual membership during their service and access to any and all FFA events. No more than two members serving on the board can be from the same family.

## **Section D**

Chapters of the Alaska State FFA Association shall be chartered in schools where recognized systematic instruction in agriculturally related education offered under the provisions of the federal vocational education legislation; and schools that have students pursuing career pathways in agricultural and natural resources pathways as outlined by the State of Alaska department of education with systematic instruction and advisement to accomplish a career path; and school programs, such as charter school, home schools, and correspondence programs that offer agriculture and natural resource education programs. All chapters in the State of Alaska shall operate as an integral part of the instructional program of agricultural and natural resources education.

#### **Section E**

1. Schools with large enrollments and/or multiple programs in agricultural related education may establish subsidiary chapters of the parent chapter. Each subsidiary chapter shall be organized and operated in accordance with all the provisions of the national, state and local constitutions. The officers and advisors of the parent chapter shall coordinate subsidiary chapters.
2. Students enrolled in agricultural and natural resources education may meet at state convention, adopt a constitution which shall not conflict with that of the state association or national organization, elect officers, develop a program of activities, and apply to the state association for a charter. Upon receipt of a charter from the state association, the chapter shall be part of the National FFA Organization and shall be empowered to recruit members.

#### **Section F**

1. Chapters shall be organized into districts.
2. Districts will include:
  - a. **Interior District:** North Pole, Delta Junction, Silent Springs and Tok.
  - b. **MatSu District:** Midnight Sun MatSu and Anchorage, and Palmer.
  - c. **Kenai District:** Ninilchik, Midnight Sun Kenai and Iron Mountain.
3. Each district will hold a district contest for all Leadership Development Events (LDE's) prior to the Alaska FFA State Convention.
4. Each district will use the district contest to help determine the members that qualify to compete in each Leadership Development Event (LDE) and Career Development Event (CDE) competitions at state convention.
5. Each district will be allowed to send the top 3 district individuals in each Speaking Leadership Event (LDE) to state convention.
6. Chapters are allowed to bring up to two individuals/teams for all other Leadership Development Events (LDEs)(excluding Speaking LDE's) and Career Development Events (CDEs).

#### **Section G**

The state association in two or four year post-secondary institutions may charter collegiate chapters where agricultural and natural resources related courses are taught. Each chartered collegiate chapter may adopt a constitution that shall not conflict with that of the state association or the national organization, elect officers, and establish a Program of Activities. Collegiate chapter members shall pay Alaska State FFA Association and the National FFA Organization dues.

### ***Article IV Procedures for determining Standing of Chapters and Members***

#### **Section A**

A chapter shall be in good standing with the Alaska State FFA Association when the following conditions are met:

1. All annual state and national dues have been paid to, or shown by postmark or other reliable evidence to have been mailed to the Alaska State FFA Association on or before the date specified by the current governing body; and this date must be no later than May 15th or the day prior to the state convention whichever may come first.

2. All reports have been submitted to the state association as requested by the state officers and/or advisor/director.
3. Provisions of the chapter constitution do not conflict with the Alaska State FFA Association constitution or the National FFA Organization constitution and chapter activities are in harmony with the ideals and purposes of the Alaska State FFA Association and the National FFA Organization

#### **Section B**

The state advisor/director shall have the authority to suspend the charter of any chapter that violates the Alaska State FFA Constitution or National FFA Organization constitution. A report on all suspensions shall be presented to the delegates at the next succeeding state convention. If the chapter is not in good standing with the Alaska State FFA Association at the time of the opening of a state convention, the delegates in session at that state convention has the power, upon recommendation of the state officers and/or advisor/director, to withdraw the charter and refuse such chapter official representation at the state convention. Where action is taken, the chapter in question and the members thereof shall be denied the privileges of membership in the Alaska State FFA Association and National FFA Organization. Upon meeting the requirements for good standing, a chapter may be reinstated by action of the state advisor/director.

#### **Section C**

In the event a local department of agricultural and natural resources education is discontinued, its chartered FFA chapter may officially operate for a period not to exceed three years (36 months) from the date of discontinuance, providing proper supervision and guidance is given by a person having the approval of the local school administrator and the state advisor/director. The chapter's charter must be surrendered upon request to the state advisor/director at the end of the three-year period if a local department of Agricultural Education is again in operation in the school at that time.

