



# Alabama FCCLA General Information



## LEADERSHIP

Leadership is developing and sharing personal skills and resources with others. It is learning to work together—to give and take. It's making decisions or taking a stand and being responsible for the outcome. It is knowing when to lead and when to follow. All members have leadership potential. It's a matter of discovering and developing abilities, making commitments, taking risks, and developing a personal leadership style.

### A. FCCLA LEADERSHIP FUNDAMENTALS

As you start your year as an FCCLA officer, you will find that soon students and adults will ask you about FCCLA across the state.

The following is a prepared list of possible questions, which you may encounter. You should be informed about the organization in which you serve as a leader. This will contribute to helping others hold FCCLA in high regard.

**1. Who is the Assistant Superintendent of Career/Technical Education / Workforce Development in Alabama?**

Dr. Jimmy Hull, Assistant Superintendent of Career/Technical Education / Workforce Development

**2. Where is the Assistant Superintendent of Career/Technical Education / Workforce Development office located?**

Gordon Persons Building in Montgomery, Alabama.

**3. Who is the Alabama State Adviser for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America in Alabama?**

Theresa Long, State Adviser and Education Specialist, Family and Consumer Sciences

**4. Where is the Alabama State Advisers office located?**

Gordon Persons Building in Montgomery, Alabama

**5. What is FCCLA?**

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is an incorporated nonprofit national career/technical education student organization for young women and men enrolled in or who have studied family and consumer sciences in public and private schools.

**4. Why is it important to belong to FCCLA Chapters?**

Belonging to Family, Career and Community Leaders of America adds a leadership development dimension to the family and consumer sciences instructional program.



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## 5. Who may enroll in family and consumer sciences education programs?

Students in grades 7-12 may enroll in family and consumer sciences as an elective subject.

## 6. What qualities may be developed by youth who participate in FCCLA?

Through involvement in FCCLA projects and activities, members develop:

- Leadership skills
- Dependability
- Self-confidence
- Skills needed for cooperation
- Communication skills

## 7. What are some of FCCLA's youth activities?

Participation in national and state chapter projects and activities, sale of cookbooks, STAR Events, etc.

## 8. What is meant by the motto, "Toward New Horizons?"

A motto is a short expression of an organization's guiding principles—a phrase that is appropriate to or indicates its character. The FCCLA Motto is "Toward New Horizons" and includes identifying and building leadership skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century in family relations, career development, and community service.

## 9. Why was the organization formed?

Youth and adult leaders in home economics had a dream to establish an organization for youth, supported and run by youth, where young women and men would have fun, learn leadership skills, prepare for adulthood and their future careers.

## 10. What are the duties of each state officer?

***The president*** shall preside over all business meetings of the organization and of the State Executive Council; appoint, after consultation with the state adviser, the chairperson and members of all State Executive Council committees.

***The First Vice President*** shall assume responsibility in the absence of the president and shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the state executive council.

***The Vice President of STAR Events*** shall provide leadership in planning and implementing the organizations STAR Events programs.

The Vice President of Programs shall provide leadership in planning and implementing programs for the individual development and recognition of the organization's members.



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**The Vice President of Membership** shall provide leadership in planning and implementing programs for membership promotions and development.

**The Vice President of Community Service** shall provide leadership in planning and implementing the organizations community service programs.

## 11. What are the qualifications to become a state officer?

- Is a member of an affiliated chapter with name appearing on the FCCLA Affiliation Form in the National FCCLA Web portal.
- Has held an office in either the local chapter or a class section.
- Has completed at least one semester of family and consumer sciences.
- Has completed at least one or more years of active involvement in a local FCCLA chapter.
- Is above average scholastically.
- Is able to communicate with others about the FCCLA organization, its goals, purposes, and projects.
- Is able to develop and promote a project statewide.
- Is keenly interested in FCCLA and willing to give the office precedence over meetings and activities of other organizations.
- Possesses the following leadership qualities:
  - Is able to preside at meetings.
  - Has knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
  - Is willing to accept constructive critique from adviser(s) and seek guidance from others.
  - Works well with people.
  - Expresses ideas clearly.
  - Uses time wisely and meets obligations promptly.
  - Has self-confidence and pose.
- Will devote time and effort required locally and at the state level for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the office.
- Will attend and participate in all meetings of the State Executive Council and other meetings of FCCLA.
- In addition to the above, candidates for president will exhibit the ability to:
  - Challenge others to accept responsibilities.
  - Accept others' viewpoints.



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## 12. How is FCCLA financed?

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is a nonprofit organization funded by membership dues and private donations. Paying state and national dues is extremely important to the financial well-being of the organization. National and state dues are voted on by the membership. Chapter members set chapter dues. The national and state organizations seek additional funds from business and corporations. These funds often are designated for specific events or projects.

