

BYLAWS OF THE HORSESHOE BEND CHAPTER, FAMILY, CAREER, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA



REVISED April 2025

ARTICLE I NAME, SPONSORS, GOAL, PURPOSES

Section 1 - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Horseshoe Bend Chapter, Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America. Members shall be called Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America. The letters FCCLA may be used to designate the organization's units or members thereof. The name Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America shall be used by the state association and the affiliated chapters in Alabama.

Section 2 - Sponsors

The organization's sponsors are the United States Department of Education and the American Family and Consumer Sciences Association. In Alabama, the sponsor is the Family and Consumer Sciences Education Section, Office of Career/Technical Education, State Department of Education, Montgomery, Alabama.

Section 3 - Mission Statement and Purposes

A. Mission Statement

The mission of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America is 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 communications;
- practical knowledge; and
- career/technical preparation.

B. Purposes

Organized instruction relating to the mission is part of the family and consumer sciences program in the schools. The purposes of the organization shall be as follows:

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, family and consumer sciences careers and related occupations.

Section 4 - Membership Qualifications and Participation

- A. **Active Members** -Active members participate in all projects and ATTEND all meetings. Unless approved by FCCLA executive council members and/or the local adviser. Any student who is taking or has taken a course in family and consumer sciences must be in ninth through twelfth grade and pay annual state and national membership dues, and shall be eligible for active membership in an organized chapter within the school. Only active members shall be eligible to hold office, make motions, vote, and participate in STAR Events.
- B. **Star Events Participation**
Students interested in participating in STAR Events must be active members of FCCLA, follow school rules, and respect all authority figures. Members who have not been in FCCLA before must submit an application before undertaking a STAR Event (unless competing with someone who competed last year). Students will have to be **active in the club**. The Executive Council and the adviser will have the final say on eligibility. **Parent(s) and student** (s) must attend a Star Events Meeting in September to understand the Star Event process. There will be NO make-up meetings. Students who attend the September meeting must return the paperwork by the date set by the adviser to compete. Students who have a disciplinary record for the current school year or the previous school year will not be allowed to participate in STAR Events. If an FCCLA member has been in ISI or after-school detention for any reason other than tardiness and/or make-up work, the student will not be allowed to go to the convention or participate in STAR Events. All deadlines set by the Executive Council and Adviser must be met to compete in Star Events. State or National Star Event participation, eligibility, and/or qualification will be at the discretion of the local adviser. *If a student signed up in previous years to compete and quit, did not finish/complete their project, or were removed from competing because of discipline, then they can not compete in STAR Events. (For the rest of their high school career.)* **STAR EVENTS WORKDAYS: IT IS REQUIRED TO STAY @ LEAST 1 WORK DAY EACH WEEK.**
- C. **Dress for State and Nationals**
Students should adhere to the **Dress Code** provided by the Adviser. FCCLA' s Official Dress will be worn for all state and national meetings, with modification of pants only (no skirts/dresses). The student's hair should be of natural COLOR, with NO VISIBLE Tattoos and NO visible piercings other than ears. At no time should an FCCLA member be in the hotel and/or convention center in anything out of the school dress code, FCCLA official dress, or adviser-approved attire. SEE PICTURE FOR OFFICIAL DRESS GUIDELINES.
- D. To attend the convention, the student must do fundraising or pay their way. Convention expenses will be determined by the advisor and may change from year to year. Permission slips must be signed by a parent or guardian and returned by the due date. Also, deadlines set up by the advisor must be met to attend the convention. Deadlines are set so registration deadlines can be met and hotels can be booked. After set deadlines have been reached, **no refunds will be given.**
- E. Only FCCLA members who do a STAR Event project qualify for the state convention. Also, only first place and second place at state are eligible to attend the National Convention, unless deemed unqualified by the local FCCLA Adviser, in which the next team or member with the highest score can compete in their place. Substitutes for members who are not able to attend Nationals will be selected by the local adviser.
- F. STATE STAR Events Winners eligible for national competitions must participate in fundraisers (multiple) and pull their weight to receive any grant money/group

donations and/or group fundraising. Also, students and parents must attend meetings in March (1 meeting) and June/ July (2 meetings), and students must attend summer practice (4 times before leaving for nationals). Meetings are required for students and parents to attend; no makeup meetings will be scheduled. Not attending these meetings in March, June/July can disqualify the student from competing at Nationals. Both parent and student must attend all meetings set by the adviser to be informed on the National Competition and trip information. Any practice missed must have a Doctor's excuse or schedule a make-up time at the adviser's discretion.