### ***Article V Membership***

#### **Section A**

Membership in the Alaska State FFA Association shall be of four kinds: active, alumni, collegiate, and honorary. Active Membership to be eligible for active membership in a chartered FFA chapter, a student must be enrolled in a secondary agriculture, natural resources, or agriscience career pathway program. The Alaska FFA Association considers 'secondary agriculture and natural resources programs' to be grades 7-12 of public, private, charter or home school jr high, middle school, high school students of any type of educational system recognized by the state of Alaska.

#### **Section B**

To become an active member and retain membership, a student must:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agriculture or natural resources education or agrisciences career pathway course during the school year and, or, follow a planned course of study; and either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agriculture, or natural resource related occupation.
2. Show an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership, and participating in other organized chapter activities.
3. Pay all current state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter, state and national organizations,
4. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization as outlined in the FFA Code of Ethics.

#### **Section C**

Active members should be members of the local chapter offered at the school they are attending. The only exception is if the school the member is attending does not have a local chapter. In such case the member could join another chapter within the local school district with permission of that chapter advisor. If none is available, then the closest geographical chapter. Any members at the time of this motion on the roster of a chapter may remain so.

#### **Section D**

A member may retain active membership until November 30, following the fourth National Convention after graduation from high school. Following active membership students may be either collegiate or alumni membership.

#### **Section E**

A member in good standing at the time of induction into the armed forces of the United States of America or into the FFA intentional program shall be in standing during the period of active service without further payment of dues or attendance at meetings. Time spent in the armed forces or FFA intentional program shall be considered as elapsed time in determining the maximum period of four conventions following graduation from high school or leaving high school. Members using this waiver of service time for the purpose of maintaining active membership for application for advanced degrees of membership must resume active participation within six months after having been honorably discharged from military service or completing their FFA international program and indicate such a desire by paying dues and attend meetings. Members participating in the six-month armed services program or participating in the FFA international program for six months shall be eligible for one fully extended membership. No individual may retain active membership beyond his or her twenty-third birthday.

#### **Section F**

Alumni membership -Membership shall be open to all former active members, collegiate and honorary members, present and former agricultural educators, parents of FFA members, and others interested in and supportive of the FFA.

#### **Section G**

Collegiate Membership -Collegiate Membership shall be open to all students who are enrolled in agricultural or natural resource related courses or who are pursuing career objectives in the industry of agriculture at a two or four year postsecondary institution having a collegiate FFA chapter.

#### **Section H**

Honorary Membership, farmers, school superintendents, principals, members of boards education, chapter advisors, teachers, staff members in agricultural and natural resources education, business people, and others who are helping to advance agricultural and natural resources education and the FFA and who have rendered outstanding service, may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members of any regular meeting or convention. Honorary membership shall be limited to the Honorary Chapter FFA Degree in the local chapter and the Honorary State FFA Degree in the State Association.

#### **Section I**

Members transferring from another FFA State Association, who, upon satisfactory evidence of prior standing in previous FFA chapter/ Association, upon payment of chapter and state dues, be credited for membership in the Alaska Association. Transfer students participating in career development events must be enrolled in Alaska the fall semester prior to state convention. Students are required to be an Alaska FFA member for more than one calendar year to be eligible for state star awards.

### ***Article VI Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership***

#### **Section A**

The Alaska State FFA Association shall have the authority to recognize four degrees of active membership based upon individual achievement. These are Discovery FFA Degree, Greenhand FFA Degree, Chapter FFA Degree, and State FFA Degree. The National FFA organization has set minimum qualifications for each degree.

#### **Section B**

##### **Discovery FFA Degree**

To be eligible to receive the Discovery FFA Degree from a chapter, the member must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Be enrolled in an agriscience, science, vocational course for a portion of the school year while in grades 7-8, and/or have chosen agriscience and natural resources as a career pathway.
2. Have become a dues paying member of the FFA at local, state and national levels.
3. Have knowledge of agriculture and natural resource related career, ownership, and entrepreneurial opportunities.
4. Be familiar with the local FFA chapter program of activities,
5. Submit a written application for the degree.

## **Section C**

### ***Greenhand FFA Degree***

To be eligible to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree from the chapter, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Be enrolled in an agricultural and natural resources education program, and/or have chosen agriscience and natural resources as a career pathway, and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, Motto and Salute.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws, and the chapter Program of Activities.
6. Personally own or have access to the Official FFA Manual and the Student Handbook.
7. Submit written application for the Greenhand FFA Degree.

