



**2026 NATIONAL
OFFICER CANDIDATE
APPLICATIONS**

National Leadership Conference

Washington D.C.



**2026 National Officer Candidate
Application Materials**

Below are the names of the 26 National Officer Candidates. Click one of their names to go to their application materials.

Irene Gutierrez

Samantha Riche

Kayla Goodwin

Graham Mull

Parker Simpson

Hadlea Roberts

Delia Alberts

Brock Romero

Rajganesh Srinivasan

Amarissa Akyea

Aprille Janarth

Brody Boe

Ashland Roethlisberger

Kaycee Kimberling

Kooper Walker

Ellie Kerfonta

Emeri Hofeman

Amelia Sjurseth

Addison Rachell

Adelyn Scull

Kylee Bangerter

Jennilyn Hess

Natalie Fannon

Veronica Yorro

Maximus Eismann

Tessa Kenyon

Please refrain from scoring based on the digital quality or size of documents included



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: _____

State: _____

Region: _____



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: _____

State: _____

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Irene Gutierrez

State: California

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

When I began my FCCLA journey in seventh grade, I wanted to become someone members looked up to, a role model, a leader. At the time, I thought being a leader simply meant completing tasks and being able to present to a large crowd. However, when I became the California FCCLA Region 10 Vice President in eighth grade, I met a group of people who taught me what true leadership and responsibility was. These were the students and staff at the [REDACTED] School for the Deaf, [REDACTED].

In my home city of [REDACTED], there is a very prominent Deaf community. However, it wasn't until my involvement in FCCLA that I began to build a relationship with them. Meeting the School for the Deaf at my Region Spring Meeting was an exciting experience, but there was one problem: I could not understand a single thing they told me without the help of an interpreter. I began to wonder whether or not their voices were being heard in important discussions. Something had awakened within me, a drive to work to bridge that gap and to advocate for them. This led to me immediately enrolling in American Sign Language 1 when I entered high school to expand my knowledge and understanding of their community.

Since then, I have gained valuable knowledge and friendships with members of the School of the Deaf. Their resilience, patience, determination, and empathy have shown me that there is so much more to leadership and responsibility than I could have ever imagined. From the School for the Deaf, one specific man has shown me in even more depth how to be a leader and to be responsible, supporting me in all of my endeavors and providing me with guidance. This man is Jose Cervantes.

Jose, or Pepe, is the main FCCLA advisor at the [REDACTED] School for the Deaf, [REDACTED], where he has worked tirelessly to increase involvement at both the middle and high school level. Since the day I met him, Pepe has taught me the value of patience, authenticity, passion, and integrity. Pepe has shown me that when you work to better your community, you must work to better it for all members, while also holding yourself to a standard that reflects your own values.

These lessons in being genuine and determined as a leader have made me into the person that I am today, and they are exactly why I want to become a part of the National Executive Council. My approach as a National Officer would be to make sure that everyone has a seat at the table, that every voice is heard. Serving at the National level isn't just about standing up for the majority, but speaking out just as loudly for the minority. All 250,000 FCCLA members are unique individuals, and I will make it my mission to advocate for each and every one of them equally, giving them the representation they deserve. As an Officer, I will lead by example by being true to myself and those around me, while also working towards the betterment of every single individual, not just a select few.

Being a leader is more than just a title. It's about the impact you make within your community and the values you embody while doing so. And most importantly, it's about serving with patience, authenticity, passion, and integrity. That is the leader I will be, because a true leader serves everyone with pride, working towards a better future for all.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

State: California Grade Level: 11	<u>Irene Gutierrez</u> California FCCLA National Officer Candidate	School: [REDACTED] Chapter: [REDACTED]
--	---	---

FCCLA History: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Years in FCCLA: 5 - Years in Chapter Office: 2 - Years in Region Office: 3 - Years in State Office : 1 <p>* At the time, bylaws stated only sophomores and up were permitted to run for state office</p>	FCCLA Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CA FCCLA Region 10 Fall Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 - CA FCCLA Region 10 Spring Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 - CA FCCLA State Leadership Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 - FCCLA National Leadership Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2023, 2024, 2025
---	--

Contributions to FCS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lobbied for FCCLA, FCS, FCSTAC, and CTEIG in Sacramento to CA District 66 Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi and CA District 31 Senator Sabrina Cervantes - Invited and presented keynote speaker Senator Sabrina Cervantes at CA SLC 2026 - Increased FCS and FCCLA involvement in middle schools - Promoted community service initiatives through FCS - Encouraged and guided members to pursue FCS related careers - Increased FCCLA membership in California by almost 2,000 members in the 25-26 year 	FCS Instruction & Courses: 1 1/2 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food Science 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7th Grade - A+, 5 Credits - Food Service & Hospitality - COMM-C1000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11th Grade - B, 10 Credits - Public Service & Communications <hr/> FCCLA Competition: <u>Job Interview Level 2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2025 Region 10 Spring Meeting: 1st Place - 2025 CA FCCLA SLC: 2nd Place - 2025 FCCLA NLC: Silver
---	---

FCCLA Leadership: <u>Chapter</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2024-2025 [REDACTED] Chapter Secretary - 2025-2026 [REDACTED] Chapter First Vice President 	<u>Region</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2022-2023 Region 10 Vice President - 2023-2024 Region 10 President - 2024-2025 Region 10 President <u>State</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2025-2026 CA FCCLA State Vice President of Membership
--	---

School/Community Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Owner of Cafe [REDACTED] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small business established 2022 - Hostess/Cashier at [REDACTED] Restaurants LLC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8/18/23 - 1/11/25 - [REDACTED] Drama Member - Assistant Alto Saxophone Section Leader/Instrument Tutor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marching, Jazz, Symphonic bands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - [REDACTED] Honor Band Member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2023, 2024, 2025 - Tri-M Music Honors Society founding member and chapter vice president - American Sign Language Co-Social Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2024-2025, 2025-2026 - Founding member of [REDACTED] Chess Club - [REDACTED] Science Club Representative
--	--



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Samantha Riche'

State: California

Region: Pacific



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Samantha Riche

State: California

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

Families First is a national program that aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters, and prepares members with employability skills applicable beyond FCCLA.

Families First aligns with FCCLA's mission with its unit development. Through this unit, the students are given the skills to nurture and care for children. Through FCS education, students can also gain these in the education and training career cluster. One of families firsts mission is to "Help youth become strong family members and leaders for today and tomorrow," which also promotes personal growth and leadership development. If there's a strong leader in the home, other family members will follow, which will strengthen the family altogether. It's also stated in the 2024 Families First program sheet, "Through their projects, students experience character development and improve their critical and creative thinking, interpersonal communication, leadership, practical knowledge, and career preparation," (paragraph 2), which is FCCLA's mission statement.

This national program also aligns with FCCLA's purposes because one of the goals of Families First and FCCLA's purpose number 2 is to "Strengthen families as a foundational unit of society." In families first, the unit skills give students the strategies to become good family members, which could help strengthen their family if used. It also aligns with purpose number 8 and another goal, which states, "Explore careers that support families." Purpose number 8 states "To promote Family and Consumer Sciences and related occupations." Both support careers in FCS education.

It aligns with the education and training career cluster through this unit development, which teaches students how to care for and nurture children. Just like the education and training cluster has taught students how to care for children of all ages. A goal of the national program is also "Explore careers that support families," which is also what the education and training pathway does. Whether is a homemaker or an educator, these are careers that are in the education and training cluster, and they support families.

Lastly, Families First gives students the skills that can be used after high school. Through this national program, they learn how to communicate within their families and build teamwork in leadership skills using the family first units. These skills can be used in the future when students have families of their own, or they can be used within the families they have now to strengthen family bonds.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Samantha Riche'

State: California

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

An FCCLA connection that helped expand my understanding of leadership was when I was a freshman. I was new to FCCLA, and it was our state conference. The rec night was going on, and I couldn't find my advisor, so I went back to my room, and I called my dad, crying, begging him to pick me up. I wanted to go home, see my friends, and not be lonely. My dad told me no because it was too late, and I was going to head back in 2 days. He told me to take every opportunity that came about that weekend. After I hung up the phone, one of the sophomores walked in. Her name was Lydia, and she asked if I wanted to go with her and her friends back downstairs to see what was at the rec night. I took my dad's advice, and I said yes. I had an amazing time hanging out with the "older girls" and couldn't wait to go back the next year.

Since then, Lydia and I ran for region and state office together, and she truly embodies what a leader is. As our region president, she led our team, and because of her drive and determination, we won best opening and closing at the region officer leadership training. As our state president, Lydia was patient with everyone on the team; she made everyone feel included in the topics we were discussing, and she made me feel like her little sister. She also took on a lot of responsibility, but handled it like a true leader, turning everything in on time, and even when she was busy, she helped me with my work as well. Lydia's hard work, dedication, and inclusivity helped show me another side to leadership. She showed me that being a leader isn't just about telling everyone what to do; it's about being connected and helping others stay connected.

If I get elected to the national executive council, I want to take responsibilities head-on, just like Lydia. She perseveres and takes on challenges. That same drive and determination is what I strive to bring to the national executive council. I want our members to have the best of the best. I also want to make sure every member feels included, no matter where we are. I want to be that big sister to the scared underclassmen starting their FCCLA journey. The F in FCCLA stands for family, and I want to make sure every member feels included in our FCCLA family, just like how Lydia helped me discover my second home.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Samantha Riche'

California

██████ High School, 11th Grade

3 Years in FCS and FCCLA

9th CAREERS IN ED A/B, 10 credits A+

10th CHILDRENS LIT A/B, 10 credits A+

11th DE MCC CD1, 10 credits B

11th DE MCC CD39, 10 credits *in progress

FCCLA Officer Positions

2024-2025 Region 8 Secretary

2024-2025 Chapter Treasurer

2025-2026 CA FCCLA VP Of Community Service

2025-2026 Chapter President

National/State Events

2023-2024 National Program- Community Service

2024 National Leadership Conference in Seattle, Washington

2024 Fall Leadership Institute in Anaheim, California

2024 CA FCCLA Red Rose Degree Recipient

2024-2025 National Program- "Stand Up!"

2025 CA FCCLA Chapter Degree Recipient

2025 National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida

2025 Capitol Leadership in Washington, D.C

2026 Led a State-wide sock donation to Project Food Riverside *over 1,000 socks donated

2025 CA FCCLA Region Degree Recipient

Other

2023 District Achievement Award

2022-2023 ASB Activities Advisor

2 Year Girls Varsity Flag Football

2 Year Girls Varsity Basketball

2-year Block M Member

3-year Kids Ministry worker (church)

3-year CSF Member (California Scholarship Federation)

3-year FCA club rep (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)

3-year Scholar Athlete Award Recipient

2024-2025 S.T.A.R. Award (Basketball)

2024-2025 "Rising Star" Award (Basketball)

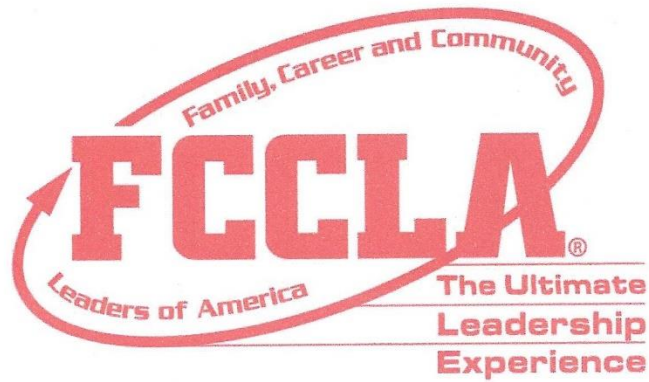
2025-2026 Girls Varsity Basketball Captain

2025-2026 PACK Player of the Year (Basketball)

2025-2026 NYL League Honorable Mention (Basketball)

FCCLA STAR Events

2023- Event Management, Silver at Nationals



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Kayla Goodwin

State: Florida

Region: Southern



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kayla Goodwin

State: Florida

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

The National Program Community Service strongly elevates and aligns with FCCLA's main core values. The purpose of this program is to allow students to see first-hand how their acts of service can directly impact the community, it allows them to learn more about their personal values while at the same time benefiting the community, it allows for them to lead and develop their leadership skills, and they most importantly serve and play an important role in matching the needs of others while at the same time improving the lives of others.

This impactful program aligns with FCCLA's mission perfectly. Community Service allows for students to grow in their personal life and their leadership capabilities as they are able to serve their community both inside and outside their classroom. Community Service also focuses on all of the fundamentals of the mission of FCCLA as it requires members to strengthen their character development through giving back to the community, it can help spark creativity and critical thinking as members create and attend community service events, and members are able to work with others and upgrade their practical knowledge to help set up and communicate on how to make the event a success. Members are also able to find a spark in their passion through these community service events.

The National Program Community Service strongly aligns with each and every purpose within FCCLA. This singular program hits all eight purposes with the first one being able to aid in the creation of personal development and even preparing individuals for their adult life because through community service you are able to strengthen your own identity which will greatly help you in the future of your life. The next purpose allows for a strengthened function of the family due to the fact that when you serve others you are also helping to create a better home life not only for the person you served, but also for yourself as you are learning discipline that will allow you to become a better family member. When you attend community service events or even create them it requires you to cooperate with others to make the event successful. It also requires you to work in harmony with the people around you to achieve the common goal. This program also needs a deeper understanding of the relationship between the younger individuals and the adults, as it is necessary for the two groups to work well and understand one another. This allows for people to make decisions and take upon themselves responsibilities that would normally not have been fulfilled. Community Service also prepares men and women for all and any life situations that will arise in today's life. Lastly, the National Program Community Service hits the eighth and final purpose as it allows for members to promote Family and Consumer Sciences in life roles through training or volunteering. This National Program prepares individuals for their occupations which ties into the six career clusters that this National Program can be aligned with.

Community Service, while having many benefits, has one in particular which is allowing for individuals to grow outside of their comfort zone and allow for a pursuit of a career outside of FCCLA.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kayla Goodwin

State: Florida

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

One of the most meaningful FCCLA connections that I have made throughout my years within the organization, one that has left a lasting impact on me, was with a member of my State Executive Council (SEC). When I first was elected to the SEC, I remember feeling absolutely terrified and scared that I would mess everything up, fall short of goals, or not be "good enough" because it was a brand-new experience. Everything felt new and overwhelming. But almost immediately, one of the officers was quick to take me under her wing and show me what FCCLA was truly about. She was the first person to teach me the importance of branching out and stepping outside of my comfort zone. She taught me how to speak with confidence and embrace every experience with open arms, and she encouraged me to never say no to an opportunity simply because they scared me. Instead, she helped me to see that I could do it and that I could choose to push myself and grow rather than cower in fear.

Because of her I was able to learn how to be bold and how to be confident and most importantly, how to trust myself. She taught me that even though it might be difficult sometimes, there is always a way to get through it and come out even stronger. She also reshaped my understanding of what leadership means. She taught me that being a leader isn't just about holding a title to flash around for others to see, but rather it's being the leader that others need, not just the one they want. It's about having to do the hard thing that nobody wants to do but will benefit others.

This individual even reshaped my mindset about FCCLA. What once felt like a huge and intimidating organization filled with experiences that I never thought I could be brave enough for, became a place full of opportunities that I could conquer if I believed in myself. She helped me understand that FCCLA isn't something to fear, but rather it's something to embrace wholeheartedly. This SEC member also taught me how to be responsible, not just with assignments, but with other people. She explained to me the importance of not just holding myself accountable for every task I needed to accomplish but also holding others to their responsibilities so that everyone can function together as a team and to the best we possibly can.

This connection that I made with her will forever benefit me, because now I am able to be courageous, I am able to take on challenges, and I am able to lead with confidence and boldness that I once never thought to be possible. The connection I made with her will greatly shape and influence my approach to serving as a national officer, because I am no longer afraid to approach difficult challenges, but rather I am thrilled to face them. I am also no longer afraid to form connections with others and build them up, because now I understand that even small connections that you are able to make with one another will leave a lasting impact. I know that each and every connection that a member makes has the power to inspire and influence those all around them each and every day of their lives.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Kayla Goodwin

- Florida National Officer Candidate
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- 11th grade
- 3 years in FCCLA
- 3 Years of FCS Courses Completed

Family and Consumer Sciences Courses Completed

- Family & Consumer Sciences / Life Skills - 6th Grade - 0.5 Credit - Food Service, Human Services, and Child Care
- Chef Basics - 6th Grade - 1 Credit - Hospitality and Tourism, Culinary, and Food Safety
- Design Squad - 6th Grade - 1 Credit - Interior Design
- Art - Fashion Design - 7th Grade - 1 Credit - Fashion and Art Textiles
- Advanced Home Economics / Family & Consumer Sciences - 7th Grade - 0.5 Credit - Human Services
- Personal Finance and Money Management - 9th Grade - 0.5 Credit - Financial Literacy

FCCLA Participation

Local:

- Chapter meetings
- Participation in the mittens project two years in a row
- Volunteering at Boo the Hallways for an Elementary school
- Volunteering at Daddy Daughter dance an elementary school
- Volunteering at JV track meet

State:

- 2024 Florida State Leadership Conference
- 2024 Florida Fall Leadership Conference
- 2025 Florida State Leadership Conference
- 2025 Florida, Georgia, Alabama Tri-State Leadership Development
- 2025 Florida Fall Leadership Conference
- 2025 CTE on The Hill with FBLA, DECA, and Skills USA
- 2026 Florida State Leadership Conference

District:

- 2023 Annual District Meeting
- 2023 Annual District Competition
- 2024 Annual District Meeting
- 2024 Annual District Competition
- 2025 Annual District Meeting
- 2025 Annual District Competition
- Multiple visits to District Meetings of Florida FCCLA

National:

- 2025 National Leadership Conference
- 2025-2026 Monthly National Network Meetings
- 2025 CTE on The Hill at Washington D.C.

FCCLA Offices Held:

- 2024-2025 Chapter Vice President of Competitive Events
- 2025-2026 District VII Representative
- 2025-2026 State Vice President of Community Service

Contributions to Family and Consumer Sciences Education

- Advocate for CTSO and FCS Educations in Tallahassee, Florida, and Washington, D.C.
- Promotion of FCS through Social Media Posts
- Workshops at Chapter meetings educating students

School and Community Involvement

- Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Officer
- EmpowHer Member
- [REDACTED] Church Volunteer
- National Honors Society (NHS) Member
- [REDACTED] (School News) Member
- National Society of High School Scholars (NHSS)
- [REDACTED] (School Sprit Club) Member
- Varsity Swim Team Captain
- Varsity Weightlifting Athlete
- Varsity Track and Field Athlete
- Child Care Leader of Mom2Mom



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Graham Mull

State: Georgia

Region: Southern



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Graham Mull

State: Georgia

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

FCCLA's mission calls members to promote personal growth and leadership development in their families, careers, and communities. The National Program Stand Up strongly reflects this mission because it teaches members that leadership is not only something they hold as a title. It is something they practice when they recognize a need, use their voice, and take action for others. Stand Up gives members a structure for advocacy through three steps: Assess, Educate, and Advocate. Because of that, the program does more than encourage service. It prepares members to understand issues, communicate purposefully, and help create change in their families, careers, and communities.

