

Frequently Asked Questions if Elected to State Office

1. What assistance is provided with insurance and student status?

State FFA Office is recognized as an internship with the California Department of Education. Elected officers can request a letter from the Assistant State FFA Advisor explaining the internship and requesting your insurance company continue to recognize the officer as a student.

2. What assistance is provided with college scholarship deferment?

Elected officers can request a letter from the Assistant State FFA Advisor explaining state office and requesting deferral for scholarships. Many scholarship programs recognize FFA and the opportunity State Office provides and will defer scholarships for one year.

3. What assistance is provided with college deferment?

Elected officers can request a letter from the Assistant State FFA Advisor explaining state office and requesting deferral of college enrollment for one year. Many universities recognize FFA and the opportunity State Office provides and will defer enrollment.

4. What if my child doesn't have a car/driver's license?

We have worked with state officers in the past who have either not had a car available for the year or haven't yet earned their driver's license. This in no way hinders their ability to serve as an officer. We work with the 6 elected officers to organize our schedule and plan accordingly. Although a car is nice to have as a state officer, and all official mileage for the association is reimbursed at \$.50/mile.

5. What financial requirements are there to serve?

All costs directly related to the functions of state office are covered by the Association. Travel, Meals, Lodging, and business related expenses are reimbursed. A student and his/her parents should be ready to cover some of his/her legitimate living expenses during the year (Personal Items, personal travel, and Personal meals). There have been officers known to have had the year cost anywhere from a few hundred dollars to \$2,000. This depends, of course, on the individual and the decisions he/she makes.

6. If expenses are able to be reimbursed what should we do if our student doesn't have the funds to begin the year?

The California FFA Association provides a \$1,000 advance to officers if needed. The advance needs to be deposited into a checking account, and officers are able to use the fund to pay for FFA reimbursable expenses. The association then asks for the \$1,000 to be returned at the end of the year.

7. When would their year of service start?

The state officer's year of service starts immediately following the California State FFA Leadership Conference. However, there are only a few required activities until they graduate from high school or are finished with their college spring term. The tentative required dates for the 2019-20 state officer team prior to move in are:

- May 4 State FFA Finals – Cal Poly
- May 17-20 Officer Orientation – Mayfield's House
- June 17 State Officer Move-In & Family BBQ – FFA Center
- June 18-22 Blast Off Training and Planning - FFA Center

8. When would they need to move in to the FFA Center?

Traditionally the State Officer move in date is the second/third week in June. The date is dependent on State Officer graduation dates.

The tentative date is scheduled for June 17, 2019

9. How often can we expect our students to come home during the year?

The rule of thumb is that officers get a home break approximately every 6 weeks. Most breaks are between 3-5 days. They will receive a full two week break around the traditional Christmas/Winter holiday season.

10. What should our family do regarding summer family vacation dates?

Family vacations are sometimes difficult to schedule around. A few suggestions include taking the vacation prior to the officers expected move in date or schedule the vacation once the State Officer schedule is established, in order to schedule the vacation during a state officer home break.

11. What should we do with Fair project animals?

Summer fairs are a challenge, but not impossible for the association to schedule around. Traditionally the student is allowed to attend show day, and we make a request of the local fair board to have another chapter member walk the animal across the auction block for the officer. Most county fairs recognize the state officer program and will work with us to allow the student to participate. We will handle these on a case by case basis.