## **Section D**

### ***Chapter FFA Degree***

To be eligible to receive a Chapter FFA Degree from the chapter, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least 180 hours of systematic school instruction in agricultural and natural resources education at or above the ninth grade level, in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program, and be enrolled in an agriculture and natural resources education course, and/or have chosen agriscience and natural resources as a career pathway.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official functions in the chapter Program of Activities.
4. Have earned and productively invested at least \$150 by the member's own efforts or worked at least forty-five hours in excess of scheduled class time, or a combination thereof, and have developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Have effectively lend a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
7. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA award - a-ram
8. Meet school eligibility requirements.
9. Submit a Written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

Other requirements may be established by the chapter or the Alaska State FFA Association.

## **Section E**

### ***State FFA Degree***

State FFA Degree -To be eligible to receive the State FFA Degree from the state association, the member must meet the following minimum qualifications:

1. Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Have been a student FFA member and paid membership dues for two years at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.

3. While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes a supervised agricultural experience program.

4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:

- A. earned and productively invested at least \$1000; or
- B. worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or
- C. a combination there of, in a supervised agricultural experience program.

5. Demonstrate leadership ability by:

- A. Performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law.
- B. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or the FFA.
- C. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson or participating member of a chapter committee.

6. Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education and the principal or superintendent.

7. Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter Program of Activities.

8. Have participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level.

9. Have participated in at least 25 hours of community service, within at least two different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid SAE hours.

The percentage of the total state membership which may receive the State FFA Degree and other requirements may be established by the state FFA association. Written records of achievement of all requirements, verified by the chapter FFA advisor, shall be submitted to the state association at least one month prior to the state FFA convention at which the State FFA Degree is to be received. The state advisor shall provide for review of the records and submit a recommendation to the state association governing body, which shall nominate at the state FFA convention the candidates who have been found worthy to receive the honor. The State FFA Degree will be conferred upon the candidates subject to approval by the delegates at the state convention.

## **Article VII. Emblem**

### **Section A**

The official emblem of the Alaska State FFA Association shall be the same as that of the National FFA Organization it shall include five symbols, namely: the plow representing labor and tillage of the soil; and the owl, representing wisdom; the rising sun, representing progress; and a cross section of an ear of corn representing common agricultural interests; and an American eagle surmounting the cross-section of the ear of corn, representing the scope of the organization. The emblem shall also include the letters "FFA" and the words "Agricultural Education."

### **Section B**

Emblems shall be uniform in all chapters and recognized units thereof. All members shall be entitled to display the emblem.

### **Section C**

Discovery FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official blue emblem pin. Greenhand FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official bronze emblem pin; and Chapter FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official silver emblem pin; and State FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem charm; and American FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem key.

### **Section D**

Honorary Chapter FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear either the official silver or a gold emblem pin; Honorary State FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem charm; and Honorary American FFA Degree recipients shall be entitled to wear the official gold emblem key.



## **Section E**

Collegiate FFA chapter members and FFA advisors shall be entitled to wear the official gold owl pin.

## **Article VIII. State and Chapter Officers**

### **Section A**

The officers of the Alaska State FFA Association may include but not be limited to: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Sentinel. Other officers may, or may not, be as deemed appropriate by the State Advisor/Director and State FFA governing body. There shall be a State FFA advisor/director and executive secretary; and other state FFA officials may be named by the state advisor/director subject to the approval of the state FFA governing body. All state FFA officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates present at any regular convention of the state association.

### **Section B**

The officers of an FFA chapter shall be: president, vice president secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. Other offices may be elected as deemed appropriate by the local advisor and/or governing body. The teacher(s) of agriculture and natural resources education shall be the FFA advisor(s). Chapter officers shall be elected annually or semiannually the members present at any regular meeting of the chapter.

### **Section C**

When this state association has been chartered for two years or more, all state officers shall have attained the State FFA Degree. If a chapter has been chartered for two years or more, all chapter officers shall have attained the Chapter FFA Degree. In the event that the structure of the chapter is reorganized due to program, instructor, or other changes yet mentioned, the State Advisor/Director may waive the chapter degree requirement for chapter officers.

## **Article IX Meetings**

### **Section A**

Except in case of extreme emergency, a convention of the Alaska State FFA Association shall be held annually prior to the National FFA Convention at date and place to be determined by the governing body of the Alaska State FFA Association. Convention location and date will be decided to meet the needs of the FFA, its mission, and members in respect to facilities, weather, and financing.

