

*In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education*

## MEMO

TO: New Jersey Agriculture Teachers/FFA Advisors

FROM: Erin Noble, *State Program Leader for Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Education, State FFA Advisor*

CC: Kristianne Dowd, *State FFA Specialist*

DATE: November 12, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Plan (as of November 12)

The Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation. As we begin planning for 2021, we hoped to have more insight into how COVID would affect our schools and our lives. Unfortunately, a lot of uncertainty still exists. However, those of you who completed the survey helped us get a handle on district policies and your intentions moving into the next few months. With this information and careful consideration, the State FFA Executive Board took action on events through March 31. Please see below for a brief outline of these actions. More details for events can be found in its respective announcements located on the Ag Education Bulletin Board and State Activity Guide as they become available.

Below is an update on how events will be administered through March. Please know these plans are subject to change.

- **State Officer Travel** All staff and state officer business travel will continue to be limited through March 31. Travel will be decided on a case by case basis.
- **Member of the Month Application** (January 1) No change. Applications are due via JotForm.
- **State FFA Association Meeting** (January 4) MODIFIED to be held online via Zoom.
- **State FFA Foundation Meeting** (January 12) MODIFIED to be held online via Zoom.
- **State FFA Officer Work Session** (January 18) No change.
- **State Officer Banquet Speech Workshop** (January 22) MODIFIED to be held online via Zoom.
- **State Officer Candidates' School** (January 30) MODIFIED to be held virtually. Programming will be delivered both asynchronously and synchronously.
- **Member of the Month Application** (February 1) No Change. Applications are due via JotForm.
- **Chapter Nominations for Honorary State Degree and Distinguished Service Award due** (February 1) No Change. Applications are due via JotForm.
- **State FFA Association Meeting** (February 1) No change at this time. Will continue to evaluate as more information becomes available.
- **New Jersey Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education Council Meeting** (February \_\_) No change at this time. Will continue to evaluate as more information becomes available.
- **State FFA Alumni Meeting** (February 10) MODIFIED to be held online via Zoom.
- **State FFA Officer Work Session** (February 15) No change.
- **State Officer Fuel-up Conference State Convention Planning** (February 18-21) No change at this time. Will continue to evaluate as more information becomes available.

- **Advocacy and Legislative Leadership Day Event** (February 25) MODIFIED to be held virtually. More information will be forthcoming.
- **Member of the Month Application** (March 1) No Change. Applications are due via JotForm.
- **Landscape Design Plans** (March 1) No Change. Designs are due as outlined in the announcement.
- **State FFA Association Meeting** (March 1) No change at this time. Will continue to evaluate as more information becomes available.
- **NJ FFA Horticultural Exposition** (March 12) MODIFIED to be held virtually. More information will be forthcoming.
- **Floral Design Career Development Event** (March 12) ANTICIPATED to be held virtually. More research is being done before a final decision is made.
- **Nominating Committee Application due** (March 15) No Change. Applications are due via JotForm.
- **State and American Degree Applications due** (March 15) No Change. Applications are due as outlined in the announcement.
- **Proficiency Award Applications due** (March 15) No Change. Applications are due as outlined in the announcement.
- **State FFA Officer Work Session** (March 15) No change.
- **Farm & Agribusiness Management, Forestry and Meat Evaluation CDEs** (March 22-25) No change. Events will be held via ClassMarker. Dates have been extended to accommodate hybrid and remote learning schedules.
- **Proficiency, American & State Degree Selection Committee** (March 23) MODIFIED to be held virtually.
- **Note: All other calendar dates/deadlines not specifically mentioned in this message remain in effect at this time or may be the decision of a partner organization.**

Our goal is to continue delivering statewide FFA events with as much normalcy as possible while respecting everyone's situation. We are committed to offering quality educational programming. We continue to ask for patience, understanding and cooperation. Please continue to provide us with school district policy updates that impact your program.

Please contact me if you have additional questions or if our staff can be of assistance to you.

Respectfully,



Erin Noble

State Program Leader for Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education/State FFA Advisor