



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

TONY THURMOND
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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To: Agriculture Instructors & FFA Advisors
 From: Jill Sperling, Nat'l FFA Housing Coordinator
 Date: May 8, 2024
 Re: 2024 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 the National FFA Chapter Housing Block available on www.ffa.org.

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

2024 National FFA Convention & Expo - Hotel Block

JW Marriott

King Bed - Rate \$224.00 1 - 2 people

Two Queen Bed - Rate \$224.00 1 - 4 people

Courtyard Indianapolis Downtown

King w/Sofa Bed - Rate \$194.00 1 - 3 people

Two Queen Bed - Rate \$194.00 1 - 4 people

Blocks for group S - California

Numbers in each cell indicate number of available rooms, and the minimum night stay for that night (if not equal to 1).

	10/18	10/19	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27
Courtyard by Marriott Downtown Indianapolis										
Guest room, 1 King, Sofa bed		0	0	9	9	10	10	10	2	0
Guest room, 2 Queen		0	7	50	60	90	90	90	9	0
JW Marriott Indianapolis										
King	0	0	8	11	11	15	15	15	11	0
Queen/Queen	0	0	20	20	20	85	85	85	53	0

Important Dates

2024 FFA State Housing Processes:

Important Dates & Information

May 8, 2024 6:00PM EDT	State Housing Opens for online reservations
September 4, 2024 5:00PM EDT	Cut-off Date for States New reservations. Any rooms not booked by this date at 5:00 PM EDT will be released.
September 25, 2024 5:00PM EDT	Housing Cut-Off Date at 5PM EDT, last day for changes, cancellations through Housing Bureau.

September 26, 2024	Hotel Reservation Access Date. <i>Guests will be referred to hotels directly for all changes and cancellations and billing arrangements, starting on September 26. Please give the hotels a couple of business days to process their reservations before calling them.</i>
Cancellation Policy:	
May 8, 2024 - September 4, 2024 5:00PM EDT:	Room reservations cancelled between May 8th - September 4th will NOT incur a cancellation fee per room cancelled.
September 5 - September 25, 2024:	Room reservations cancelled between September 5th - September 25th 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.
September 26, 2024 - 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

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 November 1, 2024 or later. State Blocks have pre-assigned inventory. Reservations may be booked online by your attendees into your state block utilizing this <u>designated URL</u> : <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Code will be sent through AET Message System at 5:00 pm PST on Wed, May 8</div>
Sub-Block Dashboard Access:	Visit Indy can give you access to a 'Sub-Block Planner Dashboard' where, with a login through Passkey, you may access your block pickup and booked reservations at anytime while housing is open. If you would or would not like access to this feature, please confirm below. If yes is checked, you will be sent an automated email from Passkey granting you access after housing opening: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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 happy 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