- G. Chaperons for State and National Meetings/ Competitions should be employed by the Tallapoosa County Board of Education and/or selected by the local adviser.

ARTICLE II Officers, Meetings, Memberships, Dues and Privileges

Section 1 – Officers: The number of officers shall vary according to the needs of the local chapters and be determined by the local advisor. Officers can be removed from office if they are a disciplinary problem or if they are not doing their job as officers. Officers should positively represent FCCLA. Officers will complete an officer application and will then be selected by a committee based on ability and knowledge, not grade level. If a vacancy occurs, the officers will vote on how the position will be filled.

Section 2 - Chapter Meetings

Regular chapter meetings shall be an integral part of the Family and Consumer Sciences program. Chapter meetings will take place once a month. The chapter officers shall hold regularly scheduled meetings.

Section 3 –State Meeting

A. Purposes

The time and place of the state meeting shall be determined by the Alabama Association, Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, the State Executive Council, and the State Advisory Board. The purposes of the state meeting shall be to:

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

B. Qualifications to attend State Meeting

- Must raise or pay fees set by the local adviser.
- Must participate in STAR Events, complete Power of One, or be recognized in some other way.
- Students who have served/assigned three days ISI, after-school detention, or been suspended will not be allowed to attend the convention. Students who exhibit behavior issues and do not set a good example for other students will not be allowed to attend.
- Students who graduate in December of their Senior year can not participate in state, because of final expenses being due in February.

Section 4 - Membership, Dues, and Privileges

- A. The annual chapter dues will be determined by the chapter officers.
- B. An active member shall have the privilege of voting, holding office, or participating in the business of any meeting.
- C. Active members shall receive copies of any publications prepared and distributed for members.
- D. Chapters with state and national dues paid shall receive a copy of Teen Times, the official FCCLA publication, through the FCCLA Member Portal.
- E. **SOCIAL MEDIA** - It is expected that each FCCLA member is to represent FCCLA, the school, and the community in a positive way. There must also be accountability regarding Social Media. Students should refrain from posting or reposting any offensive material or anything that represents our school and organization poorly. If there is any question about whether or not something is offensive, it shouldn't be posted. If found in violation of the policy, consequences will be decided upon by the school administration and the local adviser. Officers and STAR Events participants are required to sign and return a Social Media Contract. If a student has made a negative post on social media in FCCLA attire/official dress, said student is no longer eligible to participate in STAR Events or hold an office.

Section 5 –National Conference

A. Purposes

The time and place of the National Conference shall be determined by the National Association, Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, the National Executive Council, and the National Advisory Board. The purposes of the National Conference shall be to:

- To compete in and/or help judge STAR Events (at the Adviser's discretion)
- To learn more about FCCLA and leadership
- To network with FCCLA members from across the United States

Section 6- Honor Cords

A. Requirements

Students wanting to be recognized as outstanding FCCLA graduates must complete the following requirements

Category 1: FACS class participation

- Students who have taken or are taking 2-3 different FACS classes with a C or higher.

Category 2: FCCLA- Must participate in all the following items:

- Chapter Attendance
 - Minimum of 75% attendance at local chapter meetings (To be checked by the 1st Vice President). December grads must attend at least 3 of the 4 meetings. (Sept.- Dec.)
- Membership
 - Minimum of two years (including Senior year) (To be checked by Vice President of Membership)
- Participation
 - Must participate in an appropriate amount (to be determined by the adviser) of activities with the following categories throughout the school year:

- Fundraising
- Leadership (ex., complete Power of One, serve on a committee, compete in STAR Events)
- Community Service - Participate in our community service activities

Personal Conduct:

Students should exemplify the following characteristics: Trustworthiness, Respect, Care, Citizenship, and Helpfulness.

You must attend the end-of-the-year Awards Program to receive your CORDS!

We will check eligibility at the beginning of April each year. Cords will cost about \$10-\$20.

ARTICLE III PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Parliamentary Procedure

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the business of the Alabama Association, Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE IV National Technical Honor Society (NTHS)

A. Requirements for NTHS (to be nominated to NTHS through FCCLA)

1. Must take at least one Family & Consumer Science Class at Horseshoe Bend School
2. Be active in FCCLA (determined by the adviser)
3. Have/maintain an overall GPA of 3.0
4. No Discipline Offenses: Class 2, 3, or 4
5. NTHS cords must be earned; therefore, you must be active in your FCCLA membership

Students will be notified toward the end of their senior year if they will receive cords to wear at graduation.