When members assess, they learn to look beyond themselves and identify what is actually needed. When they educate, they learn how to communicate information in a way that inspires others to care. When they advocate, they turn awareness into action. That process is what makes Stand Up powerful. It shows members that a strong influence does not always begin with a large audience. Sometimes it begins with one student who notices a problem and chooses to do something about it.

I saw this through my Living Literacy campaign serving as a state officer. It focused on supporting early childhood literacy for children ages three to six. Stand Up gave me a clear way to lead that work. I first assessed the need by recognizing gaps in access to books and literacy support for young children in Georgia. I then educated others through outreach, social media, chapter communication, and conversations with FCCLA members across the state. Finally, I advocated by helping organize book drives, service initiatives, and partnerships that allowed members to directly support literacy efforts. This experience showed me that advocacy is not a one-time event. It is a process built through planning, collaboration, consistency, and follow-through.

Stand Up also connects directly to Career Clusters such as Human Services and Education and Training, while also supporting skills used in public service and community outreach. Members who participate in this program practice communication, problem solving, organization, teamwork, empathy, and leadership. These are not just FCCLA skills. They are employability skills that can be used in classrooms, workplaces, civic organizations, and future careers. A member who learns to assess a need can later evaluate a workplace problem. A member who learns to educate others can later train a team or speak to a community. A member who learns to advocate can later stand up for people, ideas, and causes that matter. Stand Up prepares members for life beyond FCCLA because it teaches them to lead with purpose. It reminds us that leadership is not about waiting for change. It is about understanding a need, bringing people together, and doing the work.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Graham Mull **State:** Georgia

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

One FCCLA connection that expanded my understanding of leadership and responsibility was my connection with the members of the Georgia FCCLA State Executive Council. Serving with them showed me that leadership is not only about being prepared, speaking well, or completing assignments. It is about how you treat people when the pressure is high, how you help carry the weight of a team, and how you choose to keep growing even when the work feels overwhelming. That connection pushed me beyond what I thought leadership was and helped me understand the responsibility that comes with being a role model.

During our February State Executive Council meeting, our team was preparing for State Leadership Conference. There were details to finalize, decisions to make, and expectations we wanted to meet. You could feel the pressure in the room. In that moment, one member of our team pulled us together and said, "On the count of three, we are all going to laugh." So we did. Then they said, "Now we are going to work. We are going to work as hard as we can until we can't anymore. And when that happens, we will laugh again."

That moment stayed with me because it showed me a kind of leadership I will never forget. Leadership was not ignoring the stress or pretending everything was easy. Leadership was recognizing that the team needed encouragement, connection, and a reminder that we were not alone. My State Executive Council taught me that no matter the situation, you can get through it, and often you come out stronger because of the people around you. It also taught me that joy and responsibility can exist together. We could laugh, and then we could work. We could feel overwhelmed, and still show up for one another.

That connection also changed how I understand responsibility. Responsibility is not only a checklist. It is people. As a state officer, every interaction is purposeful and carries influence. Every chapter visit, conversation, workshop, and decision affects the members we serve. My SEC helped me see that leadership is bigger than what I can accomplish by myself. It is about contributing to a team, representing members with care, and creating experiences that help others feel seen, supported, and capable.

As a national officer, this connection would shape the way I serve. I would lead with resilience because challenges will come, but I now understand that our response matters. I would prioritize connection by creating spaces where members feel encouraged instead of alone. I would lead with purpose by remembering that every action should reflect FCCLA's mission and the members behind it. Most importantly, I would remain willing to learn from every person I meet. FCCLA has taught me that leadership is not about avoiding difficult moments. It is about rising through them, together.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

GRAHAM MULL - National Officer Candidate



Georgia | ██████████ FCCLA | Junior (Class of 2027) | 2 Years in FCCLA

FCCLA PARTICIPATION

| Local involvement

- Submitted Chapter National Program Applications|2026
- Organized Sock Drive in Collaboration with WeHelp2|2025, 2026
- Led Power of One Workshop with Members|2025, 2026
- Promoted Region Officer Candidacy|2025, 2026
- Established Chapter By-laws|2025
- Led Chapter Recruitment & Campaign|2024, 2025, 2026

| Region involvement

- Organized Region 5 STAR Events|2026
- Organized Region 3 STAR Events|2026
- Attended Region 3 STAR Events|2025
 - Leadership, Gold, 1st Place in Region
- Led & Facilitated Region 3 Fall Meeting|2025
- Led & Facilitated Region 2 Fall Meeting|2025
 - Presented Workshop on State Events

| State involvement

- Led & Facilitated State Leadership Conference|2026
 - Organized and Coordinated Statewide Book Drive Donation,
 - Collected 2,000+ Books for Early Childhood Centers
- Conducted Chapter Visits in Georgia As a State Officer|2025, 2026
 - 10 Visits to Unaffiliated and Affiliated Chapters
- Developed Statewide Community Service Initiative|2025, 2026
 - Living Literacy Campaign, Support 3-6 yrs. Literacy Skills
 - Led Miracle Minute Initiative as Statewide Conferences, Raised over \$2,000 for YMCA Early Childhood Programs
 - GA FCCLA Social Media Monthly Initiatives, August - March Reached over 30,000+ accounts
- Submitted Georgia News Article|2025, 2026
- Distinguished Statesman Award Recipient|2025
- Led & Facilitated Fall Leadership Conference|2025
 - Workshop Presenter - Public Speaking & Presentation Skills
- Led & Facilitated DISCOVER Training|2025
 - Workshop Presenter - Community Service Campaign
- Attended State Leadership Conference|2025
 - STAR Event Qualifier, Leadership, Gold
 - State Officer Candidate
- Attended Fall Leadership Conference|2024
 - Membership Recruitment Display, Top 10 Placement
- Attended Fall Rally|2024
 - Themed Speech, 1st Place

| National involvement

- Competed in Virtual Business Challenge, Finance | 2026
- Attended National Fall Leadership Institute|2025
- Attended National Capitol Leadership|2025
- Attended National Leadership Conference|2025
- Represented Georgia as a NLC Voting Delegate|2025
- NLC Challenge Test, FCCLA Knowledge, 6th Place|2025
- NLC Workshop Presenter, Words to Wow|2025
- State Officer Networking & Representation at NLC|2025
- Attended National Network Calls|2025, 2026

OFFICES HELD

| 2025-2026

State Vice President of Community Service
Georgia FCCLA Board - SEC Representative
SEC Partnerships Committee Chair

| 2024-2025

Chapter President
Recruitment Committee Chair

FCS COURSEWORK

(2 years of credits)

Teaching as a Profession (TAP)

|11th (1 Credit Earned)

Intro to Culinary

|8th (.5 Credit Earned)

Middle School FACS

|7th (.5 Credit Earned)

FCS CONTRIBUTIONS

- Advocation for FACS and TAP to State Senator Frank Ginn|2025, 2026
- Attended GA FCCLA Day at The Capitol|2025, 2026
- Advocation for FACS & CTAE to the office of U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff|2025
- Led County-wide CTAE Workshop for CTSOs|2025
- Presented to Partners in Education Members for FCS Funding in Classrooms County-wide|2025
- Development of TAP Class at BASA|2025, 2026
- Advocation and Petition for a Teaching As a Profession Program at BASA|2024, 2025
- Planned a Lanier Technical College Teen Driver Virtual Safety Course for BASA Students|2024

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- BASA Student Services Coordinator|2026
- DECA Member|2025, 2026
- ██████████ BIGS for SpED|2025, 2026
- National Honors Society|2025, 2026
- ██████████ Literacy Partnership|2024, 2025
- PRIMETIME Library Sponsor|2024, 2025
- School Athletic Social Media Account Publisher and Editor|2024, 2025, 2026
- BCSS Multimedia Student Volunteer, Video, Audio Production|2024, 2025, 2026
- Member of School Recruitment Committee|2024, 2025, 2026
- Hospitality Careers Academy, Project Manager|2024
- Georgia United Nations Assembly|2024
- BETA Club President|2023, 2024
- ██████████ Community Foundation|2023-2026
- Sports & Events Announcer|2023-2026
- Self-published Student Podcast, The Graham and Collin Show|2021-2024

- A-B Honor Roll Student|2024, 2025, 2026
- CTAE Honor Student|2025, 2026
- Top 15% of Class



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Parker Simpson

State: Indiana

Region: Central



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Parker Simpson

State: Indiana

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA’s mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

The Power of One National Program aligns perfectly with FCCLA’s mission: to promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. This is because the Power of One is made up of five different units: “A Better You, Family Ties,” “Working on Working,” “Take the Lead,” and “Speak Out for FCCLA.” Each of these units have significant importance within FCCLA. The units, "Take the Lead" and "A Better You" embody the mission of personal growth and leadership development by guiding members through a project-based approach to evolve into future leaders. Power of One focuses on individual goal setting and self-improvement for members. Each unit in Power of One prepares members for future success in its own way. The Power of One National Program aligns with FCCLA’s purposes closely because Power of One helps connect all the core pieces of FCCLA into one National Program. The unit “A Better You” is about personal development and building confidence and character. This unit aligns perfectly with the first FCCLA purpose: “To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.” The “Working on Working” unit allows for students to prepare themselves for future careers. This goes hand in hand with the sixth and seventh purposes: “To provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities” and “To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today’s society.” Strengthening the function of family is the most treasured value of FCCLA. Both the “Family Ties” and the second purpose strive to do this. Power of One also promotes leadership greatly through the unit “Take the Lead.” This unit aligns with the first, fourth, and the sixth purposes. Career clusters help prepare FCCLA members for future careers. Some examples of the FCCLA career clusters are Human Services, Education and Training, and Hospitality and Tourism. Each of these clusters have support through different activities, programs, and events for students to learn about and gain experience within these clusters. Power of One supports these career clusters the strongest through the “Working on Working” unit. “Working on Working” allows students to explore the different career clusters through research, job shadowing, and other hands-on activities. Power of One allows members to grow their abilities in communication, leadership, and organization. These three are skills that members can use throughout their lives. The Power of One National Program prepares members in several ways. First of all, it builds life skills that members can apply to many points throughout their lives, like goal setting, time management, decision making, and creative and critical thinking. The Power of One units allow members to develop these skills in their own ways. Members also have the opportunity to grow their leadership abilities through the “Take the Lead” unit. This allows members to gain responsibility in a hands-on environment inside different roles. Leadership abilities are extremely useful for the real-world; gaining these abilities early is setting up members for future success. All of these skills that students can gain from the Power of One National Program prepare members for what the future holds.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Parker Simpson

State: Indiana

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

In sixth grade, my adviser, Brenda Osman, saw leadership potential as well as passion in me that I had not recognized in myself. She helped to mentor me and connect me with mentors that helped me on my FCCLA journey. That exact moment started my journey in FCCLA, where the mentorship that I received became the beginning of my growth. Through these connections, I have learned that leadership is not only about guiding others, but about growing future leaders, which is something I hope to bring into my role as a national officer. Mentorship helped me develop responsibility, especially through STAR events. Throughout my years of FCCLA, I always had upperclassmen that were confident enough to guide me through my first STAR Events. These mentors helped me learn time management, preparation, and accountability. One challenge that I overcame, with the help of mentors, was during my very first STAR Project. The rubric was daunting and I knew I was in a time crunch trying to complete it in time for the state leadership conference. Then an upperclassman who must have seen a stressed look on my face came over to help. She broke down exactly what the rubric was for me and even helped me glue down some of my papers to my tri-fold board. This taught me about responsibility, and how sometimes it is more than just completing a job, but instead it is about committing yourself to growth. Mentorships have made a substantial impact on my leadership. On my journey from member to state officer, my mentorships never ceased to teach me different leadership styles and how to lead others. On my past state officer team we only had one person who was serving a second year, and she taught me the most about leadership. The state president, Abby Cross, truly took me under her wing and showed me how to be a leader and helped me navigate my position. Abby led by example and taught me how to be a supportive leader and team member, balancing responsibilities and encouraging others, and how to make other people feel like valued members of the team. This helped me become more confident and led me to also support my team members whether that be through encouragement or basic help. This mentorship allowed me to step into leadership fully and develop my mentoring skills. Through my time on the team, I learned that leadership is not about positions, but rather about investing your efforts into others and strengthening the team as a whole. All of my mentorship experiences will shape my future leadership greatly. I want to mentor members the way I was mentored, make new members feel supported, encourage personal growth, and as a leader lead with empathy, accountability, and responsibility. Just like my adviser, I will recognize potential in others early, especially when they do not see it yet within themselves. Like my STAR Event mentors, I will guide members through challenges they face. Finally, like my mentors I want to build strong and supportive teams. Because someone believed in me in every step of my FCCLA journey, I strive to be that person for others.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Parker Simpson

Personal Details:

- State: Indiana
- School: [REDACTED]
- Chapter: [REDACTED]
- Grade: 11
- Years in FCCLA: 6 complete years
- Years in FCS: 4 years

FCS Education:

- 2020-2023 Family & Consumer Sciences
6th-8th grade - Hospitality and Tourism - 3
Total Credit Hours
- 2025-2026 Principles of Human Services
(FCCLA)
11th grade- Human Services - 2 Credit Hours

Offices Held:

- 2021-2022 Middle School FCCLA VP of
Membership
- 2022-2023 Middle School FCCLA Recording
Secretary
- 2023-2024 High School FCCLA Freshman
Representative
- 2024-2025 High School FCCLA VP of
Development
- 2025-2026 District Vice President
- 2025-2026 State VP of Membership
- 2026-2027 State Vice President

Chapter Involvement:

- Estimate of 250 hours of service per year
- Assisted the chapter to conduct meetings,
plan events, fundraise, and help others with
competitive events
- Activities that I have participated in:
Ice Cream Social, FCCLA/FFA Hayride, FCCLA
Bingo, Ice Cream Social, Coffee Social, and
Car Wash/Bake Sale. Project involvement:
Snowflake Dance for the special needs
community (2023-2026), [REDACTED]
Village (Elderly) Pumpkin Carving
(2023-2025), [REDACTED] Village
(Elderly) Holiday Party and Cookie
Decorating (2023-2025), Eat Dinner With
Your Family Night (2020-present), FCCLA
week (2020-present), and Participated in
Power of One (2021-2026)

District Involvement:

- Participated in several planning meetings
for the district meeting
- Taught youth sessions on:
 - What FCCLA is

- How to get Involved in FCCLA
- Star Projects and State Projects

State Involvement:

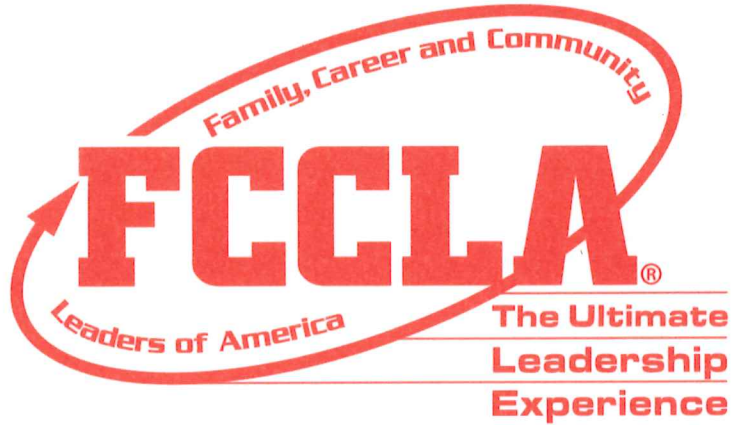
- Served 1 year as a state officer
- Current State Vice President
- Attended 5 State leadership
Conferences, 5 Fall Leadership Rallies
- Participated in STAR Events for 5 years
and counting, qualifying for Nationals
each year
 - 2021-2022 - Gold
 - 2022-2023 - Silver
 - 2023-2026 - Gold
- Lead over 7000 members as the State
Vice President of Membership
- Ran 3 State Wide Events
 - State Leadership Conference
 - Fall Leadership Rally
 - Fall Competition Day
- Advocated for FCCLA with the Indiana
State Legislatures 2025-present
- Participated in and led the New Advisor
Training
- Worked at the Dairy Bar at the Indiana
State Fair.

National Involvement:

- Attended Capitol Leadership Conference
- Attended nearly all of the monthly
National Networks Meetings

Participation in School and Community:

- Participated in the ribbon cutting of the
Sunman Food Pantry, [REDACTED]
Community Park tree planting, and
advocated for FCCLA to the [REDACTED]
County CASA.
- Active member of [REDACTED] FFA and
complete many service projects such as:
 - Bridge building and Installment
at an event center
 - Soil and Water Conservation
District Tree giveaway
- Involvement in multiple student
organizations such as:
 - Academic Team
 - National Junior Honor Society
 - National Honor Society
 - National Technical Honor
Society



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Hadlea Roberts

State: Kentucky

Region: Central



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Hadlea Roberts

State: Kentucky

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA’s mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

The Power of One National Program directly aligns with FCCLA’s mission, purposes, and career clusters. It also helps to prepare students with employability skills beyond their time in FCCLA. This national program challenges members to work toward individual goals and allows members to be individually recognized, no matter the size or involvement of their chapter.

The first unit of Power of One, A Better You, encourages students to improve upon their personal growth. This directly aligns with FCCLA’s mission, as it encourages critical and creative thinking. These personal attributes are needed in every career cluster of FCCLA, from Hospitality and Tourism to Human Services. In FCCLA’s first purpose, it describes opportunities for personal development, which is exactly what A Better You does.

Family Ties is the second unit of Power of One, focusing on improving family relationships in today’s society. FCCLA is the only Career and Technical Student Organization that focuses on family. Our second purpose is to strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society, which is exactly what Family Ties strives to do.

Working on Working, the third unit, strives to prepare students for their roles in society, future career, and work options. Each career cluster requires many of these skills such as public speaking, a strong work ethic, and teamwork. This unit also exemplifies our 7th purpose to prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today’s society. These are the skills that enable members to be employable in the future, and beyond FCCLA.

Take the Lead, the fourth unit, encourages members to enhance their leadership skills. Whether that is through honing their skills, running for office, or leading their Family and Consumer Sciences program. Our mission states that we prepare members for multiple roles, which includes community leader. Take the Lead allows members to grow confidence in their own abilities, and become stronger leaders through it.

Speak out for FCCLA is the fifth and final unit, which encourages members to speak about their positive experiences through our organization. This unit encourages members to advocate for Career and Technical Student Organizations, as well as CTE education. It motivates members to improve upon their communication skills, which is an employability skill that every career will require – whether that be in Arts and Design, or Public Service. It aligns with our first purpose, To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.

