

1 North Capitol Avenue Suite 600 Indianapolis, IN 46204



TO: FFA Advisors
FROM: Holly Wagner
DATE: August 25, 202

RE: Seeking Opportunities Achieving Results Conference

This year, Indiana FFA will hold the Seeking Opportunities and Achieving Results Conferences (SOAR) on October 3-5, 2025 and October 10-12, 2024 at the Indiana FFA Leadership Center (6595 S 125W Trafalgar IN, 46181). We extend an invitation to each chapter to send their student leaders to this action-packed weekend for members beginning their FFA careers.

SOAR is designed for your beginning FFA members (8-10 grades). The 20245 – 2026 Indiana FFA State Officer Team will deliver the curriculum. This year's SOAR will focus on Supervised Agricultural Experiences. In addition, students will be learning about opportunities in FFA, Career Development Events (CDEs), and defining success.

Thursday, September 18th and SOAR #2 will be <u>due Thursday, September 25th</u>. Advisors can complete the online registration through the portal on <u>www.inffa.org</u>. The registration must be done by the advisor of the local FFA Chapter. Any chapter with 3+ students registered to attend the conference (including counselors) will be required to have an advisor registered and in attendance for the duration of the conference. If a chapter has 3+ members registered for the conference and does not have an advisor attend, they will incur a \$75 supervision fee. If an advisor is assigned supervision responsibilities for a cabin or lodge room during the conference, their registration fee will be reduced to \$45. Participants will be registered on a first come first serve basis. Only registrations that have been <u>submitted</u> will be considered complete. <u>NOTE: A wait list will be developed based on registration submission time</u>. Just because there are spots on the portal does not mean the students are accepted to attend.

All students will need to fill out the Indiana FFA Electronic Waiver Form via the INFFA portal. Students will not be eligible for registration without this completed electronic waiver. <u>Conference Scholarship Application</u> can be found on the conference page on the website. It is highly encouraged that students planning to attend a conference complete the Conference Scholarship Application. This application is due with registration on Thursday, September 18th.

Inaccurate registration being turned in can add a significant amount to conference expenses, Indiana FFA is continuing the policy set by the Board of Trustees on conference registration fees. As of the registration due date of each conference any student that you have registered for SOAR will be charged the full conference fee. Any student you do not have registered by the due date is not guaranteed a spot at the conference. You can substitute students, but if you add any additional students after the specified time, you will be charged a \$10 late fee per student.

Onsite registration will be from **6:30-8:00 pm on Friday, October 3rd** and **Friday, October 10**th. The banquet for the conference will be held on Saturday evening so please make sure <u>all chapter members have official dress.</u> SOAR will end promptly, but not before, 11:30am on Sunday, October 5th and Sunday, October 12th. Additional agenda items can be found on the draft agenda preview on the next page.

The Indiana State FFA Association is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the state FFA bylaws and policies. It is **strongly** recommended that members be supervised by an approved chaperone from the local level.

Please direct any questions regarding the 2025 Seeking Opportunities and Achieving Results Conference to Holly Wagner at stateofficerprogram@inffa.org.

General Conference Recommendations

- Participants should plan to bring the following items: Sleeping gear (pillows, blankets, sleeping bag, etc.),
 casual clothes (appropriate), toiletries, towels and wash cloths, flashlight, and official dress for the Saturday
 evening banquet. Please also bring a change of casual clothes for the dance. Inappropriate clothing
 consists of the following: clothes that show excessive skin, spaghetti strap shirts, halter tops, backless/cutoff shirts or attire that has inappropriate words, phrases, etc. Students will be required to change if found
 wearing this type of clothing.
- Proper official dress is as follows: black dress skirt or black dress pants, white button up blouse or white button up dress shirt, black dress shoes, official FFA scarf or FFA tie & official FFA jacket zipped to the top. Middle School Members and Greenhands who have not yet received their FFA jacket should wear dress clothes to the banquet.
- Indiana FFA Conferences often include loud noises, flashing lights and light to moderate physical activity. If students have issues with these things, please be aware that they may not enjoy their experience at an Indiana FFA Conference. Please make sure all students are aware of this possibility, and they are comfortable with it before they are registered for any Indiana FFA Conference.

SOAR Conference - Agenda Preview

* This agenda is a draft and is subject to change before and/or during the conference. Conference start and end time will remain the same.

Friday

6:30-8:00 pm Registration

7:30-8:00 pm Counselor Meeting **8:00 - 10:15 pm** Opening Session

Friday Night Social Fireside Chats + Snack

10:45 pm Cabin Checks/Lights Out

Saturday

7:15 am Ring Bell (Lights on in Cabins)

7:45 am Eye Openers

7:50 am Flags **8:00-8:45 am** Breakfast

8:45-12:00 pm Session 1: Beliefs and Values

Break

Session 2: Opportunities in Agriculture

LDE/CDE Practice

12:00-12:55 pm Lunch

1:00-4:30 pm LDE/CDE Practice

LDE/CDE Rotations + Open Recreation Time

Open Recreation

4:30-5:30 pmRob Hays Memorial Hoot Scoot 5K **5:30 pm**Change For Banquet (Official Dress)

6:00 pm Flag Lowering

6:00-10:30 pm Banquet - Official Dress

Change For Reflections/Dance

Reflections

Dance & Open Recreation Cabin Checks/ Lights Out

Sunday

11:00 pm

7:15 am Ring Bell (Lights on in Cabins)

7:45 am Eye Openers

7:50 am Flags **8:00-8:45 am** Breakfast

8:50-11:30 am Session 3: Personal Vision

Closing Session