



FFA AFFILIATION FEE PROGRAM
PROCESS
FEB. 12, 2010

Recent Action:

During the January 2010 National FFA Board Meeting the National FFA Board of Directors recently approved the option for all states to participate in the chapter affiliation fee program as an alternative to traditional membership dues. All states will still have the option to utilize the traditional individual membership dues process if they choose.

Reason for providing the option for an affiliation fee:

Pilot results from the 2009-2010 year have shown anticipated results from the pilot states (Texas, Arizona, Iowa, Massachusetts and Florida). The average increase in growth was 33 percent, or an average of 43 members per chapter on the 200 chapters participating.

The 2009 delegate committee review provided a recommendation that the program affiliation fee process be offered to all states starting the 2010-2011 year.

There has been considerable interest from several states who would like to provide this option to their local programs for the following reasons:

- Saves time in persuading students to join, collection of individual dues, writing receipts and handling money from members. This is a waste of many hours of valuable class time that could be spent working to engage students.
- Eliminates collection of dues from students by using alternative funding sources.
- Repositions FFA as an integral part of agricultural education in the classroom and helps remove the club connotation.
- Eliminates handling money several times by teachers, students and everyone involved in the process.
- Every student is a member, providing the teacher the option to engage all students in the three circle model during all classes.
- Allows ability to budget affiliation fee in advance for local programs and states.

Potential for the state and national FFA organizations:

- Ability to collect fees sooner due to earlier billing process
- More accurate accounting of all students in agricultural education
- Offset numbers of student participation due to the economy
- Increased membership numbers resulting in the following:
 - Increased potential with sponsors as we serve more students
 - Increased numbers of students who are available to attend conventions and leadership conferences.