The Power of One doesn’t just align with these elements, it integrates them into a student’s life to become a better leader, stronger student, and a productive member of society.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Hadlea Roberts

State: Kentucky

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

I remember meeting Kendall Slaughter for the first time. I was an anxious 8th grader attending my first National Fall Conference in Columbus, Ohio. She was only a freshman at the time. Neither of us knew yet how much one connection would allow both of us to grow. We ran as regional officers together, with her being elected as the Vice President of Finance, and myself, Vice President of Community Service. We spent countless hours together helping to plan our regional meeting, rehearsing our lines, and ensuring we were ready. The next year, she was elected as the Kentucky State Vice President of Finance. I still remember her rehearsing for hours on end for her on-stage speech. Then, this past summer, I watched her earn the title of the National Vice President of Development.

I remember how timid we both were in the beginning. We didn't know many people within our chapter, so our connection formed quickly. We were both much younger, and had not yet understood leadership. I have had the chance to witness first hand that Kendall's leadership style has grown exponentially. In the beginning, she believed that to stand out as a leader, she needed to be the loudest person in the room. However, this was a lesson she quickly learned. She didn't need to be the loudest to be heard as a leader. In fact, she can now use her voice for others who cannot. Over these past four years, Kendall has also learned something else: leaders make mistakes too. In fact, everyone makes mistakes. She has learned to accept what she has done, and move forward with her skills. Each of these lessons I have seen first hand, and Kendall has been able to pass this knowledge onto me through our connection within FCCLA.

Personal development is another aspect of our connection I have been given the opportunity to witness. Over this past year, she has learned skills such as how to travel alone. She has learned how to manage her time between all of her commitments, especially now as a national officer. She handles her mistakes with grace and dignity, learning that she can overcome each hurdle. Each of these lessons have shown me how to delegate my time, efforts, and handle situations with elegance.

All of these skills have shown me how to be a true leader, leaving an influence on how I will serve as a National Officer. I know how to handle situations with decorum. I will be able to use my voice to help all members across the nation. Most of all, I will help to lead National FCCLA as a servant leader. Serving others is one of the founding principles of our organization, and that will allow me to leave a mark beyond the blazer forever. Witnessing Kendall Slaughter serve our chapter, region, state, and now, National FCCLA has left a lasting impression upon my leadership skills in a way I will never forget. She has taught me how to handle my mistakes as well as how to lead with confidence, grace, and poise. She has shown me how to be the best person I can be, and translate that into my leadership. Meeting Kendall Slaughter as a timid eighth grader was one of the best things that has ever happened to me. Our connection has led me to where I am today, and has influenced how I will lead as a National Officer.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Hadlea Roberts | Kentucky FCCLA

Grade: 11 Years in FCCLA: 4 Years of FCS Instruction: 3

FCCLA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

2025-26 KY FCCLA VP of Community Service
(can only serve as a State Officer once)
2024-25 Regional President
2024-25 Chapter President
2023-24 Regional VP of Community Service
2023-24 Chapter 1st VP/VP of Comm Service
2022-23 Middle School Chapter President

CONFERENCES AND COMPETITIONS

KY SLC 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
KY Leadership Camp 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
National Fall Conference 2022, 2023
NLC 2023, 2024, 2025
National Fall Institute 2024, 2025
Capitol Leadership 2025
SLC Regional Meetings 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
Fall Regional Meeting 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
Spring Regional Meeting 2024, 2025, 2026
KY 1st Place Repurpose and Redesign 2023
KY 2nd Place Professional Presentation 2024
KY 4th Place Food Innovations 2025
Nat. 1st Place Creed Speaking/Inter. 2022
Nat. 2nd Place Impromptu Speaking 2023
Nat. Repurpose and Redesign 16th place 2023
Nat. Professional Presentation 11th place 2024
Nat. FCCLA Knowledge Challenge Test-3rd
Place 2024, 4th Place 2024, 3rd Place 2025

FCS COURSEWORK

Middle School FCS Essentials, 8th grade
FCS Essentials. 9th grade
Foods and Nutrition, 10th grade
Culinary 1, 11th grade

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FCS EDUCATION

FCS presentation to 7 Counties Services 2024
Fundraisers and Bulletin Boards 2022-Present
8th grade Pathway Night 2022-Present
Met with Kentucky and National legislators

NATIONAL PARTICIPATION

A Day in the Life of A GM Program 2025
Power of One 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
Safe Rides, Save Lives PSA Contest 2025

Franklin Covey Leadership Academy 2024
Utilized Families First 2024, 2025, 2026
Utilized Student Body 2024, 2025, 2026
Utilized Community Service 2024, 2025, 2026
Voting Delegate Election Process 2023, 2025
StepOne National Completer (2022)

STATE/REGIONAL PARTICIPATION

Rally the Red Toy Donations 2025-26
Created KY Comm.Service Rally the Red 2025
State Degree Recipient 2025
FCS University 2024, 2025
Presided over Regional Meetings 2024-2025
Donation bags/Birthday boxes RMHC 2024
Chair, Outstanding Camper Committee 2024
Chapter Voting Delegate at SLC 2023-2024
Thought of Day State Leadership Camp 2023
CTSO Leadership Day 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
Chair, Camp Auditorium Committee 2023
State Committees (3) 2023-2026
Promoted FCCLA Week 2022-2026

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

Rally The Red-Kiss the Sheep, Pink Out, Silent
Auction, Toy Donation 2025-2026
Adopted Nursing Home Residents 2024-2025
Degrees-Junior 2023, Chapter 2024
Elementary Ag Day 2023, 2024, 2025
Hospitality, FFA Banquet 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
Statewide Comm Service Projects 2022-2026
Chapter/ExCo/Member Recruiting 2022-Present

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Kentucky Youth Salute Program Recipient 2026
Regional FBLA Impromptu Speaking 2026
KY Sr Beta Creative Writing 1st place 2025
National Honor Society Member 2025-Present
4-H FCS Demo 1st County/Area/3rd State 2024
Regional ATC Needs Committee 2024
Volunteer 4-H Cloverbuds 2024-Present
Vice President/Class Rep Sr Beta 2023-Present
KY Jr Beta Creative Writing 5th/9th National 2023
Veteran's Day Program 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
Jr Beta Chapter President 2022-2023
Most Valuable Peer, A Honor Roll 2021-Present



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Delia Alberts

State: Minnesota

Region: Central



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

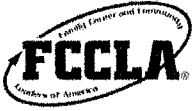
National Officer Candidate: Delia Alberts

State: MN

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

The FCCLA National Program Power of One aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters, and prepares members with employability skills. Power of One helps members find their voice and purpose and develop skills for life. The skills members learn will help them in the future with professional development and personal relationships. Power of One is built around self confidence and believing you can make a difference. These proclamations come from students partaking in self-lead projects, using their leadership skills and making a difference beyond FCCLA. The Power of One program directly aligns with FCCLA's mission of staying **ConneCTEd** by guiding members through five units: A Better You, Family Ties, Working on Working, Take the Lead, and Speak Out for FCCLA. Each unit focuses on different goals members can relate to themselves. "A Better You" encourages members to build healthy habits and set goals. "Family Ties" strengthens family relationships and communication between family members. "Working on Working" focuses on career preparation skills like building a resume and developing interview skills. "Take the Lead" develops leadership and responsibility by planning and leading projects. Finally, "Speak Out for FCCLA" builds public speaking skills and expands FCCLA knowledge. These five units work together to help members grow personally, academically, and professionally. Power of One enforces the goals and missions of Family and Consumer Sciences by helping students become responsible individuals, strong family members, strong job candidates, and effective and impactful leaders in their communities. The program also reflects FCCLA's purposes, which includes the second purpose, (strengthening the function of the family), the third purpose (encourage democracy through cooperative action), the sixth purpose, (providing opportunities for making decisions and assuming responsibilities), and the seventh purpose, (preparing for multiple roles in society). Getting involved in Power of One like running a workshop, being a Power of One award recipient, and using the program in your STAR Event gives members like myself the chance to learn more about FCCLA and myself. In my own experience, the national program Power of One has helped me with my interview and job skills. I had an interview for my current job at Scheels and through FCCLA and Power of One, I felt really confident and went through the interview with ease. Scheels is a sports retail store, where I'm constantly working with customers and helping them find what they want. I've gained confidence with public speaking and answering impromptu questions, this has helped me throughout the interview process and also now, working with customers. Power of One aligns with the six FCCLA Career Clusters and in association with Family and Consumer Sciences. Power of One closely relates to Human Services, Education and Training, and Hospitality and Tourism. Power of One utilizes many professional development skills to create employable, confident, communicative leaders no matter the workplace. Every skill learned through this club is so helpful and empowering that it goes way past the conferences, meetings, stage, and competitive events. That's why I chose to write about this national program, I've formed a connection with this program making it stand out from the others. I hope every member have a connection like this.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Delia Alberts

State: MN

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

My biggest connection to FCCLA can't be described as one person or one thing. Passions and connections to members and family have been my biggest inspiration and influence. Community service has been one of my biggest passions even before FCCLA. I would regularly get involved with my community, like volunteering at my church, or raising money for a rare disease foundation. I've always loved helping people in any way I could and I walk with a help others before yourself attitude. This connection would influence my approach as a National Officer by wanting to make FCCLA a place where others can also find their passion and ways to act on it. So many people have passions but don't have resources to follow it, as a National Officer I want to provide all members with resources and opportunities to follow their passion. Another huge connection that was presented by a person were my two older sisters. As a child I grew up with two older sisters in FCCLA and I got to witness the benefits they received. My sisters were both State Officers and from the time their term started to when it ended they were completely different people. Their self confidence, public speaking skills, leadership, and professional skills increased dramatically. By watching my sisters and seeing the skills and attitudes for service that they have gained, I have been influenced to make a difference for others. As a National Officer I want to promote and encourage members to step out of their comfort zone and get involved any way they can. My first term as a State Officer I served as the VP of Community Service and this past year I served as the VP of Partnerships. Both of these roles have helped me learn how to communicate with businesses and professionals, as well as how to get members involved in projects and giving back to the community. I believe that as a National Officer I can promote and get member involvement on national, state, and local projects, as well as encouraging members to start their own projects that could get recognized at the national level. FCCLA is an organization that has many programs and events that allow anyone to feel confident and welcomed enough to become a leader. I hope to continue to make personal connections with members and have a positive impact on FCCLA. I'm very grateful to my sisters for introducing me to this organization and how I've grown to make my own path. The last connection I want to reflect on is very important to me, that's my connection with one of my fellow State Officers. The Minnesota FCCLA State President from this past year has become one of my closest friends, biggest inspirations, and best supporter. He led our state with professionalism and grace, while also being a friend to everyone, creating an inclusive environment. We served on the same council for two years and we connected from then on. Without these connections and passions I wouldn't be where I am today. These relations have also helped me understand what true and selfless leadership is, doing what's best for others through community service projects and being a friend to all as a State Officer. FCCLA influences like the ones I've mentioned have also helped me learn responsibility and time management, balancing school work, FCCLA work, my job, sports, and also making time for friends and family. This club has helped me find my superpower and best partners in crime. These factors combined, have inspired me to run for National Office, so that I can help other members to find positive peers who inspire them and encourage them to follow their passions.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Delia Alberts

State: Minnesota

School: [REDACTED]

Grade: 11

Years in FCCLA: 5

Years of FCS Courses: 2.75 credits

Family Consumer Science Classes

Grade 7: FACS 7; *Comprehensive FCS Course*

Grade 9: Life Management; *Comprehensive FCS Hospitality & & Tourism Career Cluster*

-Grade 9: Food & Nutrition Fundamentals

-Grade 10: Culinary Arts & Baking
Education & Training Cluster

-Grade 10: Child Development & Psychology

Grade 11: *Human Development*

Participation in FCCLA

FCCLA Offices Held

2025-2026 - State Vice President of Partnerships

2024-2025 - State Vice President of Service

2023-2026 - [REDACTED] FCCLA Officer

2023-2024 - Minnesota FCCLA Peer Educator

Local

2023-2026 - Fall Rally & Mid-Winter FCCLA

Southeast Regional meeting attendance;
strengthening regional chapter collaboration

2023-2026 - Co-organized two community food
drives, collecting & distributing over 6,000
nutritious items to local families each year

2023-2026 - Participated in FCCLA school-wide
cancer awareness project raising over \$30,000
for cancer research, patients & families

2023-2026 - Facilitated safety awareness during
Halloween to 1st grade students

2022 - Charter member & advocate for launching
a middle school chapter, helping expand
membership pipeline

State

2023-2026 - State FCCLA Conference delegate;
representing chapter and statewide leadership

2024 & 2025 - MN FCCLA Leadership Camp
Facilitator; helped with leadership development
and trainings

2023-2025 - MN FCCLA State Fall Summit
delegate and workshop presenter

2025 - MN FCCLA State Service Project

Coordinator; provided hygiene items and blankets
to local shelters

National

2024 - Promote & Publicize FCCLA STAR Event

2024 - State Officer Training at National Meeting

2025 - Minnesota National Officer Candidate

2026 - Chapter in Review National Advancer

2026 - Power of One Award Recipient

Contribution to FCS Education

-Supported FCS and FCCLA through multiple
Fundraisers leading to chapter sustainability

-Participated in FCCLA Capitol Day; advocating
with Representatives, Senators & local policy
makers about impact of FCS Education & FCCLA
on students

-Presentation to School Board Members and local
Lions Club to increase awareness for FCCLA

-Presented at the Mankato State University FACS
to the Max Conference on FCCLA & networked
with FCS Educators and shared strategies for
integrating FCCLA into Family Consumer Science
coursework

Participation in School & Community

-2021-2026 - High School Volleyball Team;

Demonstrated teamwork and time management

-2023-2026 - Church Pre-K - 1st grade teacher;
led weekly lessons to 20 children

-2025-2026 - LINK Crew Leader; mentored and
supported incoming freshman

-2024-2026 - High School Varsity Track Team

-2023-2026 - Honors Student & Student of the
Month

-2023-2026 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes

-2024-2025 - Lifeguard; ensured safety to patrons

-2022-2023 - MS Student Council President;
worked with advisor to plan weekly meeting

-2022-2023 - W.E.B Leader (Where Everyone
Belongs)

-2019-2026 - High School Band



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Brock Romero

State: Montana

Region: Pacific Region



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Brock Romero

State: Montana

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

The moment I realized that true leadership wasn't on stage or in front of a large group, it was strongest when it happened on a personal level, my view of leadership changed. This is exactly what FCCLA's Power of One program is designed to do: turn individual choices into meaningful change, while developing life-changing skills.

Power of One aligns with FCCLA's mission to promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Science education. Through the five units: A Better You, Family Ties, Working on Working, Take the Lead, and Speak Out for FCCLA, members are guided to set goals, take initiative, and reflect on their own progress. This process directly supports FCCLA's purposes by helping students build responsibility, strengthen family relationships, and prepare for future roles in their families, careers, and communities.

Throughout my experience with Power of One, I saw up close how these initiatives connect to real-life growth. In A Better You, I created a planner to help me be more organized and intentional with my time. In Family Ties, I made the effort to connect with immediate family members who no longer live in my household, reinforcing the importance of maintaining strong relationships. Through Working on Working, I developed my FCCLA résumé as I prepared to run for national office, gaining practical career-readiness skills.

Power of One also aligns with FCCLA's Career Clusters, especially Human Services and Education and Training, by developing communication, leadership, and workplace skills. In Speak Out for FCCLA, I organized and delivered a presentation to the Manhattan School Board, advocating for my chapter and strengthening my public speaking abilities among different audience types. In Take the Lead, I challenged myself to run for my state's nomination as a national officer candidate, an experience that required confidence, professionalism, and strong leadership skills.

Beyond FCCLA, Power of One prepares members with essential skills that apply to any career path. Through goal-setting and following through on projects, I developed time management and accountability. By presenting and collaborating with others, I strengthened my communication and teamwork skills. Most importantly, I built confidence in my ability to take initiative, an important skill for all careers.

Power of One is more than just a program; it is a foundation for lifelong success. It embodies FCCLA's mission and purposes by promoting members to take responsibility for their growth while building skills that extend beyond the classroom.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Brock Romero

State: Montana

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

“What are we even supposed to be doing right now?”

That simple question, laced with doubt, led to one of my most influential leadership moments, changing my perspective on leadership as a whole. It came from a new member and her teammate. Both joined FCCLA as freshmen, not fully sure what high school was about, let alone FCCLA. They felt overwhelmed, unsure of their project, and unsure if they even belonged in FCCLA.

Instead of just brushing it off and giving a hasty answer, I chose to sit down with them and really listen. I asked what their goals were and what they really wanted from their project. Together, we broke everything into smaller, manageable steps and created a plan they could actually trust and execute. Over the next few weeks, I watched their confidence grow in ways I didn't expect. What started as doubt turned into dedication, and that dedication ended up turning into a state championship. But, most importantly, those members found a real sense of belonging in FCCLA.

This experience completely changed how I viewed leadership. I used to think leadership was about being in charge, making decisions, and being on stage. While those skills still matter, I learned that true leadership is more about creating a welcoming space for all members and helping them wherever they are on their journey. It's about slowing down, listening, and making sure no one feels alone.

This experience also reshaped my understanding of responsibility. I realized that responsibility isn't just about completing your own goals; it's about recognizing the impact you have on others. By taking time to guide and support these members, I learned that sometimes responsibility means stepping into someone else's uncertainty and helping them find clarity. What may seem simple to you as a leader can often be the catalyst to lasting impact for others. Showing up for the team doesn't have to be flashy or on stage. Helping others discover their own potential makes all the difference. The moment I realized that my role was to listen, help, and support, my whole view of responsibility and leadership changed.

While the end result was a state-winning project, the foundation we built will have a lasting impact on these members and our community. This experience showed me how powerful one relationship can be in shaping someone's future involvement, confidence, and leadership identity.

