



Wisconsin Association of FFA

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Dear Administrators,

I am pleased to let you know the National FFA Board of Directors and the Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors recently approved the option for all chapters to participate in the chapter affiliation fee program as an alternative to traditional membership dues. Effective September 1, 2010, local programs in participating states will be able to provide all their students with the benefits of FFA membership.

Through the <http://www.wisconsinffa.org/>, you now have access to affiliation fee program information, schedule, the recommended program affiliation fee operating policies and samples of the promotional brochure with directions on how to obtain them. You'll also find additional information to help local teachers understand the value of participating as an affiliate program. As you know, merely being an FFA member does not ensure participation or engagement with all the opportunities available to members. Our Wisconsin FFA staff will provide promising practices for involving students and continue increasing opportunities for member engagement.

The affiliation fee brings us closer to delivering the full three-circle model of agricultural education to all students. It also embraces implementation of the National Quality Program Standards and makes sure every student, in every classroom, every day has access to the total program for agricultural education. The affiliation fee program will save teachers valuable class time by eliminating tasks such as persuading students to join, collecting dues and handling money. The process will afford the teachers more time to get students engaged, show them all the opportunities FFA offers and encourage participation in their leadership education.

The affiliation fee program represents a monumental step forward in validating our commitment to providing quality education for every student. I hope that all of you will see this new option as a way to deliver the complete model of agricultural education we have held in high regard for generations.

Sincerely,

Jeff A. Hicken