### **Section B**

1. Each chapter shall be entitled to send two voting delegates to the annual state convention for every one hundred active members in the chapter. Any chapter whose membership is under one hundred members will be entitled to send two voting delegates. Delegates shall have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Each chapter shall be entitled to send one delegate to serve on the nominating committee.
3. The delegates and nominating committee representative shall be elected by a majority vote of the chapter.
4. After testimony is concluded, the delegate committee members will have a final deliberation, after which they will type a final recommendation for the state business meeting. The final recommendation will be read at the business session and voted on by the entire voting delegate body.
  - a. An amendment to the Alaska State FFA Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the official delegates at the state FFA convention. An amendment to the Bylaws shall require a majority vote of the official delegates. Amendments to the Bylaws and must not conflict with the Alaska State FFA Constitution.

### **Section C**

The present officer team will install the new officers at the final convention session. The outgoing president shall ask the newly elected officers to conduct the closing ceremonies of the convention.

### **Section D**

At any time during the year the state governing body may distribute voting ballots to the chapters as so that items of business may be dealt with as they may arise. Each chapter shall have the same votes as they would at state convention.

**Section E**

Local chapters shall hold their meetings monthly or more often and at such times and places as may be decided upon by the governing body of the local chapter.

**Article X Dues**

**Section A**

Annual affiliate chapter dues of the Alaska State FFA Association shall be established by a majority vote of the delegates present at the Alaska State FFA Convention. Annual Affiliate chapter dues are based on the chart below:

Number of Members per chapter	Chapter Affiliate Cost
0-25	\$300
26-50	\$600
51-100	\$1000
over 100	\$1500
TOTAL DUES	

**Section B**

The membership year of the Alaska State FFA Association shall begin on November 1.

**Section C**

The annual membership dues of a chapter shall be established by a majority vote of the members at a regular chapter meeting.

**Article XI Amendments**

**Section A**

1. A chapter, chapter advisors, state advisor/director and staff, or the State Alumni Association may submit proposed amendments to the Alaska State FFA Constitution and Bylaws. Proposed amendments to any unit of the Alaska State FFA Association Constitution must be submitted in writing to the State Association by 45 days prior to the convention year they are to be discussed.
2. The Alaska FFA Board of Directors, state staff, and state advisor/director will jointly review these proposed delegate issues and vote on which issues to bring before the student primary delegate committee. They shall select a number of proposals no greater than the number of chapters properly chartered within the Alaska FFA Association at the time of the meeting. The reviewing group shall review proposals for the purpose of eliminating impractical, impossible, or inappropriate proposals, and shall endeavor to pass as many proposals as are allowed and appropriate on to the primary delegate committee. The delegate coordinator shall advise the Advisory Board as to their consideration of proposals, and the Board shall take that advice into account in making proposal selections.
3. If a proposal is adopted by the delegate body, it will be passed along to the Board of Directors for final approval. The Board of Directors will consider all changes passed appropriately by the Alaska FFA voting delegate body to be the wishes of the Alaska FFA membership and will only deny adoption or make changes in absolutely necessary or extreme circumstances.

**Bylaws of the Alaska State FFA Association  
a chartered association of the  
National FFA Organization**

**Article I Relationship to the Constitution**

The Bylaws shall be a part of the Constitution of the Alaska State FFA Organization.

**Article II Definition of Agriculture**

The Alaska FFA Association may recognize any sequenced vocational program as an agriculturally based program if it involves the FFA in teaching any or all of the following activities: agriculture, forestry, horticulture, outdoor recreation, biotechnology, marine science, marine technology, aquaculture, natural resources, applied science, or a progressive course in any combination of the following: mechanics, welding, construction and electronics. All students enrolled in such classes and those that have chosen agriscience and natural resources, as a career pathway shall be entitled to apply for, and receive all privileges of membership in the National FFA Organization.

**Article III State Officer Election Requirements**

Eligibility. Each applicant must meet the following requirements to be eligible to hold office:

**Section A**

Applicants for state office must complete the state officer application form as well as the State FFA Degree application form, in order to be considered. The applications must be submitted to the state advisor at least one month prior to the state convention, or other date as specified by the state advisor. The state advisor shall make current forms available to all applicants. The application shall include information on leadership activities, scholarship, community activities, and letters of recommendation. Each year, state officers must reapply for office in order to be reconsidered for election.

**Section B**

All candidates who meet the minimum requirements hold or have applied for the State FFA Degree, and who will be enrolled in agriculture and natural resources education in high school during their term in office, or graduating seniors of the current year at the time of the opening of a state convention, will be scored on their qualifications. Qualifications will be determined by state officer candidate's applications and by personal interviews. The nominating committee, state advisor, and any official state staff will review applications. Alaska FFA State Staff shall have the authority to waive the state officer state degree requirements in the event of less than four State Officer applications being received by the State Association.