In the end, that one question, “What are we even supposed to be doing right now?” became something much bigger. It became a reminder that leadership isn't about having all the answers. It's about showing up, investing in people, and helping them discover what they are capable of.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

BROCK ROMERO, MANHATTAN FCCLA FCCLA NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE

Junior At [REDACTED], Montana

FCCLA PARTICIPATION – 3 Years

Offices Held

- '24-'25 Chapter VP of Social Programs
- '24-'26 District 2 President
- '25-'26 Chapter President
- '25-'26 Montana 1st Vice President
- '26-'27 Montana 2nd Vice President

Local Participation

- '24-'26 Planned & Ran Chapter Meetings
- '24 Rookie of The Year Award
- '25 Leader of The Year Award
- '24-'25 V-Day Candy Grams Chair
- '25 Halloween Bingo Chair
- '24-'25 Swing Dance Chair
- 150+ Community Service Hours

District Participation & Attendance

- '23-'25 Annual District Meeting Attendee
- '24 Workshop Presenter
- '25 Co-Hosted Annual District Meeting

State Participation & Attendance

- '24 STAR Event Competitor (Gold)
- '24-'25 Fall Leadership Rally
- '24-'26 State Leadership Conference
- '25 Ultimate Leader Recipient
- '25 Fall Leadership Rally Roundtable Host
- '26 Gold Level State Officer Scholarship
- '25-'26 State Officer Duties
 - Prepared Scripts for State Meetings
 - Student Scholarship Committee
 - Programming
 - Monthly SEC Meetings

National Participation & Attendance

- '24-'26 National Networks
- '25 National Leadership Conference
- '25 Voting Delegate
- '25 Interview Skills Competitor NLC
- '25 Explore Act Tell Grant Recipient
- '25 Fall Leadership Institute
- '26 Idaho SLC Workshop Presenter
- '26 Power of One Recipient
- '26 Challenge Test (3) Fall
- '26 FACTS National Program Applicant

FCS COURSES– 3.5 YEARS

- FCS (0.5 Credits) – 7th
- FCS (0.5 Credits) – 8th
- Foods (0.5 Credits) – 9th
- Personal Finance (0.5 Credits) – 11th
- Baking and Pastries (0.5 Credits) – 11th
- Leadership Essentials (1 Credit) – 11th

JOB EXPERIENCE

Youth Camp Counselor (June '24–Present)

Led structured activities for 2nd to 4th graders, ensuring safety and promoting social skills and teamwork.

Ski Instructor (December '23–April '26)

Skilled in teaching children ages 3–14 by assessing abilities and creating engaging lesson plans to boost confidence and skill development.

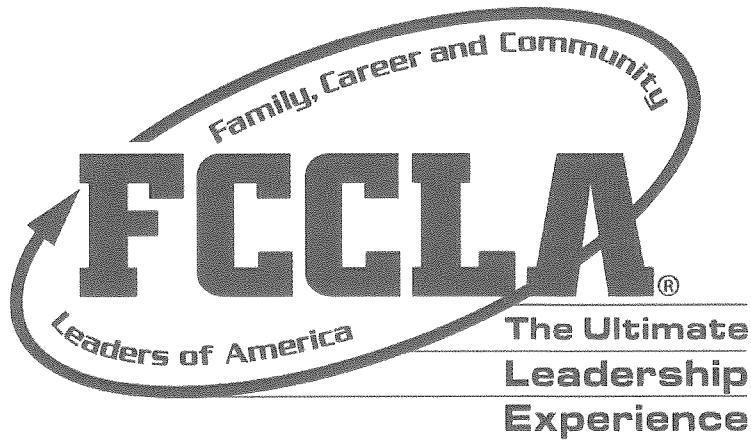
CONTRIBUTIONS TO FCS EDUCATION

- '25-'26 Presented to Local School Board
- '26 KSKY Radio Advocate
- '26 Reception with Montana Governor
- '24-'26 Promotion of FCS Through Social Media Posts

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

INVOLVEMENT

- Bozeman Municipal Band
- Boys State
- Business Professionals of America (BPA)
- Golf Team
- Jazz Band
- [REDACTED] Parks Board Student Liaison
- National Honor Society (NHS)
- Pep Band
- Rotary Club
- Speech and Debate
- Student Council
- Tiger Band
- Tiger Buddies



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Rajganesh Srinivasan

State: New Jersey

Region: North Atlantic



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Rajganesch Srinivasan

State: New Jersey

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety (FACTS) is a dynamic program that makes a difference for our members and their families. FACTS is in perfect sync with FCCLA's mission and purposes to ensure personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education.

FACTS serves as one of the most effective ways to realize FCCLA purposes in terms of preparing for adult life, promoting responsibility, involving members in community activities, and developing leadership potential. Through this program, FCCLA members gain invaluable experience working as part of a team, communicating ideas to other members, and leading others towards a common goal. Thus, participation in FACTS projects is the best way to develop skills necessary to ensure that individuals will be able to make informed decisions, take initiatives, and act responsibly in all life situations.

FACTS has a solid safety component and the potential to influence life or death behind the wheel. The FACTS National Program speaks directly to our FCCLA mission concerning character development and critical thinking, as well as our FCCLA purposes especially regarding making decisions and assuming responsibilities.

Members who participate in FACTS become active members of society who identify issues that exist in their communities and take steps to resolve those concerns and protect families and individuals from risks associated with driving. In fact, statistics reveal that approximately 3,000 teens die annually from car accidents and 227,000 are seriously injured. Teen drivers are 3 to 4 times more likely than people 20 years or older to be in a fatal car crash. Making wise decisions behind the wheel is about character and responsibility. Through FACTS, students develop skills necessary to become responsible members of a community, contribute to the well-being of families in their community, and protect the community from various risks and dangers. Participation in the FACTS program helps students become aware of the importance of promoting traffic safety and ensuring the well-being of each member of the community because safe driving practices can potentially prevent accidents and even death.

The FACTS program is closely related to the Human Services Career Cluster and can be beneficial for students interested in healthcare, public safety, education, or social services. It provides unique opportunities to understand more about career opportunities within the Human Services Career Cluster. FACTS is also extremely helpful in developing those skills required for successful career development in any field.

Skills developed during participation in the FACTS program are very important for all members because the impact can last a lifetime.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Rajganesh Srinivasan

State: New Jersey

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

FCCLA has a plethora of leadership opportunities for members. However, the most significant leadership connection that broadened my perspective on leadership and responsibility was my role as the 2025 -26 Chapter Vice President of Conferences. In previous years, these responsibilities belonged to two people. Initially, I believed that leadership implied being efficient, organized, and capable of fulfilling tasks. However, working as the VP of Conferences, I learned that leadership includes being reliable, attentive to details, and accountable for obligations that impact others.

I became responsible for helping my chapter prepare for three conferences throughout the year. This means I had to ensure the timely completion of numerous deadlines and manage permission slips, forms, payments, and competitive event material that needed to be collected, organized, and tracked. I handled all aspects of conference finances and accurate bookkeeping, which may seem minor, but a slight mistake negatively affects my members' ability to attend.

Through this role, I have also come to understand that leadership requires not only a presence but a commitment that enables others to flourish. Members may attend a conference, but few are aware of the communication, planning, reminders, and troubleshooting necessary for this success. I had to anticipate issues, communicate with members and advisers, motivate students to meet the deadlines, respond to questions, and be prepared for any challenges that may arise. This has enabled me to realize that responsibility does not end with completing one's tasks; it includes recognizing the effects one's organization and responsibility have on other individuals.

Another link between this leadership opportunity and the concept of being responsible is that it has improved both my patience and my ability to communicate with others. In particular, it was important to remember that some members had different schedules, varying amounts of experience, and numerous questions regarding the conference application process. Rather than merely reminding them of their tasks, I had to learn how to guide them, set expectations, and prepare them for this process. Through this experience, I have become increasingly aware that a great leader does not tell people what to do, but supports them in finding a way to succeed.

This experience would certainly shape the way I serve as a national officer. With every task I am given, I would ensure that I bring structure, responsibility, and compassion to my work. To put these qualities into action, I would prioritize clear communication, consistent follow-through on deadlines, and strong support for the members I serve. It is also important to note that being a national officer means remaining steady in both professionalism and purpose.

The most important lesson from my experience as Chapter Vice President of Conferences would be that being an effective leader does not simply come from a position but from one's ability to consistently follow through so that others may succeed.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Rajganes Srinivasan / New Jersey FCCLA

5 Years in FCCLA; 2 Years FCS Instruction - [REDACTED]

FCCLA Leadership Positions

- 2026–2027 – NJ FCCLA Vice President of Parliamentary Law
- 2025–2026 – [REDACTED] Chapter Vice President of Conferences

FCS Coursework

- Middle School FCS – 2 semesters (1 credit)
- High School Culinary Arts 1 (5.00 Credits)

FCCLA Conferences/Competitive Events

- NJ FCCLA State Leadership Conference
 - o (2023, 2025, 2026)
- NJ FCCLA Leadership BootCamp
 - o (2023, 2025, 2026)
- NJ FCCLA Fall Leadership Connection
 - o (2022, 2023, 2025)
- 2025 National Leadership Conference
- National 3rd Place - Finalist (2026)
 - Safe Rides–Save Lives - PSA Contest
- National Top 3 Finalist (2025)
 - Entrepreneurship Level 2
- NJ 1st Place Gold - Chapter in Review Portfolio Level 3 (2026)
- NJ 1st Place Gold - Cultural Food Fusion Level 3 (2025)
- NJ 1st Place Gold - Entrepreneurship Level 2 (2025)
- NJ 1st Place Silver - Reinventing Spaces (2023)
- NJ 3rd Place Silver - Apps in Education (2023)

National Programs / Initiatives

- National Programs
 - Power of One (2025, 2026)
 - FACTS (2025, 2026)
- Safe Roads Challenge (2025 - 2026)
- Be a Teacher Day
- Go For the Red

School Leadership & Involvement

- Track & Field (2023 - 2025)
- Executive Board Member, BRIDGES Student-led inclusivity that focuses on supporting teens throughout the community
- H.A.W.K.S. – Student mentoring program (Helping Another Wonderful Kid Succeed)

Honor Societies / Awards

- [REDACTED] FCCLA Chapter Member of the Month
- National Honor Society (2026)
- National Technical Honor Society (2026)
- Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica (2026)

Advocacy & Outreach:

- Attended multiple [REDACTED] Board of Education [REDACTED] meetings for recognition and advocacy
- Hall of Honor
- Advocated for FCS/FCCLA at Back-to-School (C-Wing Open House)
- Social Media Outreach
- New Member Social
- Back to School Night (2024, 2025)
- Designed and created multiple FCCLA bulletin boards
- Designed Chapter T-Shirt

Chapter Service Activities

- Hands of Hope & Replenish Food Drives
- Raised donations for NJ Covenant House
- Ronald McDonald House Pull-tab collection
- FCCLA Clothing Drive
- Covenant House Sleep Out (2024, 2026)
- Top competitor/ fundraiser for Free Rice (2025, 2026)
- WeHelpTwo Sock Sale
- FCCLA Week Committee
- Pancake Breakfast Committee
- Adviser Appreciation Breakfast
- FCS Educator Day
- Nonperishable Food Drive
- Repaired/Maintained Chapter Popcorn Machine
- Covenant House Sleepout (2025)
- Led after-school sales (2025-2026)
- Led Chapter-wide Multiple Events

Further Community Service

- Volunteer, [REDACTED] Hospital Weekly (Saturdays)
- Elementary School Tutor Weekly
- Spanish Honor Society Tutor
- NHS Volunteer
- Temple Volunteer
- SEWA Volunteer



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Amarissa Akyea

State: North Carolina

Region: Southern Region



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

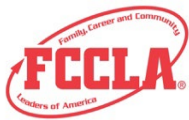
National Officer Candidate: Amarissa Akyea

State: NC

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

8 national programs, 8 different ways FCCLA members are changing their community, and 8 different choices as to which one embodies FCCLA the most. Each national program plays its part perfectly in helping students better society. They assign guided topics and direct members to make changes in their communities. However, the one that has the most impact is, unsurprisingly, community service. Being the national program that speaks about serving your community, it aligns with everything that FCCLA is about. The three units of community service are Learn, Lead, and Serve. Through this national program, members learn how to properly evaluate the needs of the community and turn it into an area where they can make a difference. FCCLA's 4th purpose is, "To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony." By learning about the needs of your community, FCCLA members are encouraged to follow through with this purpose. Additionally, they learn to develop critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills in order to address those needs, just like FCCLA's mission states. Moreover, FCCLA members become leaders in their communities, striving to make the world around them a better place. The leadership skill used in this national program can then be taken beyond MS and HS and used in future careers and workplaces. These leaders learn how to work together to solve an issue, and group work is an undoubtedly useful skill that is needed in everyone's future. Lastly, members serve their community. That is the core of FCCLA's mission and purposes. It is the foundation that built FCCLA to be the only community-orientated CTSO in the US and is the reason why members are community leaders of America. All of FCCLA's career clusters include serving the community in some way. This is directly connected to the skills learned in the community service national program. By being so aligned with the FCCLA career clusters, members are working towards the employability skills they will eventually use in their future career. Personally, community service has always played a major part in my life and I give it partial credit as to why I'm able to easily connect with people and increase my compassion for others. People skills are some of the most important ones you'll have to learn in order to be successful in the workplace, so for these reasons, community service is the number one national program that aligns with FCCLA.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Amarissa Akyea State: NC

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Chapter officer visits were always my favorite part as a state officer. I got to travel to different schools, meet new people, learn about their FCCLA journeys, but most of all, I got to feel the weight of my responsibility as a state officer. The most memorable connection I made was on my first ever chapter visit. I was in 10th grade and visiting a chapter of middle school students. I was nervous and anxious to see if I'd be liked by them, but I was also excited about the opportunity. My presentation for the day included facts about me, FCCLA history, and general FCCLA facts. At the end, there was a surprise jeopardy game on the presentation with a cash prize. This soon became a crowd favorite at all my chapter visits and was especially popular at the middle school chapter. It fostered a healthy amount of competition and also helped the chapter members to come out of their shells. This is what happened to one particular girl. She was not very talkative, but by the end of my visit she was laughing and having fun with her chapter. About a month after my visit, I saw her again at a joint COST event my state was holding. She came up to me and I immediately recognized her because of her amazing hair. It was also a drastic change from our first meeting when she seemed closed off to talking to me so I was very happy about the development. My term as a state officer ended soon after, but my chapter ended up riding on the same bus as her chapter to NLC. We talked during the bus ride and during the conference and shared a few laughs. Unexpectedly, she ended up going to my high school for this school year. She quickly joined our FCCLA chapter, and we have grown to be great friends. Additionally, she was just elected to serve on my chapter's board for the 2026–2027 school year. The connection I made with her taught me that being a leader is more than paving a path for others to follow, it's about learning to see eye to eye with others on a personal level. It has been such a joy seeing this girl come out of her shell and my heart warms every single time I see her shine. I want that for every FCCLA member. I want to form these deep personal connections with as many FCCLA members as possible because that is what makes FCCLA, FCCLA. We are a community-oriented group that is focused on building connections within and outside this organization. What I do as a leader matters and my small actions can lead to a ripple of change, so as a national officer I will work every day to make sure every member feels heard and welcome. It would be an honor to meet people from all different walks of life and help them grow as leaders, so they know the true connection behind FCCLA.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Amarissa Akyea

NORTH CAROLINA FCCLA | 11TH GRADE | [REDACTED] | 4
YEAR AFFILIATED MEMBER

FCS COURSES/EDUCATION

- Food and Nutrition 1(1 credit): 10th
- Food and Nutrition 2 Honors(1 credit): 11th
- [REDACTED]
- Class of 2027

FCCLA PARTICIPATION

• Local Accomplishments

- Chapter president: 2022-2023
- Sewed felt stuffed animals for charity
- VP of Star events: 2023-2024
- Helped at local Brown bag Ministry
- Helped at a community garden
- Represented FCCLA in multiple club fairs

• State accomplishments

- State VP of Community outreach: 2024-2025
 - Can only run every other year and cannot run for state and national office at the same time
- State outreach program: Fostering the future
 - Put together care bags for foster children and made tie blankets for them.
- Spirit of FCCLA award
- 4x State conference attendee
- 2nd place in Food innovations: 2023
- 2nd place in Food innovations: 2024
- 1st place in Human services test: 2025
- 3rd place in Leadership: 2025
- 3rd place in Human services test: 2026

• National accomplishments

- 3x NLC attendee
- 6th place in food innovations:2023
- 7th place FCCLA knowledge test: 2025
- Power of one completion
- National program evaluator: 2026
- State officer training: 2024

ADVOCACY

- State officer visits to several schools in sanctioned state district
- CTSO day at the capitol: 2024
 - Met with local state representatives

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Nature ecology corps
 - Cleaned up trash in the community and learned more about Nature
- Library volunteer
- Yearly donations to food pantries
- Part of church's media team
 - Church photographer
 - Church MC once a month
- FCCLA state board representative at Mr. [REDACTED] pageant

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

- Black student union: 2023-Present
 - Participation in annual showcase
 - Voted into the 2026-2027 executive board
- Threads for hope: 2023-2025
 - Crocheted items for charity
- National honor society: 2025-Present
- French honor society: 2025-Present
- 3 year french student
- [REDACTED] high school basketball announcer: 2024-Present
- AP capstone diploma
- PTSA student representative
- Teacher assistant
 - Help grade, organize, and clean for chosen teacher

WORK EXPERIENCE

- [REDACTED]
 - Small business barista: 2025-Present
-



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Aprille Janarth

State: North Carolina

Region: Southern



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Aprille Janarth

State: North Carolina

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA’s mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

FCCLA’s mission is to promote personal growth and leadership development through FCS education. The Career Connection National Program embodies this by providing members with hands-on workplace preparation and soft skill development while exploring the FCCLA Career Clusters. By integrating FCS education with career exploration, members gain employability skills applicable to all aspects of the real world while remaining connected to the foundational values of FCCLA.

FCCLA serves as a vital link between academic/extracurricular interests and career exploration. Through Career Connection, students engage in activities that foster teamwork, communication, and collaboration—transferable skills that will prove useful in any field. Choosing a career is one of the most important decisions a high school student is asked to make. While many find this task daunting, Career Connection can give members peace of mind. By partaking in practical projects alongside like-minded peers, students bridge the gap between their personal interests and potential FCS career paths. This allows them to set SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Timely) career goals with realistic steps that begin in high school. With the support of friends, advisers, and other members across the nation, FCCLA members can hit the ground running and build a strong foundation for their future.

This program directly supports FCCLA’s first, sixth, and eighth purposes, which focus on personal development, responsibility, and promoting FCS-related occupations. Career Connection is the perfect program for members to gain a deeper understanding of their roles in today’s society and workplace. Exposure is key to selecting a field, and researching various FCS pathways is essential to choosing a career at the heart of service. This national program offers four units: My Skills, My Life, My Career, and My Path. By following this structured lesson plan, students learn to manage their time effectively and land a job.

The Career Connection National Program is the best way to prepare members with employability skills that can be applied to everyday life, allowing them to connect with the purpose of FCCLA on a deeper level. Career Clusters are tools every FCCLA member should take advantage of, and Career Connection teaches them exactly how to do so. Ultimately, this national program empowers members to take proactive career action, creating a strong future for themselves with steps to get there.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Aprille Janarth State: North Carolina

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

When I first joined FCCLA in middle school, it sparked my enthusiasm and passion for human services. Upon learning that ██████████ High School had no FCCLA chapter, I challenged myself to start one. By building connections over the summer and advocating for FCS education, I was able to create a tight-knit community of leaders with the help of a few passionate members. After the board elections, we hit the ground running, and things went smoothly. We took over thirty students to the North Carolina State Leadership Conference and around fifteen to nationals in Orlando. I remember every late-night conversation and the hours we spent organizing logistics. Our first year ended successfully, and we looked forward to the next.