## 13. What are the Alabama and National FCCLA projects and programs?

### **Alumni & Associates**

is a membership program for former members of FCCLA, honorary FCCLA members, present and former family and consumer sciences professionals, parents, teachers, employers, and other community leaders who believe in FCCLA, its mission and purposes. Membership dues are mailed to the state office.

### **Champion Chapter**

is a state program designed to recognize chapters with 100% membership. Local chapters should complete application and return to state office via email by January 15.

### **Career Connection**

is the national program that connects FCCLA members with their future careers. Through individual, cooperative and competitive activities, members discover their strengths, target career goals, and initiate a plan for achieving the lifestyles they desire. The workbook is available for purchase from National FCCLA.

### **Children First**

is a state project encouraging FCCLA chapters to participate in activities that will improve the quality of life for children in Alabama. Local chapters must complete the application and submit it to the state office by January 15.

### **Community Service Award**

recognizes FCCLA chapters that identify a community need and promote community involvement to meet that need. Applications are available from the national office and must be returned by January 15.

### **FCCLA FACTS (FAMILIES ACTING for COMMUNITY TRAFFIC SAFETY)**

is a project designed to promote community traffic safety. Chapters may submit an application to the state office for recognition for their participation.

### **Fair Exhibits**

provide FCCLA chapters an opportunity to earn prize money by displaying an exhibit at the Alabama National Fair in Montgomery during October. Advisers must submit an application for participation. Further details can be obtained by contacting the state office.

### **Families First**

The FCCLA Families First national peer education program through which youth gain a better understanding of how families work and learn skills to become strong family members. The goals of the



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Families First program is to: • help youth become strong family members and leaders for today and tomorrow • strengthen the family as the basic unit of society.

## **Focus on Alabama State Project**

Family and Consumer Sciences programs throughout Alabama are encouraged to participate in activities that will improve the quality of communities in Alabama. The Alabama Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America will present a special award annually to a local chapter participating in a project that improves the well-being of their community. Local chapters must complete the Focus on Alabama Application and submit it to the state office via email by **January 15**.

## **FCCLA Foundation**

provides funding for special projects in family and consumer sciences or related issues and/or concerns. The foundation grant of \$500 is awarded to an Alabama family and consumer sciences program that submits a proposal by October 15. Applications will be reviewed and the grant recipient will be notified by October 31. Further details are available from the state office.

## **Financial Fitness**

is a national project for FCCLA members to teach others to earn, save, and spend money wisely. The handbook features projects in five areas: banking basics, cash control, making money, consumer clout, and financing your future. The handbook is available for purchase from National FCCLA.

## **Star Chapter Award**

is an award available for Alabama FCCLA chapters that Chapters with well-rounded programs of work supporting Alabama and National FCCLA strategic plans have programming in each of the following areas: membership, chapter activities and operations, community service, state and national activities, leadership development, and promotion/public relations. Applications should be submitted to the state office via email by January 15.

## **iRecruit**

is a state project that local Alabama FCCLA chapters may participate in to increase their membership at the local level.

## **Japanese Exchange Program**

is a scholarship program for FCCLA members (sophomores and juniors in high school) to live six weeks with a Japanese family. Applications are available from the state office.

## **Prescription to Healthy Living**

Alabama FCCLA Chapters are encouraged to participate in activities that lead to healthy living. An award will be presented to a local chapter participating in a project that prescribes strategies/activities that lead to healthy living for individuals or families in the home, school, workplace, or community setting. Local chapters must complete the “A Prescription to Healthy Living” application and submit it to the state office via email by **January 15**. An award will be presented to the winning chapter at the



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ALAFCCLA State Leadership Conference. **Note: This state project does not lead to a national project award.**

## **Power of One**

is a program encouraging personal and leadership development. An easy-to-use workbook features pull-out reproducible units, user-friendly instruction, and lots of project ideas. *Power of One* helps its members to complete individual projects in five areas. The workbook is available for purchase from National FCCLA.

## **Sale of Cookbooks**

provide FCCLA chapters a way to raise funds. Cookbooks are available from the state office.

## **STAR Events**

Students Taking Action with Recognition Events encourage individual and group participation and recognize members' achievements in leadership and job-related skills. The Alabama Star Event manual is to be used to prepare FCCLA students for the competitive events and is provided to teachers each year on the FACS CD-ROM. The National STAR Events Manual must be purchased from National FCCLA. Students who wish to compete in the State STAR Events must submit the registration form to the state office by January 15.

## **Step One**

takes old and new members on a safari for a fast and fun way to learn about FCCLA. Students who complete the activities and submit the paperwork will receive special recognition and a Step One sticker.

## **Stand Up**

The FCCLA Stand Up national peer education program guides members to develop, plan, carry out, and evaluate advocacy activities to improve the quality of life in their communities. Members develop their voice to make a positive impact. Through their projects, members experience character development and improve their critical and creative thinking, interpersonal communication, leadership, practical knowledge, and career preparation.

