



CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

TOM TORLAKSON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

To: Agriculture Instructors & FFA Advisors
 From: Jill Sperling, Nat'l FFA Housing Coordinator
 Date: June 6, 2023
 Re: 2023 National FFA Convention – State Housing Block Details

As previously announced, California FFA will no longer be organizing a state trip to the National FFA Convention. However, we will be providing access to the state room block for chapters to reserve hotel rooms. Our hotel block has 200 rooms this year. Once the block fills, no other rooms will be added. At that point, chapters will be able to reserve housing through the National FFA Chapter Housing Block available on www.ffa.org.

Note: CA FFA Official Delegates will have travel and hotels arranged by California FFA as it has traditionally been done.

Convention Hotel Properties

JW Marriott
10 S. West St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Courtyard by Marriott Indianapolis Downtown
601 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Convention Hotel Room Rates & Availability

Courtyard by Marriott Indianapolis Downtown

King Bed with Sofa Sleeper - Rate: \$191.00 1 - 3 people (does not include tax)

Two Queen Bed - Rate: \$191.00 1 - 4 people (does not include tax)

JW Marriott

King Bed - Rate \$220.00 1 - 2 People (does not include tax)

Two Queen Bed - Rate \$220.00 1 - 4 People (does not include tax)

Blocks for group S - California

Numbers in each cell indicate number of available rooms, and the minimum night stay for t

	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/01	11/02	11/03	11/04
Courtyard by Marriott Downtown Indianapolis									
Guest room, 1 King, Sofa bed		0	0	9	9	10	10	10	10
Guest room, 2 Queen		0	15	50	60	90	90	90	90
JW Marriott Indianapolis									
King	0	0	10	11	11	15	15	15	15
Queen/Queen	0	0	20	20	20	85	85	85	85

Important Dates

September 13th, 2023 5:00 PM, EDT	Cut-off Date for States New reservations. Any rooms not booked by this date at 5:00 PM EDT will be released.
October 4th, 2023 5:00 PM, EDT	Housing Cut-Off Date at 5PM EDT, last day for changes, cancellations through Housing Bureau.
October 5th, 2023 5:00 PM, EDT	Hotel Reservation Access Date. <i>Guests will be referred to hotels directly for all changes and cancellations and billing arrangements, starting on October 5th.</i> Please give the hotels a couple of business days to process their reservations before calling them.
Cancellation Policy:	A \$50 deposit per room is no longer being collected. Details of the cancellation policy are <u>below</u> .
May 10th, 2023 – September 13th, 2023, 5:00 PM EDT:	Room reservations cancelled between May 10th - September 13th will NOT incur a cancellation fee per room cancelled.
September 14th - October 4th, 2023	Room reservations cancelled between September 14th - October 4th will incur a one night's room and tax, non-refundable cancellation fee per room cancelled. You may make changes to the reservation without penalty, but if the reservation is cancelled the penalty fee will be charged to the credit card associated with the reservation. Prior to making the cancellation you may go into the reservation and change the credit card.
October 5th, 2023 - Arrival date:	1 night's room and tax cancellation policy to be charged by the hotel for each room reservation cancelled.
Rates/Sales Tax not included:	Rates posted for the convention are <u>not inclusive of tax; tax information is listed on reservation recap online and the reservation acknowledgement.</u>

Reservation Method Options

Reservations Online Option:	All attendees will be booking online on the Housing website with a valid credit card. Credit cards must have an expiration date of December 1, 2023 or later. State Blocks have pre-assigned inventory. Reservations may be booked online by your attendees into your state block utilizing this designated URL: Link will be released through AET Message System on Wednesday, June 7 at 3:00
State Contact making the reservation vs. sending the link to Chapters to make the reservation	If a State Block is paying for all the rooms, or for any reason does not want their attendees reserving themselves online, the State Block contact will need to make the reservations online for each chapter. Please review the cancellation policy laid out above.
Late Arrivals	If any party will be arriving after the reservation check-in day, please contact the hotel in advance to inform them of the change in arrival date. Not providing advanced notice to the hotel may result in a charge of one night's room and tax and loss of rooms.
Early Departures	An early departure fee of one night's room and tax may be charged to a guest who departs prior to the reserved check-out date. Guests wishing to avoid this fee must advise the hotel before check-in of any change in the scheduled length of stay. The hotel will inform the guest of this fee upon check-in; giving the guest the option to change the check-out date upon arrival without penalty.
Purchase Orders	Arrangements to pay final hotel bill by purchase order must be made in advance directly with the hotel. A purchase order may not be an acceptable form of payment at all hotels.
Unsolicited Housing Emails	National FFA Organization works directly with Visit Indy's Housing Bureau. If you receive unsolicited emails from groups/individuals stating they are representing our convention, offering accommodations within the National FFA room block and non-room block hotels, please do not reserve rooms through them as they are not representing our convention. Please feel free to forward those emails directly to National FFA Convention Management - convention@ffa.org.

State Ag Ed Staff Contact

For questions about navigating the state housing block or other questions pertaining to National FFA Convention, please feel free to contact:

Jill Sperling
CA State Housing Coordinator for National Convention
jsperling@cde.ca.gov
(559) 303-3148

Assistance with Booking Flights

For teachers who would like help booking flights for National FFA Convention, the travel agent that CA FFA has used in the past is offering to help. We have worked with her for many years and she has always provided excellent service.

Kim Mowat
Great Escape Travel
kmowat@carlsontravel.net
(530) 345-6126