

2009 National FFA Delegate Process

Committee Research Findings

Committee #2- Post Secondary Retention and Engagement

The purpose of this committee is to improve and promote existing programs in post secondary education institutions and National FFA while creating a communication network to retain and engage high school graduates.

What is FFA doing to contact seniors in high school or those who have graduated?

FFA beyond High School - New e-mail list to stay connected to high school seniors/collegiate-age FFA members work through local advisors.

What kind of records does FFA have for collegiate members who were not in FFA in high school?

None.

What about records for collegiate FFA members who are past their age of active membership?

None.

Are there dues for post secondary members?

Yes - \$5 annually or they pay the 1+3 year membership dues package

Does the FFA know how many FFA members are in college (community college, university, and technical school), the work force, or the military?

No.

How many collegiate chapters do we have?

We know of about 100. The current membership system does not allow us to assign a unique chapter number to collegiate programs. Current information is gathered through work with colleges, states, and looking for chapters whose name depicts they are at a college/university.

Where are collegiate chapters found? Universities? Technical Schools? Community Colleges?

All the above.

What is P.A.S.?

The National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization (PAS) is an organization associated with agriculture/agribusiness and natural resources offerings in approved postsecondary institutions offering baccalaureate degrees, associate degrees, diplomas and/or certificates.

PAS is one of the ten career and technical student organizations that has been approved by the U. S. Department of Education as an integral part of career and technical education.

The national organization was organized in March 1979 under Draft Bylaws. PAS was officially founded in March 1980 in Kansas City, Missouri. PAS is ready to celebrate 30 years of growth and success and to look into the future.

The membership now totals some 1,300 members from 62 Chapters located in 18 states. It is available to students in agriculture/agribusiness/natural resources postsecondary programs in approximately 550 institutions in all 50 states.

MISSION

The National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization provides opportunities for individual growth, leadership and career preparation.

VISION

PAS aspires to be the premier leadership and career development organization serving college agriculture students.

MOTTO

"Uniting Education and Industry in Agriculture."

One of our main purposes is to provide an opportunity for developing leadership abilities through participation in the employment experience programs, course work, and organization activities.

VALUES

- Individual Leadership Abilities
- Intellectual Growth
- Technical Competency
- Strong Personal Ethics
- Life Long Learning
- Diversity
- Education and Industry Partnerships

What is the connection between FFA and P.A.S.?

PAS is reaching out to collegiate FFA members/chapters to become involved in PAS. National FFA offers staffing service to PAS to help run their organization. They are still two separate organizations.

What is the difference between FFA and P.A.S.?

PAS is very similar to FFA but it focuses on collegiate students versus high school students. PAS is more focused on the industries of agriculture and technical knowledge versus FFA which focuses more on leadership training.

How many collegiate chapters are in each state?

Arkansas - 2	Arizona - 1	California - 1
Delaware - 3	Florida - 2	Georgia - 1
Iowa - 5	Idaho - 1	Illinois - 3
Kansas - 1	Kentucky - 3	Louisiana - 2
Maryland - 1	Mississippi - 1	Minnesota - 1
Missouri - 2	Montana - 1	North Carolina - 3
Nebraska - 2	New Mexico - 1	New York - 2
Oklahoma - 5	Oregon - 1	Pennsylvania - 1
South Carolina - 1	Tennessee - 3	Texas - 5
Utah - 1	Virginia - 2	Wisconsin - 1

What rules are in place for collegiate programs and where can they be found?

Collegiate FFA programs must follow the same requirements as local chapters. Collegiate chapters are chartered through the states like high school and middle school programs. The requirements can be found in the FFA constitution under Article III, Section D, Collegiate Chapters.

How many college level Ag programs are there?

We do not have accurate data because the definition of an “Ag” program is different between institutions. Programs that relate to agriculture may not be found in the colleges of agriculture therefore it makes accurate reporting almost impossible.

How do you create a post secondary Ag program?

Differs state to state and institution to institution.

How many FFA members graduate from high school each year?

FFA does not have that information.

What CDE opportunities can we open to post secondary members?

Most FFA CDE can be altered to focus on collegiate age members. Many collegiate age FFA members (college freshmen) currently compete in FFA awards and recognition programs.

Would it be beneficial to create a post secondary chapter, where you are a member of that chapter instead of your high school chapter?

We already have that through the collegiate chapter program.

Can you be an active member of your home chapter and post secondary chapter?

Yes.

How do post secondary members stay connected to their home chapter?

That information is unknown to us.

If after high school you are attending a post secondary school where there is an Ag program, but no FFA chapter, can you still be a member of another post secondary FFA chapter?

That is up to the chapter but it is allowed in some chapters/states.

Is there a virtual post secondary option for those who do not have a post secondary option at their current school?

There are none through FFA. Many colleges offer on-line courses to high school students, current college students, and adults.

Whereas an FFA member cannot be part of their high school chapter after their fourth national convention, after graduation can seniors in post secondary still be an active member in FFA?

Not according to the National FFA constitution.

Can post secondary students become judges or volunteer at national convention?

Yes.

What types of opportunities are currently available for post secondary students in FFA?

- New Century Farmer Program
- Collegiate Ag Ambassadors
- ICAL
- PAS
- Collegiate FFA
- Scholarships
- Collegiate activities at national convention
- Internships through FFA sponsors

- National FFA Career Development Events are open to all active members who qualify prior to and including their 12 grade year in high school. 12th graders who qualify will compete as college freshman. For those members wishing to continue participation in career development events after high school graduation can find opportunities to participate in those activities offered at the collegiate level, although participation in these events is separate from FFA participation, they provide a age appropriate activities for the college students. Some Collegiate level organizations that offer competitive activities include Collegiate FFA, PAS, ATA, Block and Bridle, and AGR

Would the rosters of post secondary schools become added into the delegate numbers and the delegate process?

Yes if they are paid members by May 15th.

How would the post secondary schools be able to represent themselves and what would say would they have at the state and national level?

This is dependent on their state.

If post secondary students wished to compete how would they go about getting involved with them if there was no chapter available?

Current CDE events students must qualify at a state event. During the qualification process they must be an active member and be involved with a local chapter.

Is it possible for post secondary members to work with other groups to incorporate them into FFA?

Depends on the group.

How do we involve post secondary members who are in the work force and not in a collegiate chapter?

National FFA Alumni.

Is there a list of all of the post secondary Ag programs that are not FFA? Is it possible to incorporate all or some of these into FFA?

You must first have a post secondary agricultural program to have a collegiate FFA chapter. No post secondary program is an “FFA” program. Any post secondary agricultural program is welcome to charter a collegiate FFA chapter.

What funding is available for post secondary FFA/Ag Programs?

Funding for post secondary agricultural programs varies between the states/institutions. There is no direct funding from National FFA for collegiate FFA chapters.

Is there any way to figure out how much interest there is from high school seniors in continuing in FFA after graduation?

There could be through surveys. Currently we have nothing in place.

What is the number of graduate students in the FFA?

We do not collect this information.