As the new year began, however, our bonds began to fray. Our board was no longer a group of close friends. Many of us started to talk behind each other's backs and shift the blame when something went wrong. The tension had peaked when the chapter website I worked so hard to create was suddenly deleted. Instead of worrying about any technical issues or site complications, my first instinct was to direct my anger at another board member. I had prioritized my unreasonable suspicions over my team. Communication was scarce and resulted in many miscommunications that put our club at risk of being discontinued. ██████████ ██████████ FCCLA had my whole heart, and to see it in such a state made me feel as if I had failed the whole purpose of this CTSO: family and community. How could I be the founder of a club so dear to my heart and not take action against this?

At this moment, I realized that being a leader is never just a title or telling people what to do; it's about serving and being the person everyone needs. ██████████ FCCLA didn't need me to organize trips or present slides at meetings. They needed me to be the calm when things went wrong, the mediator when fights arose, and to stand up for our members. Since then, I've never spoken behind anyone's back or jumped to conclusions in chaos. I encourage members to speak about each other with respect and see past the mistakes we've made. We started to be honest with each other and tackle problems before they became unbearable. It's not a fresh start, and it certainly is not perfect, but I'm extremely proud of the progress we have made within ██████████ FCCLA. This wild rollercoaster redefined my perspective on leadership and my approach to the National Executive Council. I will not only serve as a dedicated representative to the council, but as a steady foundation during the obstacles we face as a team. I am ready to lead National FCCLA with the patience, resilience, and drive it takes to be the shoulder every member can lean on.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

APRILLE JANARTH

STATE: North Carolina | SCHOOL: [REDACTED] | CHAPTER: [REDACTED]
GRADE: Rising 11th | YEARS IN FCCLA: 3 | YEARS OF FACS INSTRUCTION: 2 years (3 courses)

FCCLA OFFICES HELD

- Founder/President: [REDACTED] FCCLA ('24-'25)
- North Carolina State President ('25-'26, one-term limit)
- [REDACTED] FCCLA Board Member ('25-'26)
- Elected as National Officer Candidate (2026)
- National Membership Network: Active Representative ('25-'26)

FCS COURSES COMPLETED

- Exploring Apparel & Interior Design - 8th Grade - 0.5 Credit
- Exploring Nutrition & Wellness - 8th Grade - 0.5 Credit
- Principles of Family & Human Services - 9th Grade - 1.0 Credit



FCCLA PARTICIPATION

NATIONAL & STATE

- NLC Repurpose & Redesign Participant (2024): Top 10
- NC SLC Repurpose & Redesign Participant (2024): 1st Place, Gold
- NC Challenge Test Participant (2025): 1st Place in Hospitality & Tourism
- NLC Attendee (2025): Participated in parade of flags, NOC voting, and state officer training
- UNCG NC Fall Leadership Meeting-spoke at general and leadership sessions (2026)
- Attended 2026 SLC as State President
- Attended CTSO training, had the opportunity to network with NC CTSOS (2025)

LOCAL

- Multiple chapter visits across District 3 of NC as State President (2025)
- [REDACTED] MS FCCLA Community Service Project: cutting and sewing reusable fabric sanitary napkins (2024)
- [REDACTED] FCCLA Bake Sale (2025)
- [REDACTED] FCCLA: Club Fair (2025, 2026)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FCS

- Advocated for FCS, CTE, and FCCLA at the CTSO Seminar at NC State University (2026)
- Extended chapter outreach from FCCLA members to all FCS students
- FCS and FCCLA promotions through social media
- Speaking about FCS and FCCLA at local club fairs

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

- Varsity Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field ('24-'26)
- [REDACTED] Model UN ('24-'26)
- [REDACTED] Theatre ('25-'26)
- [REDACTED] SkillsUSA ('25-'26)
- National Spanish Honor Society (2026, prospective)
- National Honor Society (2026, prospective)
- International Thespian Society (2026, prospective)

COMMUNITY + EXTRACURRICULAR

- [REDACTED] Music Club Founder ('23-'26)
- District C + SPARK Teamship Program ('24-'25)
- [REDACTED] Diwali Choreographer ('24-'26)
- [REDACTED] Police Cadet ('24-'26)
- Triangle Youth Symphony: Violinist ('24-'25)
- Eastern Regional Orchestra: Violinist ('25-'26)
- NC Chamber Music Institute: Violinist + Violist ('25-'26)



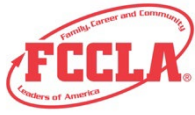
2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Brody Boe

State: North Dakota

Region: Central



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Brody Boe

State: ND

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA’s mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

One FCCLA National Program that strongly aligns with FCCLA ’ s mission is Families First. FCCL ’ s mission is to promote growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education, focusing on family as the central unit of society. Families First directly supports this mission by helping members understand family roles, strengthen community, build healthy relationships, and develop leadership within their homes and communities. It teaches students how strong families create stronger communities, which is one of the core values of FCCLA.

This program also connects to FCCLA ’ s purposes by encouraging members to become strong leaders, address personal and family challenges, and promote greater understanding between youth And adults. Through activities like learning conflict resolution, financial responsibility, and relationship building skills, students gain real life knowledge that supports both personal and professional success.

Families First aligns closely with several career clusters, especially Human Services, Education and Training, and Health Science. For example, careers such as counseling, teaching, social work, and nursing all require communication, empathy, leadership, and problem solving skills. These are the same skills students strengthen through this program.

Beyond FCCLA, the employability skills gained are extremely valuable. Members develop teamwork, professionalism, communication, responsibility, time management, and leadership ability ’ s. Employers in nearly every field look for these qualities. Whether a student enters healthcare, law, politics, education, or business, these skills help them succeed in college, the workplace, and everyday life.

Overall, Families First prepares members not just for FCCLA competitions, but for life. It helps students become confident leaders, responsible individuals, and career read young adults who can make a positive impact in their family ’ s, careers, and communities

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Brody Boe

State: ND

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Running for FCCLA state office and being elected as Vice President of Competitive Events completely changed the way I understand leadership, responsibility, and service. It was not just an achievement or a title to add to my resume, it was a defining moment in my life that showed me who I am as a leader and who I want to become. That experience pushed me outside of my comfort zone, challenged me to believe in myself, and reminded me that leadership is not about being the loudest person in the room, but about being the person other can trust, depend on, and turn to when they need support.

When I first made the decision to run for office, I knew it was something bigger than myself. I was not just running because I wanted a position, I was running because I genuinely care about people. I care about students who feel overlooked. I care about members who are nervous to compete because they doubt themselves. I care about first year members who walk into their first FCCLA meeting wondering if they belong. I care about make sure every single person feels seen, valued, and capable of success. That passion is what pushed me to run.

The preparation process itself taught me responsibility on a whole new level. I had to prepare speeches, communicate my goals clearly, represent myself professionally, and show others why I was the right person for the job. I had to trust myself and be confident in my voice, even when I was nervous. It thought me that leadership requires courage. It requires standing in front of people and saying “ I am ready to serve, and I am ready to work for you. ” That takes vulnerability, confidence, and willingness to put others before yourself.

When I was elected as Vice President of Competitive Events, I felt an overwhelming sense of pride, gratitude, and responsibility. I knew that moment that people believed in me. They trusted me to help lead, to represent them, and to make a difference. That was powerful. It made me realize that leadership is not something you wear like a crown, it ’ s something you carry like a responsibility. It means showing up, even when it ’ s hard. It means staying positive when others need encouragement. It means being the person who lifts other up instead of focusing on personal recognition.

One of the biggest lessons I learned through this experience was the importance of empathy. I believe empathy is one of the strongest leadership qualities a person can have. I have always been someone who feels deeply for others. I notice when people are struggling. I care when someone feels left out. I want people to feel comfortable, supported, and happy. I never want leadership to feel cold or distant. I want people to know that I am someone then can come to, not just as an officer but as a person

As Vice President of Competitive Events, I saw how much pressure members put on themselves and how intimidation competition can be. I understand that feeling, which is why I believe leadership must be rooted in compassion and empathy. Sometimes people don ’ t need advise, they just need someone to remind them they are capable. I want to be the person encouraging others, helping them succeed, and making sure they feel supported. This experience shaped how I would serve as a national officer because I would lead with kindness, service, and a focus helping every member feel included and confident.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

BRODY BOE



LEADERSHIP. SERVICE. IMPACT.

A driven leader with a passion for Family and Consumer Sciences, community service, and creating positive change. I believe in the power of leadership, the importance of giving back, and the responsibility to use my voice to make a difference.



NORTH DAKOTA



JUNIOR (2025–2026)



ABOUT ME

My FCCLA journey began in 7th grade and has shaped me into the leader I am today. Through FCCLA, I've developed confidence, communication skills, and a strong work ethic. I enjoy competing in STAR Events, collaborating with others, and stepping outside of my comfort zone to grow.

I am passionate about public service and political engagement. I believe young people have the power to influence the future, and I am committed to being a voice for others and a leader in my community and beyond.

I strive to lead with integrity, compete with excellence, and serve with purpose.

I am dedicated to giving back to my North Dakota community through service projects, local initiatives, and building meaningful connections. I am highly engaged in my community and take pride in representing the values of my school and making a difference in the lives of others.

I have taken the initiative to lead a fundraising journey to raise \$100,000 for a community pool—a project that will create a lasting impact on the health, unity, and well-being of our community. Through planning, outreach, partnerships, and community support, I am turning this vision into a reality.

My goals are to continue serving my community, strengthening my leadership skills, and becoming highly engaged in public service and politics. I aspire to use my voice to advocate for positive change, represent my community with pride, and inspire others to get involved.

I AM DEDICATED TO EMPOWERING OTHERS, STRENGTHENING MY COMMUNITY, AND BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL.



FCCLA EXPERIENCE



COMPETITIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Competed in many STAR Events throughout my FCCLA career and competed at Nationals, demonstrating dedication, teamwork, and a drive for excellence.



STATE OFFICER

Elected to serve as State Vice President of Competitive Events, where I represent FCCLA members across the state, support chapters in their competitive success, and help plan and implement engaging leadership experiences.



LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Serve as a role model and mentor to members, promote FCCLA programs, and encourage involvement in leadership, community service, and Family and Consumer Sciences.



COMMUNITY & POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

Actively involved in my community through volunteer service and political engagement. I believe in using my voice to advocate for positive change and to represent the values of FCCLA both locally and at the state level.



FUNDRAISING LEADERSHIP

Leading a fundraising journey to raise \$100,000 for a community pool in North Dakota. This project reflects my commitment to improving the well-being of my community, creating inclusive spaces, and leaving a lasting legacy for future generations.



COMMITMENT TO NORTH DAKOTA

Proud to be from North Dakota and dedicated to making a difference in my community. I value hard work, connection, and service to others as the foundation for building a stronger future.



FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES COURSES

COURSE TITLE	GRADE LEVEL WHEN TAKEN	YEAR TAKEN	CREDIT EARNED
Family and Consumer Science I	Freshman	2023–2024	0.25
Life Skills	Freshman	2023–2024	0.50
Family and Consumer Science II	Sophomore	2024–2025	0.75
Housing and Interior Design	Sophomore	2024–2025	0.50
Independent Living	Junior	2025–2026	0.50
Food Innovations	Junior	2025–2026	0.50



TOTAL FCS CREDITS EARNED

3.00



TOGETHER WE ARE LEADERS, CHANGEMAKERS, AND THE FUTURE.



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Ashland Roethlisberger

State: North Dakota

Region: Central



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Ashland Roethlisberger

State: 4/30/2026

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

"Transforming futures, one leader at a time."- that is my chapter's official motto. This truly captures the work of what FCCLA does in one sentence. An individual's work in this organization is geared towards advancing not only the future of oneself, but also everyone around them. The FCCLA National Program, "Power of One", focuses on the impact that each person has the potential to achieve. It allows students to set high-level goals and follow through with their impact. By working with this program, individuals develop specific action plans to be the change that they want to see in the world.

"Power of One" truly puts the mission into action. An individual experiencing personal growth is a direct part of FCCLA's mission. This program sets goals with measurable results to demonstrate personal growth. Along with this personal growth, it gives members the chance to engage in personal reflection, responsibility, reliability, and time management skills.

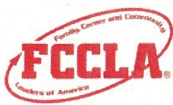
When students can find and successfully apply these skills, they are able to have confidence in their future pathway. They can find success in what each of FCCLA's career clusters has to offer them. No matter the career choice, all of these skills are applicable. When in the workplace, these skills will ensure efficiency, productive collaboration, and an overall strong work ethic.

Whether members are going into jobs in public service, hospitality and tourism, arts and design, human services, education and training, or financial services, they will be ready for a smooth transition into these fields because of the lessons learned in "Power of One". It gives them not only applicable skills, but also a sense of confidence to ensure they will succeed.

Additionally, "Power of One" shows a strong association with the FCCLA purposes. Specifically, the 4th FCCLA purpose, which shows how essential initiative and involvement are in order to achieve success as a whole. This program works and empowers those members to do exactly that.

In the end, it is important to understand that when given the opportunity, every single member in this organization can- and will- make their future a pathway for success. The experience given through "Power of One" embodies the knowledge and skills necessary for individuals to be successful builders of homes.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Ashland Roethlisberger

State: 4/30/2026

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Always remember the small acts; they matter. I am a huge believer in this because every single interaction makes an impact. In FCCLA, such an opportunity is always there; you must be intentional to notice it.

One interaction I will never forget is from the 2024 National Leadership Conference in Seattle, Washington. I was at a coffee shop and I was simply waiting for my drink when a man came up and politely asked my mom about the red blazer he had seen so many people wearing around town. With a smile on my face, I did not hesitate to inform the man about the organization behind the red blazers. He followed up by asking how we made an impact and what I did through the organization. The man was engaged and listened intently, then thanked me after I finished answering his questions.

This was not the first time I had told someone about FCCLA, nor would it be the last. However, something felt different about this interaction. It reminded me that there are people to connect with everywhere. There is always advocacy to be done. It was a learning moment where I had realized how important it was to build connections for the organization using my public speaking experience.

It's moments like these that show me how grateful I need to be for the position that I am in. I have gained the applicable skills through FACS courses and FCCLA opportunities to make measurable impacts.

This also showed me that moments to step up and be a leader often come when you least expect it. Showing up and working hard outside of the spotlight goes to show your true character- even in a place like a coffee shop. A saying that rings true to my personal philosophy is "your character is your currency". Every action, and choice, stands as the building blocks for one's character. In order to go farther as a leader, I understand the importance of staying humble and honest to my true values.

As a leader, I realize that every single person has strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. That's what makes us unique and vital to the community of FCCLA and beyond. Promoting strength in diversity is essential to making connections as a national officer.

National officers stand as a public face of the organization every day. Whether in the blazer or out, I know that my presence and voice always matter. Furthermore, a national officer strives to become the best version of themselves that they can be. When you are at your fullest potential, you can lead others with a clear vision, strong initiatives, and inspiring ethic. I want to lead effectively with all of these qualities on the National Executive Council.

My interaction two summers ago will help me remember to meet people where they are. I will work and interact with members and officers to help them develop their strengths and to encourage them in their opportunities while allowing them to do the same for me. I will think back and remember to utilize my voice and my skills for the greater good of this country. Whether talking with one person in a coffee shop, or taking the national stage in front of thousands of fellow members, that is my opportunity to be the change that I want to see.

Ultimately, I will take that approach to being a leader at all times. Every meeting I attend, every project I undertake, and every person I connect with only serves to enhance my growth and development for the betterment of those around me. So, I encourage you to focus on every opportunity and to seek personal growth. Together, this is how we accomplish the greatest connection.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

ASHLAND ROETHLISBERGER

North Dakota | ██████████ | ██████████ | Sophomore (10th grade)

3 Years in FCCLA | 1 ½ Years in FCS Education

FACS EDUCATION COURSES

- 7th FACS/Sewing (7th Grade: 2022-2023)
 - Grade & Credit Earned: 3 (A), ½
- 8th FACS/Sewing (8th Grade: 2023-2024)
 - Grade & Credit Earned: 3(A), ½
- FACS 1-B (9th Grade: 2024-2025)
 - Grade & Credit Earned: A+, ½

PARTICIPATION IN FCCLA

Offices Held

██████████ Middle Chapter First Vice President (8th Grade)

██████████ High Chapter First Vice President (9th-10th Grade)

District 4 President (9th-10th Grade)

- North Dakota FCCLA district terms run alternate to state terms based on election schedule, so running for state officer is restricted while serving as District President

Competitive Events (Local-National Competitions) 8th Grade

- Chapter Service Project Display (STAR)
 - Highest Qualification & Rating:
 - National Competitor, Silver
- FCCLA Creed Speaking & Interpretation (SDE)
 - Highest Qualification & Rating:
 - National Competitor, 1st in the Nation

9th Grade

- Promote & Publicize FCCLA (STAR)
 - Highest Qualification & Rating:
 - National Competitor, 8th in the Nation/Gold
- Food Innovations (STAR)
 - Highest Qualification & Rating:
 - State Competitor, Silver
- Impromptu Speaking (SDE)
 - Highest Qualification & Rating:
 - National Competitor, 3rd in the Nation

10th Grade

- Event Management (STAR)
 - Highest Qualification & Rating:
 - National Qualifier, Gold
- Job Interview (STAR)
 - Highest Qualification & Rating:
 - National Qualifier, Silver

Local

- Assisted in developing a new FCCLA chapter at ██████████ Middle School (8th Grade)
- Coordinated officer & member orientation (9th-10th grade)
- Implemented chapter bulletin board within FCCLA Branding Guidelines (9th-10th grade)
- Implemented recognition for chapter members using a "Member Spotlight" feature (9th-10th grade)
- Chapter Motto Award (9th Grade)

District

- Fall Leadership Meetings (8th-10th Grade)
 - Led multiple leadership/FCCLA-based workshops for District members
 - Served as MC for the 2025 Fall Leadership Meeting, which had more than 200 attendees
- District Planning Meeting (9th-10th Grade)
 - Served as Head of the District Planning Committee coordinating multiple annual district events including Fall Leadership Meetings and District STAR Events
- District Fundraisers (10th Grade)
 - Led district fundraising initiative to raise money for 2025 State Service Project- Foster Hope

State

- State Leadership Conferences (8th-10th Grade)
 - Led District Business Meetings as District President
 - Assisted with Miracle Minute fundraising
- Winter/Summer Leadership Training (9th-10th Grade)
 - Trained and collaborated with various North Dakota CTSO State Officers to develop North Dakota FCCLA programs

National

- National Leadership Conferences (8th-10th Grade)
 - Served as a relief evaluator for competitive events
 - Active participant in workshops and sessions
 - Collaborated with Casey Toner, former National VP of Parliamentary Law at the North Dakota State Leadership Conference

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Participation in School & Community

- Active participant and leader in FCCLA, Peer2Peer, Student Council, FFA, FCA, Student Congress, Speech, and Cheerleading
- Led peers as Sophomore Class President
- Over 40 hours of community service
- GPA: ██████████ (9th grade) ██████████ (10th grade)
- National Honor Society recipient
- WDA All Conference recognized cheerleader (9th-10th Grade)
- FFA leadership conference scholarship recipient (local alumni, state alumni, and state association)

Contributions to FCS Education

- 2026 ██████████ FCS Department Teacher's Assistant
- Led middle school and high school workshops on the purpose and benefits of FCS with 30-40 attendees per workshop (10th Grade)
- Encouraged freshman peers to enroll in FCS when transitioning to high school (9th Grade)
- Recognized as a 2025 ██████████ CTE Female Student of the Month (9th Grade)
- Invited and attended North Dakota CTSO Booth Event at the North Dakota State Legislature (9th Grade)
- Advocated for FCS Education to the North Dakota Governor (9th Grade)



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Kaycee Kimberling

State: Oklahoma

Region: Southern



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kaycee Kimberling

State: Oklahoma

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile."- Albert Einstein. One of the arguably most intelligent individuals of all time believed that a life focused on serving others is a life filled with purpose. For that reason, I believe that is why the Community Service National Program leaves such a positive impact, not only on FCCLA members, but also on the people we serve. We are not remembered by what we do with our time, necessarily, but by how we make others feel. With FCCLA, this sense of service can be applied not only in our local communities but also all throughout our nation. FCCLA's essential mission aligns directly with the purpose of this National Program, as it focuses on assisting members in their journeys to become community leaders, inspiring more individuals to pursue this type of leadership. Furthermore, the units of the FCCLA National Program Community Service - Learn, Lead, and Serve - correlate with FCCLA's 8 purposes.