## **Student Body**

is a step-by-step fitness program designed to teach about nutrition, fitness, and self-awareness. With resource lists on health, weight control, stress and related topics, this publication is great for personal development or as a chapter project guide. The workbook is available for purchase from National FCCLA.

## **14. What has membership in FCCLA meant to you?**

Membership has provided the opportunity to:

- develop my own style of leadership –to vote and hold office on the local, district, state and national levels;
- develop new friendships and have fun;
- explore jobs and careers related to family and consumer sciences and develop job skills;
- receive *Teen Times*—the magazine that's not afraid to face up to teen concerns;
- establish credentials for seeking employment or college acceptance;
- use family and consumer sciences skills for community projects;



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-make a difference—have a voting voice and let my views be known; and  
-be an active member in an organization I believe in.

## 15. What is the FCCLA Planning Process?

It is a five-step process to be used when planning, carrying out and evaluating individual and chapter action. Refer to “The Planning Process” in the Addendum (Section XIV).

## 16. What are the five steps in the Planning Process?

Identify concerns  
Set your goals  
Form a plan  
Act  
Follow up

## 17. How can a member of FCCLA develop enthusiasm and interest among other members?

A member can develop enthusiasm and interest among other members through:

- being a friend
- helping others become involved
- understanding others
- recognizing others for accomplishments
- being involved
- being a leader
- having fun

## 18. How does the state organization operate?

The Alabama State Adviser of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America oversees the operations of the Alabama State Association of FCCLA. The state organization shall be composed of six elected state officers, the state adviser, and an advisory board. The state adviser and the officers make up the State Executive Council. Local advisers to the officers the state FCS education administrator and the FCS Education Specialist make up the advisory board to serve in an advisory capacity to the executive council. Refer to State Organizational Chart in Section III.

## 19. How may amendments be made to the Constitution and Bylaws?

Proposed revisions or additional bylaws of the Alabama Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America may be submitted in writing to the State Executive Council by any chapter, state adviser, or member of the State Executive Council. The State Executive Council shall review and assemble the proposed revisions or additional bylaws. Revisions or additional bylaws may be approved by a two-thirds vote of the affiliated chapters by mail ballot. Copies of the proposed bylaws shall be sent to chapters one month prior to voting.

## 20. What are the purposes of the State Conference?

The purposes of the State Conference are to:



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- elect and install state officers.
- hear reports from officers and chapters.
- interpret new projects and emphasis.
- distribute educational material.
- promote program plans.
- inform members of national programs.
- provide opportunities for members to perform in leadership roles.
- transact other business of the state association.

## ORGANIZATION

### A. GOAL

The overall goal of FCCLA is to help students assume their roles in society through family and consumer sciences education in areas of personal growth, family life, career preparation and community involvement. FCCLA functions as an integral part of the instructional program, preparing young men and women for family and consumer sciences careers in the home and in the world of work.

### B. FCCLA – AN INTEGRAL PART OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES EDUCATION

FCCLA in the classroom offers a wealth of opportunities and resources to support school-based learning, work-based learning, and connecting activities for careers. Here are explanations of the ways that FCCLA involvement furthers students' school-to-career transition.

- **Curriculum Integration**  
With integrated FCCLA, there is no doubt that chapter activities directly relate to what is being taught in the classroom. The organization is an integral part of the family and consumer sciences program.
- **High-Level Student Performance**  
Because in-class FCCLA members are completing “assignments” that will actually be used in their projects, they reach for the highest possible level of quality. When they read *Teen Times* magazine, become involved in STAR Events, and participate in FCCLA meetings beyond the local level, members observe the high levels of performance being achieved by peers. This exposure “raises the bar” for their own expectations.
- **Integrated Academic and Career and Technical Education**  
When students identify concerns, set a goal, form a plan, act and follow up, they cannot help, but call on skills and knowledge presented in a wide variety of disciplines. FCCLA in the classroom gives students the opportunity to assimilate and apply what they are learning both within and outside of the family and consumer sciences program.
- **All Aspects of an Industry**





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Nothing gives students a more comprehensive understanding of the “real world” than carrying out a project that operates in and impacts that world. Writing letters, making telephone contacts, visiting workplaces, interacting with people, meeting deadlines, making presentations, and preparing reports all prepare students for the school-to-career transition.

- **Community Partnerships**

FCCLA takes students into the community and brings the community into the classroom. Parents, employers, and other community members connect to in-class FCCLA chapters as speakers, advisory panel members, STAR Events evaluators, site visit hosts, resource providers and more.

- **Teacher Professional Development**

Many advisers note that both the formal professional development opportunities and the informal connections between FCCLA advisers are important sources of ideas to improve their programs and their teaching.

