



Family, Career and Community Leaders of America 2011 Fact Sheet

What is FCCLA?

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues. Nationally, FCCLA has more than 219,000 members and nearly 6,500 chapters from 50 state associations, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The organization has involved more than ten million youth since its founding in 1945.

Mission Statement:

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.

FCCLA....The Ultimate 'Student Centered' Leadership Experience:

FCCLA is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the central focus on strengthening families and communities, the backbone of our country. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members address local issues as they become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities. All students can find a place within FCCLA.

Kansas Membership:

Kansas FCCLA involves 4,300 students across the state. Each chapter offers a variety of events, activities and leadership opportunities to meet the member on their level, providing steps for leadership development and personal growth along the way. Many members become active in the district, state and national levels and continue this experience through the Kansas FCCLA Alumni and Associates organization.

Purposes of the Organization:

1. To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.
2. To strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society.
3. To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community.
4. To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony.
5. To promote greater understanding between youth and adults.
6. To provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities.
7. To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today's society.
8. To promote Family and Consumer Sciences Education and related occupations.

Financial and Cooperative Support:

FCCLA is supported primarily by student membership dues. Additional funds are raised from individuals, corporations, and foundations. FCCLA is endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education (Office of Vocational and Adult Education) and the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) and Kansas Association of

Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences (KATFACS).

Opportunities to provide financial support for the work of FCCLA is available through Charlotte Smith, State Advisor (see contact info below).

21st Century Skills in Action: STAR Events

STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition) are competitive events in which members are recognized for proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills, and career preparation. STAR Events offer individual skill development and application of learning through team and individual events. Cooperative teams work to accomplish specific goals to demonstrate teamwork, whereas the individual member may work alone to accomplish specific goals for themselves. In both situations, competitors work against a rubric to gain the highest score which opens other competitions at the state and/or national levels.

Family and Consumer Sciences Connection:

Family and Consumer Sciences Education provides the technical knowledge and skills from which the FCCLA is built. This strong background in biology, chemistry, psychology and the social sciences provides the foundation students need to achieve success, which includes learning from mistakes. For more information, contact Gayla Randel, KSDE Ed. Program FCS Consultant at 785-296-4912 or grandel@ksde.org.

Governance:

At every level, student members have a direct relationship to the officers they elect. Student members serve as voting delegates to conduct interviews, hear speeches and answers to impromptu questions. Ten national officers (students) are elected by voting delegates at the annual National Leadership Conference and together make up the National Executive Council. The National Board of Directors is composed of adult representatives from education and business and four youth representatives. State associations and local chapters elect their own youth officers. State programs come under the direction of Family and Consumer Sciences education staff. Chapter advisers are Family and Consumer Sciences teachers. Adults advise students and oversee the development and implementation of their annual program of work. This authentic experience creates the framework for learning at a different level than traditional classroom teaching.

History:

1945 - FHA was founded at a convention in Chicago, Illinois.
1965 - FHA and NHA merged to form one organization.
1971 - The organization is expanded to include HERO chapters.
1983 - STAR Events--Students Taking Action with Recognition began.
1999—The official name and logo was changed to Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA).
2003 - "The Ultimate Leadership Experience" was chosen by members as the official tagline.
2011—Post-secondary FCCLA chapters are explored.

For more information contact:

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