The Learn unit emphasizes the importance of an individual's understanding of self to enhance the quality of life within a community. Similarly, the Lead unit provides FCCLA members with leadership skills to accomplish community needs and goals. These same leadership skills are essential for any sort of career or employment outcome. This community-based leadership is crucial for harmonious and cooperative group and individual involvement towards a common goal that is outlined within FCCLA's purposes while leaving room to make critical decisions and maintain responsibility.

The Serve unit brings to life the urgent importance that many people fail to realize when it comes to serving others: motivating members and nonmembers, alike, to continue aiding others.

The National Program Community Service is a unique National Program in the sense that it not only strongly relates to just one FCCLA Career Cluster, like most other National Programs, but also two. (For example, the Financial Fitness National Program most directly correlates to the Financial Services Career Cluster, but doesn't strongly relate to the other Career Clusters). These two Career Clusters- Public Service and Human Services - exemplify the same aspects and values that the Community Service National Program displays.

The Human Services Career Cluster is all about stimulating change and empowering all individuals, making it a perfect Career Cluster to experience service-based activities and situations. Through the Public Service Career Cluster, members gain hands-on experiences with community engagement, social issues, and the exposure of diverse communities that require leadership and communication skills that FCCLA and the Community Service National Program offer.

As a former District Vice President of Community Service, I was afforded, firsthand, the experience and honor that comes with serving others. During DLC last year, I was able to showcase our team's community service project, The Wounded Warrior Service Project, where I advocated for and raised awareness of our veterans, which resulted in almost \$600 worth of donations. This result made a huge impression on me, showing me the endless possibilities that FCCLA and the National Program of Community Service have to offer.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kaycee Kimberling

State: Oklahoma

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Before I even knew FCCLA existed, there was a time in middle school when I had trouble making friends and being myself. While there is not much I can recall, there is an outstanding individual who went on to have a major influence on my life - even before she wore the red blazer.

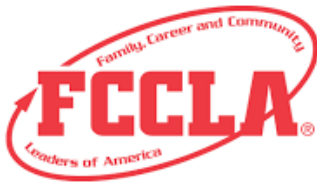
This rare and unique individual is none other than Gracelyn Vails, a former FCCLA National Officer Candidate from Oklahoma and the 2025-2026 Oklahoma Vice President of Programs. Gracelyn was one of the few friends that I had growing up. She always had leadership potential and was one of the kindest, gracious, and most generous people I had ever met. Gracelyn was sweet and loving to everyone, and always volunteered her hand if help was ever needed. She had quickly become a pillar of guidance in my life, one I always asked for her opinion and sought out her advice on just about anything.

Before FCCLA, she and I had many similarities. We were both shy, unconfrontational individuals who tended to be picked last at games or sports. Despite this, Gracelyn saw the good in every situation and in every person. Soon, Gracelyn entered high school, and there was a period when I didn't see her. However, once I became a freshman, I recognized her, but she was no longer the same. She had this fire, this passion that I had never seen before for an organization called FCCLA. It was not rare to see her leading a group project, speaking on a stage, or chasing big dreams.

Having known who she used to be and who she became inspired me to start my own FCCLA journey. She was there every step of the way, and watched me grow from the girl scared to run for a chapter office to the girl who is a current National Officer Candidate. I was blessed with the opportunity to see her run for a National Office and learned a tremendous amount from how she handled herself when, unfortunately, she did not become a National Officer. She taught me that leadership is not about being the loudest voice in the room, but about making sure every voice is heard. She taught me that despite failures and unexpected turnouts, you can always rise victorious.

Gracelyn Vails was the epitome of an unselfish, member-dedicated State Officer, and I aim to ensure every action and step I take in my position will make her proud. Running for a National Office, I hope to be that pillar of guidance, support, generosity, and strength that Gracelyn was and continues to be for me. I desire to be the representation that FCCLA is for everyone, and to me, that is sending the message that you are capable of anything you set your mind to. I hope to inspire every FCCLA member that a failure does not define who they are, and that it is how they handle that experience and what they choose to do afterward that does. I consider myself lucky to have such a valuable role model, and I aim to be that same role model on a nationwide level.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.



KAYCEE KIMBERLING
NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE

3 Years in FCCLA
3 Years in FCS

State: Oklahoma | **School:** [REDACTED] | **Chapter:** [REDACTED] | **Year:** Rising Senior

FCCLA District Involvement:

9th- FACS Basics (1 Credit)

10th- Nutrition & Wellness (1 Credit)

11th- Parenting & Childhood (1 Credit)

FCCLA Offices Held:

- Chapter 1st Vice President (2025-2026)
- District VP of Community Service (2025-2026)
- State VP of Programs (2026-2027)

FCCLA National Involvement:

- National Leadership Conference Attendee (2024,2025)
- NOC Voting Delegate (2025)
- National STAR Events Competitor (2024)
- National Top 10 Finalist Nutrition and Wellness Level 2 (2024)
- National Skills Demonstration Competitor (2025)
- National Impromptu Speaking Champion (2025)
- FCCLA Night At the Ballgame (2024)
- FCCLA Night at Universal (2025)
- FCCLA AquaGlow After Party at Aquatica (2025)
- Youth Workshop B Career Growth Sessions (2025)
- National Program Evaluator (2026)

FCCLA State Involvement:

- State STAR Events Competitor (2024-2025)
- State Leadership Conference (2024-2026)
- Nutrition and Wellness Level 2 1st Place (2024)
- Nutrition and Wellness Level 3 1st Place (2026)
- Professional Presentation Level 2 3rd Place (2025)
- Summer Leadership Summit (2025,2026)
- Silent Disco (2024,2025)
- Voting Delegate (2025)
- FCCLA Zoo Night (2024)
- District Officer Training (2025,2026)
- LEAD Conference (2025,2026)
- Timekeeper (2026)
- Courtesy Corps (2026)
- Get SET Attendee (2025)

Contribution to FCS Education

- Educated community/ business leaders about FCS Education and FCCLA while encouraging participation in our chapter events.
- Represented FCCLA and FCS Education during Recruitment Week
- Informed unaware students about the FCS courses my school offers.

FCCLA District Involvement:

- District STAR Events Competitor (2024)
- Professional Presentation 1st Place (2024)
- District STAR Events Host (2025)
- Pearl House (2023,2024)
- Wounded Warrior Service Project (2025)
- District Leadership Conference (2023,2024,2025)

FCCLA Local Involvement:

- Tie Blankets (2023,2024,2025)
- Cocoa For Kittens (2025)
- Valentines Grams (2023,2024,2025)
- Tacos and Twisters (2025)
- Canned Food Drive (2025)
- Angel Tree (2023,2024,2025)
- Sock-It to Abuse (2025)
- Rubber Ducky Regatta (2025)
- Fall for Fostering 5K (2025)
- New Century Club Baked Potato Day (2024,2025)
- Community Cinnamon Roll Baking (2024,2025)
- Friendsgiving (2025)
- PowderPuff (2025)
- STAR Event Mock Contest Evaluator (2025)

School/Community Involvement:

- **Speech** (2 years)- (Local)- 1st SO, 1st Info, 3rd Prose (2025) 5X Champs OO 1st, 3X Champs Poetry 1st, 2nd Champ Poetry (2025-2026 (Regional) -2nd SO, 2nd Info (2025), OO & Poetry State Qualifier (2026) (State)- 4th SO, 9th Info (2025), 7th OO, 10th Poetry (2026)
- **Drama** (1 Year)- Spring Musical (2025,2026), One Act (2025), Christmas Play (2024,2025)
- **Esports** (1 Year)- 2X State Qualifier Mariokart (2025,2026)
- **Academic Team** (2 Years)- State Froshmore 4th Place (2025)
- **Track and Field** (3 years) - Track Manager (2026)
- **FFA** (1 Year) - Opening & Closing Ceremony 3rd Place(2024)
- **Watergirl/Trainer** (2 Years)
- **Voice of Democracy**- Local and Regional 1st Place (2025)
- **Scholastic Contests**- (Local) Anatomy/Physiology 2nd Place, English Grammar & Usage 4th Place (2025), Speech 1st Place, Powerpoint Presentation 1st Place
- **Work Experience**- Waitressing (2024-2025), Tutoring (2023-2026)



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Kooper Walker

State: Oklahoma

Region: Southern



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kooper Walker

State: Oklahoma

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

The FCCLA National Program that represents our organization well is Student Body. This program is designed to focus on the overall well being of students by addressing differences in their health. Student Body is divided into four units: the Healthy You, the Fit You, the Real You, and the Resilient You. Each unit plays a role in helping students become more self aware and intentional in ways of caring for themselves mentally and physically.

The Healthy You is about the importance of proper nutrition and learning how to maintain a balanced lifestyle. When students are busy, they can easily fall into unhealthy habits, such as relying on fast food and neglecting nutritious meals. This unit teaches members how to make smart food choices, understand nutritional value, and develop habits that will benefit them long term. By learning these skills early, students are better prepared to sustain a healthy lifestyle into adulthood.

The Fit You focuses on motivating students to stay active and mindful of their physical health. While it can be misunderstood that they must be as active as an athlete, this program helps everyone find ways to incorporate movement into their daily lives. Whether it is going on a walk, participating in sports, or simply being more conscious of daily activity levels, this unit promotes consistency and awareness.

The Real You focuses on student's mental health, an area that has become increasingly important among today's youth. Students face pressures from school, social media, and future expectations, making it essential to prioritize mental health. This unit promotes members practicing self care, building confidence, and recognizing when they need to ask for help. By normalizing conversations around mental health, FCCLA helps reduce stigma and empowers students to take control of their mental health.

The Resilient You builds on this by teaching students how to develop emotional strength and perseverance. Life is full of challenges, and resilience is a skill that allows individuals to overcome obstacles and grow from difficult experiences. This unit helps students learn coping strategies, and how to maintain a positive mindset even during hard times. These lessons not only benefit students now but also prepare them for their futures.

Student Body aligns strongly with FCCLA's mission of promoting personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. Through this program, members develop critical thinking skills to make informed decisions about their health and well-being. By engaging in Student Body, members also become more self-aware at a younger age while gaining the knowledge needed to make positive choices. In addition, the program connects to FCCLA's Human Services and Public Service career clusters, helping students understand how to care for themselves and others, advocate for their needs, and support their communities. Ultimately, Student Body not only prepares members for healthier futures, but also empowers a generation of leaders who value wellness, resilience, and personal responsibility.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kooper Walker

State: Oklahoma

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

The connection I have chosen is my physician and FCCLA alumna, Dr. Lindsey French-Hoffman. Dr. French-Hoffman has been my doctor since I was nine years old, and she played a key role in my diagnosis of diabetes. Beyond her role in my health journey as my physician, she has also become one of my biggest inspirations for FCCLA and for wanting to eventually enter the medical field one day.

During a routine appointment, Dr. French-Hoffman asked how my school year was going and what extracurricular activities I was involved in. I began sharing my involvement in FCCLA and explained that I was running for a District Office and attending Nationals that summer. When I mentioned FCCLA, her response completely shocked me. She shared that she was not only a former member, but a two-term State Officer who served as State President for Oklahoma FCCLA.

At that moment, I was shocked that she had not only been in FCCLA, but I was also inspired to continue my journey with FCCLA. The same organization that showed me how to find my voice, respect others' ideas, and be myself had also helped shape my physician who is continuing to help people to this day. It was incredible to understand FCCLA, which played big roles in both of our journeys, just at different times.

We continued our chatting about how FCCLA prepared her for her career in medicine. She talked about how skills such as public speaking, leadership, and networking were not just things one does in FCCLA, but essential tools she uses every day as a doctor and a community member. Whether she was presenting information in medical school, communicating with patients, collaborating with colleagues, or handling unexpected outcomes, the foundation FCCLA created helped her walk into rooms with a positive way to handle each situation.

This talk with Dr. French-Hoffman changed my idea of FCCLA. It showed me that FCCLA is more than just an organization to be involved in during middle and high school, it is a lifelong foundation that prepares students for future journeys as adults. Dr. French-Hoffman exhibits that the lessons, learned through FCCLA, extend far beyond just competitions and conferences, but they shape how we lead, how we communicate with others, and how we respond to challenges, not only in our careers, but also in our daily lives.

Most importantly, she has shown me that connections formed in FCCLA truly are never forgotten. I never imagined that my physician, someone who has impacted my life in such a significant way, would share somewhat the same leadership experience as me. That moment reminded me of just how FCCLA will connect all of us to others in the future and how it will shape our future journeys. The possibilities are endless.

Through FCCLA, I have learned that every experience, every leadership role, and every connection has the chance to make a lasting impact. Just as Dr. French-Hoffman has impacted me, I hope to one day inspire others and show them that their FCCLA journey can shape their future in ways they may not yet realize.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Kooper Walker

Oklahoma National Officer Candidate



Oklahoma | Rising Senior, Class of 2027 | 4 Year Member | 4 Years of FCS Education

National Involvement

National Leadership Conference - 2023
Professional Presentation Level 1 - 6th Place
Capital Leadership - 2023
National Leadership Conference - 2024
Nominating Committee - 2024
Job Interview Level 2 - 4th Place
National Leadership Conference - 2025
NLC Voting Delegate - 2025
FLI Anaheim Attendee - 2025

State Involvement

Take Aim Leadership Conference - 2022, 2025
Lead Conference - 2023, 2024, 2025
District Officer Training - 2023, 2024, 2025
Summer Leadership Summit - 2025
Say Yes to FCS Day - 2025
State Officer Interviews - 2025
State Leadership Conference - 2023-2026
Level 1 Professional Presentation - 1st Place, 2023
Level 2 Job Interview - 1st Place, 2024
Level 2 Career Investigation - 3rd Place, 2025

District Involvement

District Leadership Conference - 2023-2025
Vice President of Public Relations - 2023-2024
President - 2024-2025
Lead Conference - 2023-2025
Planing District Leadership - 2023-2025
Facilitating District STAR Events - 2023-2025

Chapter Involvement

Chapter of Excellence - Gold 2022-2026
Recruitment Award - 2026
Senior Citizens' Dinner - 2023-2026

Officer Positions

- Chapter Officer - 2022-2023
- Chapter President - 2023-2025
- Southeast 1 VP of Public Relations - 2023-2024
- Southeast 1 District President - 2024-2025
- Oklahoma FCCLA First Vice President - 2025-2026
- Oklahoma FCCLA VP of Parliamentary Law - 2026-2027

FCS Education

Credits Earned 5.0

- 8th Grade - FACS Basics 1.0 CE
- Freshman - Intro to Hospitality and Tourism - 1.0 CE
- Freshman - Human Growth and Development - 1.0 CE
- Sophomore - FACS Basics - 1.0 CE
- Junior - Intro to Culinary Arts - 1.0 CE

Work Experiences

- [REDACTED] Windows Employee - Aug 2019-Present
- [REDACTED] Orchard Manager - Aug 2023-Present
- [REDACTED] Server Assistant - July 2025-February 2026

Contributions to FCS Education

- Advocated in conversation for FCS with State Rep. Josh Cantrell and Sen. Jerry Alvord at the Oklahoma State Capitol.
- Advocated on Capitol Hill in Conversation with Sen. Mullin and Rep. Brecheen



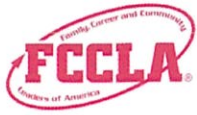
2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Ellie Kerfonta

State: Pennsylvania

Region: North Atlantic



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Ellie Kerfonta

State: Pennsylvania

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

National Programs within Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is an excellent experience that enables members to develop real world skills through Family Consumer Sciences Education. The National Program, Career Connection, plays a vital role in members' everyday lives as it prepares them for responsibilities in their career as well as daily life. This program applies directly to FCCLAs entire mission which is to promote personal development and leadership through Family and Consumer Sciences education. By focusing on career exploration, leadership development, real world readiness, and skill building, Career Connection aids members to become well-rounded individuals.

Career Connection strongly connects to several of FCCLAs purposes. It supports the 1st purpose by helping members build confidence, set goals, and prepare for future family and career roles. It reflects the 2nd purpose by teaching responsibility, communication, and decision-making skills that strengthen families. It supports the 5th purpose as members work with advisers, mentors, and professionals, building understanding between youth and adults. The program also applies to the 6th purpose by giving members opportunities to lead projects, make decisions, and take responsibility. In addition, it connects to the 7th purpose by preparing members to balance responsibilities in careers, families, and communities. Lastly, it supports the 8th purpose by exposing members to careers related to Family and Consumer Sciences, such as education, hospitality, and human services.

While all Career Clusters directly relate to Career Connection, Education & Training relates the closest to me. Members who are interested in becoming teachers, trainers, coaches, and mentors benefit immensely from this program. For instance, FCCLA members who hold leadership positions are often tasked with the responsibility of assisting new members, lead meetings, produce and provide information, and serve as role models. These experiences go hand-in-hand in the situations that professionals may face in the Education & Training field.