**Section C**

In order to run for state office a member must be at least a sophomore in high school and have been an active member of FFA for two full years while in grades 9-12 in order to meet national requirements; and have an active SAE, have been enrolled in an agriscience related program/pathway, be 16, have high school GPA of 2.75 or better with semester grade checks, and have eligibility to participate in school function for the current semester. Alaska FFA State staff shall have the authority to grant exceptions to the age requirements for state officer candidacy on a case-by-case basis, determined upon the maturity and other merits of the candidate.

**Section F**

Should an officer become unable to fulfill the duties of his or her position, the state governing body shall notify each chapter and give the prospective replacement candidates opportunity to submit an application. The selection will be based on a vote of the Board of Directors.

**Section G**

In the event that a state officer is impeached or resigns before the end of their term of office, all future claims to their contributions, accomplishments, or awards of that office shall be forfeited.

**Section H**

In the event that there are not enough qualified state officer candidates, the governing body including the state advisor/director, executive secretary and Board of Directors may choose to

limit the number of offices to be filled from 6-4 to include State President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel.

### **Section I**

The selection process for state officers shall be conducted as described in the following paragraphs or rounds, and shall be reconsidered by the board of directors, state advisor/director, and state staff every three years and reaffirmed as the official selection process by that year's delegates starting 2013.

1. Alaska FFA's state officer selection process stems from many years of successful but opaque and, at times, arbitrary candidate evaluations. Alaska FFA Association prides itself in upholding high standards for its students, and in doing so should model those high standards by having an open, well understood, and transparent officer selection process. The proposed process stated here is an effort at achieving several goals:

- a. Create a fair, unbiased, and transparent state officer evaluation process that students may understand and prepare for.
- b. Create a consistent process that is effective year after year in selecting state offices.
- c. Create a process that best evaluates students by their knowledge, experience, developed and potential skills, and determination in serving as a state officer.

2. The proposed state officer selection process is a multi-step process designed to exercise students skills, knowledge, and personal weaknesses and strengths so as to be fully evaluated by a student-led nominating committee. This process also was created to weight the different skills that a state officer will need to succeed in being an effective leader. Because Alaska FFA endeavors to prepare students for roles in business, education, government, and industry, leaders from those fields are included in this process so as to more realistically evaluate candidates through their interaction with current industry leaders.

3. Pre-Convention: All state officer candidates must meet GPA and eligibility criteria, and have completed their state officer application packet completely and satisfactorily.

At Convention at least four of the rounds below must be conducted by the nominating committee coordinator and state advisor/director:

- a. Round #1  
Written Knowledge Exam: All state officer candidates shall take a test consisting of FFA knowledge, Alaska history agricultural education knowledge, and Alaska agriculture/natural resource knowledge, similar to the national officer selection process knowledge exam. The score from this written test will be presented to the nominating committee as part of their consideration.
- b. Round #2  
Stakeholder Interview: A group of three individuals, including one agricultural business leader, agricultural education, and government professional or FFA member, shall comprise the interview scenarios. The interview committee will conduct a round-robin interview with each student candidate that will be designed to mimic real scenarios a state officer may encounter. This interview will be scored by the nominating committee based on a rubric designed to evaluate each candidate's knowledge of Alaska agriculture, agricultural and natural resource education, and FFA structure and operations, as well as their personal qualifications and character.
- c. Round #3  
Phone Interview: The state officer candidate will be placed in a room with a phone, paper, a writing utensil, and no other materials. The candidate will receive a phone call from a panel of two interviewers consisting of Alaska FFA Chapter advisors and two judging nominating committee members, who will be located in a separate room. The candidate will be interviewed using a set of questions and scoring rubric designed to evaluate the candidates poise, demeanor, professionalism, knowledge of FFA, and ability to advocate for the organization. The candidate should treat this interview as if they were working to develop a relationship with an FFA sponsor or business partner, and act accordingly. Alternatively, this interview could be conducted in a room with a screen placed between the interviewers and candidate.
- d. Round #4  
Flag Raising: Candidates will be expected to work together to create and present the flag raising on a designated morning at convention. Each candidate will be expected to speak 2-3 minutes. The

nominating committee will score them based on a provided rubric evaluating their personal qualifications and character.