- **Improved Teaching**

FCCLA advisers frequently testify that integrating FCCLA into their classrooms makes them more student-connected, flexible, and on-target teachers.

- **Attainment of Academic and Career Skills Proficiencies**

When education becomes “real,” students become more motivated to attain success. By offering authentic, student-directed learning experiences, FCCLA in the classroom motivates students to acquire and use new skills. Integrated FCCLA also provides opportunities for students to demonstrate their mastery of proficiencies, including the Family and Consumer Sciences National Standards.

- **Increased Graduation Rates**

Students who connect to school stay in school until they graduate. FCCLA connects students to their school and their family and consumer sciences program of study.

- **Increased After-Graduation Placement**

To take their place in any walk of life—education, military, or career—young people need proven skills to take care of themselves, get along with others, solve problems, make decisions, and pursue success. FCCLA gives students a place to develop and practice these skills even before they graduate from high school.

- **FCCLA School-to-Career Tools**

While almost any FCCLA involvement addresses school-to-career priorities, the organization offers the following programs that relate directly.

- **Career Connection**

This national program offers teachers and students a variety of materials and suggestions for school-based learning, work-based learning and connecting activities—“disguised” in user-friendly wording and student-directed projects.

- **Power of One**

This national program for individual member action includes the “Working on Working” unit, which many advisers use to introduce the career aspects of FCS courses. Student projects in



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other units, including “A Better You” and “Take the Lead,” can also address school-to-career areas. (The *Power of One* workbook includes a matrix that correlates SCANS Competencies to Power of One.)

- **STAR Events**

STAR Events provide a framework and recognition that motivate students to explore, develop and demonstrate skills for career success. All of the events address SCANS Competencies and Foundation Skills, and several—including Applied Technology, Entrepreneurship, Food Service and Job Interview—focus on specific career-related skills and knowledge. (The *STAR Events Manual* includes matrices that correlate the events to SCANS skills and competencies.) The Occupational participation category addresses the particular interests of career-focused students.

## OTHER:

### A. Creed

You should be able to recite the creed.

We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. We face the future with warm courage and high hope. For we have the clear consciousness of seeking old and precious values. For we are the builders of homes, homes for America's future, homes where living will be the expression of everything that is good and fair, homes where truth and love and security and faith will be realities, not dreams. We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. We face the future with warm courage and high hope.

### B. Mission

You should be able to state the mission of FCCLA.

To promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and community leader, members develop skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation.



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## THE FCCLA ORGANIZATION

### National

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc.  
National Board of Directors

Executive Director  
(703) 476-4900  
(703) 860-2713 FAX

Three National Staff Members  
Ten National Officers

### State

Alabama Association  
Family, Career and Community Leaders of America  
P. O. Box 302101  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
(334) 694-4991

State Administrator

State Adviser

Education Specialist

State Executive Council consists of the State Adviser, Six Elected State Officers, and an advisory board that consists of the local advisers to the incumbent officers, the FCS Education Administrator, and FCS Education Specialist and the State Adviser acts as the chairperson to the advisory board.

Local Chapters  
Local Members



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## FUNCTIONS OF THE STATE FCCLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. Interpret the national program of work and promote chapter participation in carrying out the goals and objectives.
2. Adopt and interpret state program of work.
3. Plan for the observation of FCCLA Week.
4. Hold one or more council meetings during the year.
5. Plan and carryout meetings.
6. Promote organization of new chapters.
7. Keep a historical record of the organization.
8. Propose needed changes in the bylaws.
9. Distribute revised bylaws to local chapters.
10. Keep chapters informed on program developments and new materials.
11. Adopt a budget and keep financial records.
12. Interpret and promote FCCLA through visits to chapters and speeches on various occasions.



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## Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

### Alabama Regions

#### Region 1 Counties

Autauga  
Baldwin  
Bibb  
Butler  
Choctaw  
Clarke  
Colbert  
Conecuh  
Dallas  
Escambia  
Fayette  
Franklin  
Greene  
Hale  
Jefferson  
Lamar  
Lauderdale  
Lawrence  
Limestone  
Lowndes  
Marengo  
Marion  
Mobile  
Monroe  
Perry  
Pickens  
Sumter  
Tuscaloosa  
Walker  
Washington  
Wilcox  
Winston

#### Region 2 Counties

Barbour  
Blount  
Bullock  
Calhoun  
Chambers  
Cherokee  
Chilton  
Clay  
Cleburne  
Coffee  
Coosa  
Covington  
Crenshaw  
Cullman  
Dale  
DeKalb  
Elmore  
Etowah  
Geneva  
Henry  
Houston  
Jackson  
Lee  
Macon  
Madison  
Marshall  
Montgomery  
Morgan  
Pike  
Randolph  
Russell  
Shelby  
St. Clair  
Talladega  
Tallapoosa