In addition to helping members in certain career paths and clusters, Career Connection helps build employability skills that are essential for all career fields and aspects of adult life. Some of these skills can include teamwork, collaboration, communication, time management, public speaking, and leadership. Employers constantly search for these skill sets which members can develop through STAR Events, leadership roles, and chapter initiatives. The ability to take the lead, effectively work with others, and manage projects are essential skills for today's workforce. Career Connection and FCCLA are perfect ways to provide members with these opportunities.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Ellie Kerfonta

State: Pennsylvania

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Throughout my years in Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, one experience that truly shaped my views on leadership and responsibility was organizing and leading a t-shirt service initiative for the nonprofit organization Zip With Us. This organization makes medically adapted garments for children with pediatric cancer who have a port, tube, line, wound vac, or sensory issues. These shirts provide the child with comfort and dignity when they undergo access processes. Being able to directly support and help an impactful and meaningful cause, pushed me to become not only a stronger leader, but also as a more proactive contributor within my community.

As the leader of this initiative, I was responsible for planning and implementing the month-long event. Not only was I representing myself, but also my chapter, school, community, and FCCLA as a whole. That weight of responsibility encouraged me to stay committed, driven, and focused on the bigger purpose behind the project.

By hosting this t-shirt drive, I opened the eyes of many in my community, as individuals praised FCCLA and shared they had never considered how challenging port access can be for a child. The project inspired action, leading two community members to organize their own drives through a church and small business. The most meaningful moment came when a grandmother shared that her granddaughter had recently been diagnosed with cancer and required port access treatment. She expressed deep gratitude for learning about Zip With Us and receiving a shirt for her granddaughter, reinforcing the purpose of my project: to make a tangible difference in the lives of others. After seeing the positive impact that the t-shirt drive left on individuals and families throughout my community, it made all of the hard work and dedication worth every second.

This connection will strongly influence my approach to serving on the National Officer team. I have learned that leadership requires passion, responsibility, and perseverance, even when difficult situations arise. It has inspired me to find my purpose, to help others. As a member of the National Team, I will apply the leadership skills I have gained through FCCLA to inspire others, encourage growth, and lead with a commitment to excellence. I will share my passion and love for FCCLA with my team, and give my dedication to the organization, just as it has done for me.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Ellie Kerfonta

Pennsylvania
Junior Year of High School

6 Years of FCCLA
3 Years of FCS Education

List of Family and Consumer Sciences Courses and Grade

FamConSci8 .4 credits Grade 8: Career Skills, Foods, Nutrition
FamConSci7 .4 credits Grade 7: Career Skills, Child Development, Intro to Foods
FamConSci6 .4 credits Grade 6: Career Skills, Clothing Care, Money Management

FCCLA Participation - Local, State, National Levels

Local: Officer - Middle School Chapter Secretary: 2022-2023
Officer - Middle School Chapter President: 2023-2024
Officer - High School Chapter President: 2024-2025
Lead - Chair of the Zip With Us t-shirt drive: 2024

Region: Officer - Western Region Officer: 2024-2025
Attend - PA FCCLA Western Regional Leadership Meeting: 2023, 2024, 2025

State: Officer - PA State Vice President of Membership: 2026- Present
Officer - PA State Vice President of Programs: 2025-2026
Attend - PA FCCLA State Leadership Conference: 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
Compete - Gold, National Team Honors, STAR Events Sports Nutrition: 2022
Compete - Gold, National Team Honors, STAR Events Focus on Children: 2023
Compete - Gold, National Team Honors, STAR Events Job Interview: 2024
Compete - Gold, National Team Honors, STAR Events Chapter Service Project Display: 2025
Compete - Gold, National Team Honors, STAR Events Leadership: 2026
Engage - Presenter for Leadership Workshop "The Cup Connection" at SLC: 2026
Engage - Power of One Recipient: 2025, 2026 Engage - SLC Social Media team: 2024
Engage - Chapter Member of the Year: 2025 Engage - Voting Delegate: 2024

National: Engage - National Officer Candidate: 2026
Compete - Gold, Top 10 (5th place) STAR Events Chapter Service Project Display: 2025
Attend - National Leadership Conference: 2026, 2025
Engage - Attended NLC State Officer Training: 2025
Engage - National Programs Network: 2025-2026

Contributions to Family and Consumer Sciences Education

Taught Seatbelt Safety Pgm to 2nd graders for two years, bringing FCS/FCCLA awareness to parents
Presented at our school board meeting about FCS and FCCLA
Served as a student mentor for the FCS middle school teacher giving FCS and FCCLA assistance

School and Community Participation

Activities and Honors:

FCCLA: Grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

Class Office: Grades 10 and 11 (Secretary)

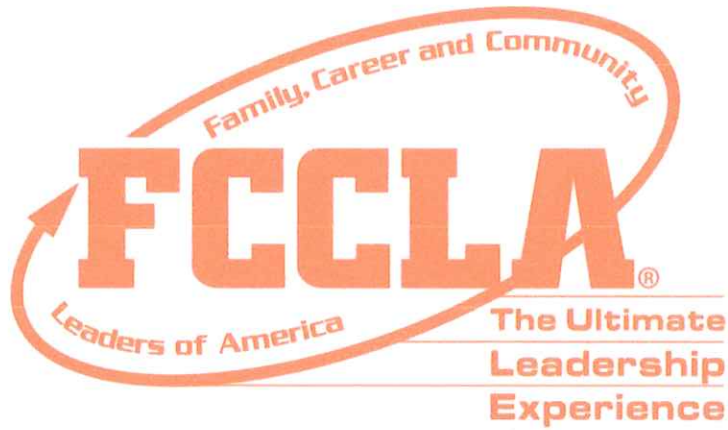
National Honors Society: Grade 11

Technology Student Association: Grade 11 (2 time region placer, 3 time state top 10 placer)

Job Experience:

Pool Lifeguard - 2025; Certified Lifeguard by the Red Cross: (CPR & AED): 2025- Present

Italian Restaurant - 2025- Present: Cold Line Cook, Training for Hot Line Cook and Server



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Emeri Hofeman

State: South Dakota

Region: Central



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Emeri Hofeman

State: SD

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

Career Connections is the FCCLA National Program that I believe best aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that extend beyond FCCLA. This program focuses on preparing members for life after high school by helping them build essential skills, set goals, and gain academic and career knowledge needed to pursue a successful future.

FCCLA's mission prepares members to become wage earners and leaders through Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) education. Career Connection supports this mission by helping members better understand themselves and how they fit into the workplace. Through this program, I have learned how to identify the steps needed to reach my goals, develop strategies to obtain employment, and understand how to balance work, family, and community responsibilities. It also encourages members to become productive individuals by connecting their personal strengths, skills, and interests to real career opportunities.

Career Connection centers on preparing members for adult life. Two purposes it supports are to provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life and to prepare for the multiple roles of men in women in today's society. These purposes guide members in goal setting, decision-making, and taking responsibility, while also emphasizing the importance of strengthening families and applying FCS knowledge beyond the classroom. Members develop a clearer understanding of their future plans while building essential skills such as communication, critical thinking, and teamwork. The career that I see myself navigating into is politics. Within this career, I will be able to use communication skills, teamwork, and leadership skills to help advocate for individuals.

In addition, Career Connection connects seamlessly with FCCLA's Career Clusters like Public Services and Human Services. These clusters provide a framework for applying classroom learning to real-world careers across a variety of industries. Within my career I will have to make policies that will affect all sorts of families. Through Career Connection, members explore different career pathways and discover how their interests can translate into meaningful professions. Whether pursuing careers in public service, hospitality and tourism, or other fields, members gain valuable insight and experience through hands-on learning and leadership development. This connection helps students see the relevance of their education while preparing them for both college and careers.

Most importantly, Career Connection equips members with employability skills that are applied well beyond FCCLA. I have learned employability skills through my FCS employability class. This class taught me how to prepare for interviews, build a resume, and expose myself to the real-world scenarios that prepare me for future challenges and opportunities. Career Connection not only helps members choose the right career path but also ensures they are ready to succeed in it, making them confident, capable, and career-ready individuals.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Emeri Hofeman

State: SD

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

An FCCLA connection that expanded my understanding of leadership and responsibility was my experience serving on two different leadership teams. I quickly learned that leadership isn't about working independently, but about working effectively with others to achieve the same outcome. This experience pushed me to step outside of my comfort zone and truly learn how to function as part of a team rather than trying to manage everything on my own. While working with the leadership teams, I developed skills such as communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving. As team members, we worked together to plan and complete projects, which required us to share ideas, listen to different perspectives, and support one another through challenges. I learned how to recognize what team members needed from me, how they approached various situations, and how we worked to build strong, trusting relationships. These experiences strengthened my ability to stay organized, manage my time effectively, and stay self-motivated. I realized the importance of uplifting myself so I could uplift others, especially during difficult situations.

The challenges that I faced within my teams ultimately helped me grow into a more caring and thoughtful leader. I learned that leadership is not one-size-fits-all each person brings a unique perspective and strength within the team. This understanding has shaped how I approach teamwork and has encouraged me to be better aware of each team member's creative and critical thinking, tactics, and time management.

These connections will strongly influence my approach as a national officer. Through these experiences, I will collaborate with all teams of leaders, communicate effectively, and think critically to accomplish shared goals. An understanding that each member brings unique perspectives on leadership has strengthened my ability to learn from others and apply those insights to my own leadership style. A willingness to learn, along with the ability to contribute my own ideas and experiences, will guide my work with fellow officers. Creating a positive and supportive team environment where every member feels valued and empowered to lead will remain a top priority. Strong time management and efficiency ensures that tasks are completed promptly, allowing others to rely on me to follow through whenever support is needed.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Emeri Hofeman

South Dakota | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | 11th Grade | Comprehensive Affiliation | 5 Year Member

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES COURSES - Total FACS Credits: 2

FACS Exploratory (.50): 7th | Fundamental Foods (.50): 9th | Food Technology (.50): 9th | Employability (.5): 11th

FCCLA OFFICES HELD

LOCAL: Vice President 2022-23, 2024-26 | Vice President of Membership 2023-24 **REGION:** Vice President 2025-26
STATE: SD Current Trends Team Member 2024-2025 | **STATE:** SD National Outreach Team Member 2025-2026

FCCLA PARTICIPATION

NATIONAL:

- **2nd Place Event Management:** Silver Medal-2022
- **2nd Place Interpersonal Communication:** Gold Medal-2023
- **6th Place Event Management:** Silver Medal-2024
- **1st Place FCCLA Chapter Website:** Gold Medal-2025
- NLC Participant: 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- NLC STAR Event Room Consultant: 2022
- STEP 1: 2022
- Power of One (all 5 modules): 2022, 2023
- Go for the Red Individual Award: 2023

STATE:

- SD State Leadership Conf. Participant: 2022-2026
- **1st Place Event Management:** Gold Medal-2022
- **1st Place Interpersonal Communication:** Gold Medal-2023
- **1st Place Event Management:** Gold Medal- 2024
- Go For the Red: 2024
- Leadership Team Workshop Presenter: 2025
- State Showcase of STAR Events at Fall Leadership: 2025
- Power Training: 2023, 2025, 2026
- SD FCCLA National Officer Candidate: 2026
- State Officer Candidate: 2026
- State Jr. High Representative Candidate: 2023

REGION:

- Power of One Modules Recognition: 2022, 2023
- Region Meeting Participant: 2022-2025
- Workshop Presenter: 2022
- Participated in Workshops: 2022, 2024
- Region IV Jr. High Representative Candidate: 2023
- Voting Delegate: 2024
- Region Vice President: 2025
- Leadership Team Workshop Presenter: 2025, 2026
- Region IV Officer Candidate: 2025

LOCAL:

- FCCLA Week Participant: 2022-2026
- Membership Committee: 2021-2025
- Plan 1st Meeting for Member Recruitment: 2021-25
- FCCLA Week Committee: 2022-2026
- CTE Awareness Night: 2022-2026
- Pink Night (Breast Cancer): 2021-2025
- Member Recruitment: 2023-2026
- Mentoring New Members: 2022
- Teacher Appreciation Chairperson: 2023
- Letters to Santa: 2021-2025
- Family Kindness Project: 2022
- Teacher Appreciation Chairperson: 2023
- Christmas Presents for Needy Chairperson: 2024
- Ronald McDonald House: 2022-2024
- Foreign Adoption Project: 2021
- CTE Community Appreciation: 2022-2026
- Fundraisers: 2021-2026
- Compiled information for Merit Chapter: 2023-2025
- Lettered: 2022-2026
- Public Presentation/Chapter Award Night: 2022-2026
- Outstanding Awards: Rookie, 7th Grade, 8th Grade, 9th Grade, 10th Grade

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- **SCHOOL:** – Band, Oral Interpretation, Sideline Football and Basketball Cheerleading, Student Council, FBLA, Pep Band
- **WORK EXPERIENCE:** [REDACTED] Good Food

CONTRIBUTION TO FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES EDUCATION AND FCCLA

PROMOTION:

- Promote CTE at Annual CTE Auction for local CTE Scholarship and community awareness
- Community presentations promoting Career and Technical Education, Family & Consumer Sciences Education, and FCCLA. Shared school and community projects are completed and benefit the community.
- Presented to classrooms promoting Family & Consumer Science classes & FCCLA opportunities.
- Encourage membership – FCCLA recruitment in local school, region, and state.



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Amelia Sjurseth

State: South Dakota

Region: Central



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Amelia Sjurseth

State: South Dakota

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

FCCLA is composed of many components that help prepare students for their future endeavors. Whether it's through competitive events, leadership opportunities, or advocacy experiences, FCCLA ensures that every member can find their place. An essential part of my own FCCLA journey has been our eight National Programs- most notably Community Service.

According to the Oxford Dictionary, service is defined as "the action of helping or doing work for someone." Through FCCLA, members gain meaningful opportunities to serve others while developing lifelong skills that extend far beyond the organization. These experiences prepare members to positively impact their classmates, colleagues, families and communities. FCCLA emphasizes the importance of strengthening the family unit; FCCLA recognizes that strong families build stronger communities, and ultimately a stronger society. Successful families lead to a successful society because family serves as the most powerful foundation.

Community Service directly aligns with FCCLA's mission to promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. It also reflects FCCLA's fourth purpose which is to encourage individual and group involvement in achieving global cooperation and harmony. In Community Service, members focus on improving all aspects of life. Strong communities lead to a strong support system. These support systems are essential in developing confident, compassionate leaders, especially for today's youth.

As an aspiring corporate attorney, I see firsthand how Community Service connects to the Public Service Career Cluster. Legal professionals do much more than just argue cases, they advocate for fairness, support businesses, and work to ensure that individual rights are protected. Their work is rooted in service and serving others. They are prime examples of how service is an action.

In FCCLA, members have the opportunity to explore their own career interests and further develop related skills. Before joining FCCLA, I was uncertain about my future career path. However, through my involvement, I have gained confidence, clarity, and real world experiences. FCCLA provides members with opportunities to develop professional skills, explore career interests, and better understand the needs of their communities and workforce. Community Service lays the foundation for making a lasting impact.

Through FCCLA's Mission, Purposes, Career Clusters, and other National Programs, members are equipped with the skills for life that will help them grow into leaders as they enter the workforce and professional world. Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is not just shaping the next generation of leaders, it is empowering them to create meaningful change in the world.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Amelia Sjurseth

State: South Dakota

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Every opportunity I've received through FCCLA has shaped me into the person I am today. The connections I have formed at the local, regional, state, and national levels have shown me that leadership is not just a role, it is a privilege. Among these experiences, serving on the 2025 National Nominating Committee in Orlando, Florida, stands out as one of the most impactful moments of my FCCLA journey thus far.

Being selected for the Nominating Committee last summer was both unexpected and deeply meaningful. When I was approached to serve as South Dakota's representative, I immediately accepted with gratitude and a strong sense of responsibility. I could feel the pressure of wanting to do well not just for my state, but the entire organization. National Nominating Committee Members play a very important role in the National Office Selection process. The scoring and deliberations they take part in requires professionalism, critical thinking, and integrity. To me, those are exactly the skills that make a leader effective.

Through this experience, my understanding of leadership and responsibility expanded in significant ways. I learned that leadership is rooted in service and guided by purpose. Collaborating with passionate, driven members from across the nation pushed me outside of my comfort zone and strengthened my confidence. Most importantly, it reinforced the idea that leadership is about unity and coming together with a shared goal to better the organization.

If given the opportunity to serve as a National Officer, I would carry these lessons with me in every decision I make. There's a phrase I've been told since I started FCCLA in seventh grade: "a true leader isn't always the loudest person in the room." As a member of the 2026-2027 National Executive Council, I would ensure that every member feels seen, heard, and valued. Leadership is about so much more than a title; it is about supporting and guiding those around us. FCCLA members are the foundation of this organization, and I am committed to being a servant leader who advocates for each and every one of them.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.



AMELIA SJURSETH

South Dakota National Officer Candidate

██████████ | ██████████ | Class of 2027 | 5 Year FCCLA Member | 2 Credits of FCS

National Involvement

- FCCLA Week Participant 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026
- Completion of STEP 1 2021
- Completion of Power of One 2023
- Ran South Dakota State Meetings at NLC 2025
- Connections National Network 2025 & 2026
- NFC Attendee 2023
- NLC Attendee 2023, 2025, & 2026

State Involvement

- STAR Event Extravaganza Presenter 2023 & 2025
- Workshop Presenter 2023, 2024, & 2026
- Promote SD FCCLA PSA Contest Winner 2024
- SLC Attendee 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026
- Fall Training 2022, 2023, 2024, & 2025
- Led Rookie Training for New Members 2025
- Winter Planning 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026
- Executive Council/Board Meetings 2025 & 2026
- SD Presidential Award Recipient 2026

Regional Involvement

- Region IV Meeting Attendee 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, & 2025
- Fall Planning 2024 & 2025
- Winter Planning 2022, 2023, 2024, & 2025
- Workshop Presenter 2022, 2023, & 2024
- Region III and V Interview Panel 2025 & 2026

Local Involvement

- Parents/Presentation Night 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026
- Outstanding Senior Member 2024 & 2026
- PINK Night 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, & 2025
- Lettered in FCCLA 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026
- Chapter Fundraising and Community Service Events 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026

Contributions to FCS

- Represented the SD CTSO Center at the Associated School Boards of South Dakota Conference 2025
- Advocated for FCS, FCCLA, and CTSO's at the South Dakota State Capitol 2026
- Led Statewide Initiative to get Members More Involved in FCCLA and FCS through Virtual Conference Calls 2025-2026

FCS Instruction

- Seventh Grade Family and Consumer Sciences (0.5 credits)
- Ninth Grade Fashion Design (0.5 credits)
- Ninth Grade Interior Design (0.5 credits)
- Eleventh Grade Employability (0.5 credits)

Leadership Positions

- Jr. Chapter Vice President of Finance 2022-2023
- Chapter Vice President of Media 2023-2025
- Chapter President 2025-2026
- Region IV Vice President 2023-2024
- Region IV President 2024-2025
- South Dakota First Vice President 2025-2026
**limited to one term*

Boards, Committees, & Teams

- SD National Outreach Team Member 2022-2023
- SD Current Trends Team Member 2023-2024
- SD Advocacy Team Member 2024-2025
- SD State Executive Board Member 2025-2026
- National Nominating Committee Member 2025

Competitive Events

- Entrepreneurship STAR Event- State Gold 2022
- Promote and Publicize FCCLA STAR Event- National Silver 2023
- Leadership STAR Event- State Gold 2024
- FCCLA Chapter Website STAR Event- National 1st Place 2025
- Impromptu Speaking Skills Demonstration- National 4th Place 2023
- FCCLA Knowledge Challenge Test NLC- National 2nd Place 2025
- FCCLA Knowledge Challenge Test Fall Session- National 1st Place 2025

School & Community Involvement

- Band 2020-present
- Choir 2020-present
- FBLA 2025-present
- Dance 2012-present
- Oral Interpretation 2025-present
- Honor Roll 2021-present
- Basketball Sideline Cheerleading 2023-present
- Football Sideline Cheerleading 2024-present
- National Honor Society 2025-present



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Addison Rachell

State: Texas

Region: Southern



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Addison Rachell

State: Texas

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

FCCLA, all the way down to the core of its acronym, is centered on community and on how deeply one person can make an impact on their surroundings. This, although strong in its simplicity, is strengthened greatly by the focus provided from the Community Service National Program, a unit that not only encourages members to take that helpful step forward, but fully enables them to do so.