- e. Round #5  
Facilitated Activity: Candidates will be expected to work together to create and facilitate an activity for the Alaska FFA members to participate in. The nominating committee will score them based on a provided rubric evaluating their personal qualifications and character.
  - f. Round #6  
Personal Interview: State officer candidates will be interviewed by the nominating committee panel. The purpose of the interview will be to allow the nominating committee members to get to know the candidate. The nominating committee will score them based on a provided rubric evaluating their personal qualifications and character. These interviews will be supervised by a member of the state staff (the nominating committee coordinator).
  - g. Round #7  
One-On-One Interviews: State officer candidates will be interviewed by each of the nominating committee members individually. The purpose of the interview will be to allow the nominating committee members to get to know the candidate. The nominating committee will score them based on a provided rubric evaluating their personal qualifications and character.
  - h. Round #8  
Stand and Deliver: State officer candidates will be expected to give an extemporaneous speech about agriculture, agricultural education, or FFA. Possible prompts will be provided to the candidates before the start of state convention. The nominating committee will score them based on a provided rubric evaluating their personal qualifications and character.
4. Deciding officer placement: All scores from all rounds of the candidacy process will be compiled by state staff and presented to the nominating committee for review.

Candidates will be slated to state office, determined by the nominating committee based on overall scores, impression of candidates, and any other appropriate information from the candidacy process.

After the officer placements have been decided, the nominating committee will have on last opportunity to deliberate before submitting their final recommendations to the state advisor for review. The nominating committee chair will then report their recommendations to Alaska FFA members during a session at convention.

As per *Article VIII*, Section A, the final recommendations of the nominating committee must be ratified by majority vote by the attending delegates.

#### ***Article IV Nominating Committee***

##### **Section A**

There shall be a nominating committee that meets at the annual Alaska FFA State Convention, to consist of the following:

1. Each nominating committee member chosen must be from different chapters. Each chapter may submit multiple applications for nominating committee. The adult supervisor and the state FFA advisor will determine from the applicants nine nominating committee members to serve; and
2. One adult supervisor who is not a chapter advisor and shall be entrusted to act in an unbiased and fair manner. The adult supervisor shall be chosen and recruited by the state advisor. Their role on the committee shall be to supervise the nominating committee's process and offer guidance as necessary. The adult supervisor shall not speak of any officer candidate in order to sway the opinions of committee members in any way, nor shall the adult supervisor have the right to vote; and
3. The state advisor and other state staff may sit-in on the nominating committee process as observers, or to provide unbiased information at the request of the committee. Their presence must be at the invitation of the adult supervisor, and they shall be non-voting observers without exception.

## **Section B**

The nominating committee shall meet throughout the annual state convention to discuss, interview state officer candidates, and evaluate the candidate speeches. The nominating committee shall elect a chairperson from their membership to represent the group's recommendations to the Alaska FFA membership. This person shall be elected by majority vote or by another method agreed upon by the committee.

## **Section C**

Before the nominating committee decision announcement to the Alaska FFA membership, the nominating committee chairperson shall give the committee recommendation to the state delegate committee prior to announcement to the general assemblies. The delegate committee shall then vote to accept the report. In the event that the committee report is not accepted, the nominating committee shall reevaluate their recommendation, with final decision-making power being granted to the State Advisor/director in the case of a deadlock between the nominating committee and delegate committee members.

## ***Article V State Convention Location***

State Convention location will be hosted in the same city for at least two consecutive years as decided by the delegate body, with final approval left to the discretion of the Board of Directors. All convention locations must meet the following requirements:

1. At least one banquet room with a 200 person minimum capacity
2. Adequate rooms and facilities for CDE's and workshops (inc. sound systems, welding shop, etc.)
3. Affordable hotel near the convention center
4. Preferably a city with mass transit or other easily accessible, affordable means of transportation.
5. A theater large enough for sessions and has a backstage, or an area large enough to sustain the equivalent.

## ***Article VI Career Development Events and Leadership Development Events***

The Alaska FFA Association will strive to make members successful for proceeding on to the national level.

1. The Alaska FFA Association will follow the guidelines for the national career development events and leadership development events as close as possible, dependent upon the resources of the state as a whole.
2. The first place individual/team in any competition qualifies for the national competition if offered.
3. In the event the first place individual/team chooses to not participate in the national competition, the second place individual/team has the option to participate in the national competition in their place.
4. Teams eligible for a national competition may replace up to one person on the original state qualifying team.
5. If a member competes in a competition on the national level they are not eligible to compete at state in the same competition.