A leader's most basic duty is to leave a trail of positive change in their wake. This begins by being taught the skills required to make an impact. Through Community Service, these very leaders are guided to new ways to experience every unit in the program. This includes Learn, which introduces members to methods of looking into themselves and allowing their own drive guide them through their actions, Lead, which encourages them to become a model of change and direct those around them into making meaningful impacts in their communities, and Serve, the most widespread result of this outstanding National Program, which has made unbelievable waves across the country as FCCLA members do what they do best... Shape the future.

Beyond the influence of the units under the Community Service National Program, there are blindingly stunning examples of how this program relates to the very core of our organization. FCCLA, as the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, and with a mission of "focusing on personal growth and leadership development," strives to benefit every leader who wears the blazer while also teaching them the importance of benefiting their surroundings. There is no better way to grow individually or develop your leadership than by developing projects and plans to do selfless acts of service, just as Community Service guides leaders to do. Even further, there is an unbelievable benefit provided to members beyond the personal development of the students who engage in Community Service, as every single Family and Consumer Sciences Career Cluster benefits from a future employee's ability, willingness, and experience in giving service and acting as a forward-moving member of society, allowing leaders to kickstart a successful career in any path that they embark on.

Most importantly, the FCCLA purposes are a guiding light for every National Program and a large aspect of Community Service. Although Community Service embodies every FCCLA purpose beautifully, it truly shows its mark in purpose four, "To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony." Members rely on their communities from a young age, and oftentimes, it is those very communities that support our FCCLA leaders on their various journeys. It is because of this that it is undeniably vital for Community Service to guide members through the act of giving back and serving their communities in the same ways that their communities have served them.

There is no denying the importance of serving, the necessity of growing, and especially, the outstanding role of FCCLA's National Program, Community Service, in every relation to our organization's mission, purposes, career clusters, and genuine impact on members.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Addison Rachell

State: Texas

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

I will never forget my freshman year of high school. Not because it was extraordinary, or because I was a confident star who sparkled in my small town, but because I wasn't able to. Everything around me was new, and despite stumbling into the most life-changing school club possible, I was left with only the understanding that everyone around me seemed to know the one question that panicked me most... Who they were.

In the middle of this vast sea was one person who stood out completely, a state officer whom I had the opportunity to serve alongside during my first year in FCCLA. She carried herself with a constant confidence that felt effortless, like she had always known exactly who she was meant to be. To me, she was the exact definition of what a leader should look like.

I remember watching her lead and thinking I needed to become more like her in order to belong. Plainly, my admiration was more accurately defined as studying. The way she spoke, the way she smiled, the way she stood when she was in a room that could make me shrink on impact. Slowly, I started shaping myself around her. I mirrored her confidence, borrowed her habits, and tried to lead the way that she did. I began to take on more responsibilities, desperate to put myself at the heart of this organization, developing service projects and assisting my officer team whenever possible, but most regularly through asking myself what she would do. At first, it felt like growth. But over time, I realized a very harsh truth. I wasn't becoming myself, I was becoming a reflection of someone I admired. And, although I was growing, I was not fully becoming. I was in a constant performance of leadership instead of a life living it. Even though I was checking off boxes and meeting goals, I was completely hollow because the "leader" people were seeing in me was just a character I was playing.

The turning point came quietly, during a presentation where I was left alone for the first time and introduced to the weight of carrying on the legacy I had adored for so long. Instead of panicking, I spoke without overthinking or trying to sound like anyone else, and for the first time, it felt real. I wasn't trying to measure up anymore. That was the moment that made me realize that leadership was never meant to be copied, but to be discovered.

The FCCLA connection that helped me expand the most was not just with that state officer, it was with myself. I had spent so long looking outward for guidance that I didn't realize that the most important voice I needed to trust was my own. Once I did, everything shifted. My confidence became real. My leadership became intentional. And my presence became something I owned, not something I borrowed.

And, however difficult it is to look onto the past, I know now that my experience taught me that leadership is not about becoming someone else, it is about becoming fully yourself. This realization not only expanded my world, but turned fear into a sense of duty towards those who feel just as lost as I once did. It is because of this that, if given the opportunity to serve as a National FCCLA Officer, my greatest goal will be to ensure that every scared freshman, every quiet wallflower, and every member of FCCLA stop looking for who to become, and start recognizing who they truly are, as the leader inside them is big enough to change the world.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Addison Rachell

Texas, Southern Region, Texas FCCLA

[REDACTED], year 11, [REDACTED]

FCS Classes Taken/Year Taken:

- 7- General Employability Skills
- 9- Intro to Culinary Arts (1 credit)
- 9- Principles of Human Services (1 credit)
- 10- Culinary Arts (1 credit)
- 10- Child Development (.5 credits)
- 11- Counseling and Mental Health (1 credit)
- 11- Food Science (1 credit)
- 11- Community Service Learning (1 credit)

Total Courses Completed = 8

Area of Occupational Training:

- Foundational Skills
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Human Services
- Food and Natural Resources
- Human Services

Pathway = Human Services

Extracurricular Involvement:

- Student Council member
- Varsity concert band
- National Honors Society
- Superintendent Council
- Part-time employee
- Community Volunteer
- Speech and Debate
- Sources of Strength member

FCCLA = 3 years total

FCCLA Offices Held-

- Local Vice President of Freshman Representation (2022-2023)
- Local Vice President of Leadership Development 1 (2023-2024)
- Local Vice President of Leadership Development 2 (2024-2025)
- Local Vice President of Leadership Development 3 (2025-2026)
- Texas Region III President (2024-2025)
- Texas State Vice President of Programs (2025-2026)
- Texas State Vice President of Leadership Development (present)
- National Officer Candidate (present)

FCCLA Competitive Involvement- (*Officers can only compete online*)

- National Qualifying Knowledge Bowl Team Member (2024)
- Texas Competitive Events advisory council
- FCSA (Creed, Mission, and Purpose) Gold Medal (2024)
- Knowledge Bowl Team Captain (2025-2026)
- STAR event competitor
(RedTalks on Education, National Qualifier, 2026)

FCCLA Events and Conferences Attended-

- National Fall Conference, AL (2023)
- TVCC Leadership Summit (2024)
- Texas Region III Leadership Conference (2024, 2025, 2026)
- National FCCLA Leadership Conference (2024, 2025)
- Texas State Leadership Conference (2024, 2025, 2026)
- State Fair of Texas Service Retreat (2025)
- Texas Region II Leadership Conference (2025, 2026)
- Texas Region I Leadership Conference (2026)

Other FCCLA Honors/Awards/Achievements-

- FranklinCovey Leadership Academy completion (2023)
- Power of One and Rose Legacy completion (2023, 2024)
- Fall Leadership Workshop host and presenter (2024, 2025)
- TX FCCLA Board of Directors representative (2025, 2026)

Contribution to Family and Consumer Sciences-

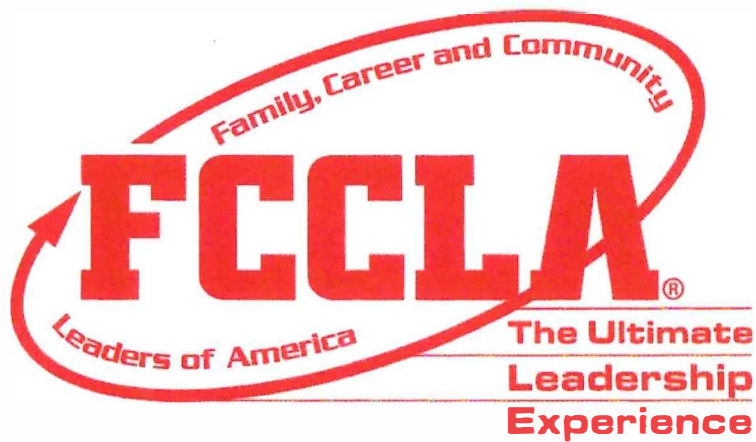
- School Board presenter and FCS advocate
- School-wide CTSO recognition project
- STAR Event focused on public policy regarding FCS and FCS educator support
- Social media presence guided by FCS and FCCLA to spread awareness to others
- Assisted in planning and implementing FCS appreciation efforts.

Community Service Activities-

- TX FCCLA Day of Service, 2024 (4 hours)
- North Texas Food Bank, 2025 (4 hours)
- Love in Action day center, 2025 (3 hours)
- "Connection Matters" fair, 2025 (3 hours)
- Elementary book reading, 2025 (2 hours)
- Adopt-a-Grandparent, 2025 (10 hours)
- Salvation Army bell-ringer, 2025 (4 hours)
- UIL competition volunteer, 2026 (3 hours)
- Night to Shine volunteer, 2026 (4 hours)
- Lead for Change project, 2026 (10 hours)
(Created a children's book to spread awareness about animal neglect)
- Toys-for-toys donation drive, 2026
- Dallas Casa FCCLA donation drive, 2026
- Brother Bills FCCLA donation drive, 2026

Total Service Hours (grades 9-11): 60+





2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Adelyn Scull

State: Texas

Region: Southern



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Adelyn Scull

State: Texas

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

Some of the most meaningful lessons I have learned have not come from a textbook, but from serving others. In my Intro to Culinary Arts class, I developed foundational skills in food preparation and safety, but FCCLA's Community Service National Program taught me how to use those skills with purpose. Through preparing meals at Haven for Hope, volunteering at the local food bank warehouse, and leading our "Feeding Hunger Together" campaign, I have seen firsthand how simple acts, like sharing a meal, can bring dignity and hope to others. Service has always been part of my life. My grandmother, Adelyn, had a servant's heart and was known for feeding those in need, and that legacy of compassion has been passed down through generations. FCCLA has allowed me to continue that tradition in a meaningful way.

The Community Service National Program reflects FCCLA's mission of promoting personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education by empowering members to apply their skills to real community needs. It reinforces FCCLA's purpose of preparing members for family, career, and community roles by showing that leadership is rooted in service. Through this program, members not only give back but also develop compassion, responsibility, and civic engagement.

Community Service also connects to multiple Career Clusters, demonstrating its relevance beyond FCCLA. In Hospitality and Tourism, my culinary experience has allowed me to prepare and serve meals to those in need. In Human Services, volunteering at food banks and shelters focuses on improving the well-being of individuals and families, while Public Service is reflected through efforts addressing issues such as food insecurity. These experiences highlight how service develops transferable, real-world skills.

At a smaller school, my access to Family and Consumer Sciences courses has been limited to Education and Training and Culinary Arts. While these provided a strong foundation, FCCLA and the Community Service National Program expanded my learning beyond the classroom. I have learned that service, leadership, and community engagement are skills that apply across all areas of study and Career and Technical Student Organizations.

My long-term goal is to become a lawyer, a profession rooted in advocacy, service, and justice. Through FCCLA, I have developed employability skills such as communication, teamwork, organization, and leadership that directly support this goal. Coordinating service projects and advocating for community needs have strengthened my ability to think critically, communicate effectively, and stand up for others.

Ultimately, the Community Service National Program has shaped my understanding of leadership. It has shown me that success is not measured by personal achievement alone, but by the impact we have on others. The skills I have developed such as leadership, communication, and compassion, will guide me in my future career and in my lifelong commitment to serving and uplifting others.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Adelyn Scull

State: Texas

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Imagine being seven years old, sitting in a massive ballroom, lights shining, music playing, and the stage filled with leaders you can only dream of becoming. That's exactly where little Adelyn found herself at the 2016 National Leadership Conference in San Diego, California. As the National Officers took the stage, their confidence and passion filled the room. To everyone else, they were leaders, but to Adelyn, they were so much more. In that moment, I turned to my mom and said, "That is what I want to be one day."

Since then, that dream has stayed with me, shaping every step of my FCCLA journey. The connection that has most expanded my understanding of leadership and responsibility is my mom. As a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher for 21 years and an FCCLA advisor for 19 years, she has been my greatest example of what it means to lead with purpose.

Growing up, leadership was not just something I learned in the classroom; it was something I witnessed daily. She has instilled in me FCS knowledge such as communication, cooking skills, the importance of family, knowledge of careers, and of course a love for all things FCCLA. She taught me that leadership is not just about titles, but about service, consistency, and the willingness to put others first. Most importantly, she showed me how leadership and responsibility go hand in hand.

I watched her invest countless hours into her students, support our chapter members, and lead with patience and integrity. From her example, I learned that true leadership means showing up, even when it is difficult, and always striving to make a positive impact on others. This connection has directly influenced how I approach my own leadership roles and how I would serve as a National Officer.

I have carried her lessons with me as I have served in positions at the chapter, regional, and state levels, always focusing on serving others, representing FCCLA with integrity, and leading by example. As a National Officer, I would continue to prioritize connections, ensuring that every member feels seen, supported, and inspired, just as I once felt sitting in that ballroom.

My journey began with a dream, but it has been shaped by the people who guided me along the way. Because of my mom, I understand that leadership is more than standing on a stage; it is about the impact you make on the lives around you. That understanding will guide me as I work to serve FCCLA members across the nation with purpose, passion, and responsibility.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Adelyn Scull

"GOD IS WITHIN HER, SHE WILL NOT FAIL" -PSALM 46:5

School & Chapter Information

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Texas
- Junior
- 7 Years in FCCLA
- 1 year FCS Education

Participation in School & Community

- Tennis Team 2023-2024
- Debate Camp at [REDACTED] University 2024
- A Honor Roll; # 9 in Graduating Class
- FFA Chapter Conducting Team 23-25
- FFA Speaking Development Events 23-25
- NJHS- 8th grade
- NHS- 11th- present
- Debate National Contest Summer 2025

Family & Consumer Sciences Coursework

Introduction to Culinary Arts

- 2023-2024
- 9th Grade
- 1 Credit

Offices Held in FCCLA

- 2022-2023 Chapter VP of Records
- 2023-2024 Chapter President
- 2023-2024 Region V VP of Parliamentary Law
- 2024-2025 Chapter VP of Competitive Events
- 2024-2025 Region V President
- 2025-2026 Chapter VP of Finance
- 2025-2026 State VP of Project
- 2026-2027 State VP of Leadership Development

FCCLA Participation

Local

- [REDACTED] (2019-2021), [REDACTED] (2021-2022) & [REDACTED] (2022-Present)
- Member since 5th grade
 - 138 community service hours
 - Annual adopt a tree canned good collection
 - Annual Christmas Carols at Nursing Home
 - Serving meals annually at Haven for Hope
 - Hosted Local Fall Leadership 2023-2025
 - FCCLA School Board Presentations 2023-2025
 - Back to School Bash 2023-2025

Regional

- [REDACTED] (2019-2021), [REDACTED] (2021-2022) & [REDACTED] (2022-Present)
- Region V Conferences 2022-2026
 - Volunteer at Region IV 2024 & 2025
 - Volunteer at Region III 2026
 - 1st place Chapter Service Portfolio 2022

State

- [REDACTED] (2019-2021), [REDACTED] (2021-2022) & [REDACTED] (2022-Present)
- 3rd place Chapter Service Portfolio 2022
 - State Fall Conference 2023
 - 1st place Creed Speaking 2023
 - State Conferences 2022-2026

National

- [REDACTED] (2016-2021), [REDACTED] (2021-2022) & [REDACTED] (2022-Present)
- Attended NLC- San Diego 2016
 - Attended NLC- Anaheim 2019
 - Attended NLC- 2023- 2025
 - NLC 23-FCCLA Chapter Website- 3rd
 - National Fall Conference 2024- KB Top 40
 - NLC 24- Knowledge Bowl Top 16- 2024
 - NLC 25- Chapter Website 6th, Creed Speaking
 - 6th and FCCLA Knowledge Challenge- 1st- 2025
 - Capital Leadership- 2025

Contributions to FCS Education

Advocated for Family and Consumer Sciences education by promoting FCCLA at junior high electives fairs, back-to-school events, presenting to the school board, and engaging with Texas representatives at the FCCLA Capital Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.



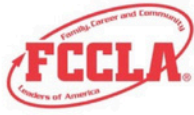
2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Kylee Bangerter

State: Utah

Region: Pacific Region



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kylee Bangerter

State: Utah

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA’s mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

During one of the busiest times in my life, everything changed unexpectedly. After unexplained circumstances, I was bound to a wheelchair for twelve weeks. I had to step away from many of the activities and leadership roles that were a huge part of my everyday life. At first, it was frustrating and honestly really hard for me. However, that experience helped me better understand the meaning behind FCCLA’s National Program Student Body and how important wellness truly is in leadership and everyday life.

The FCCLA National Program Student Body focuses on emotional, physical, and mental wellness while helping members become stronger leaders. Before my injury, I thought success meant always staying busy, pushing myself harder, and never slowing down. I was raised to work hard and never lose sight of what is important in life. During those twelve weeks I realized that taking time to focus on my mental, emotional and physical self is just as important as accomplishing things. You cannot pour into others when you are completely drained yourself. Student Body aligns with FCCLA’s mission by promoting personal growth and leadership development, while also supporting FCCLA purposes such as strengthening the function of the family and providing opportunities for personal development.

Even though I could not fully participate in the activities I loved, I still learned some of the biggest lessons about leadership during that time. I learned how important mental strength is. I learned how quickly life can change and how important it is to support the people around you because you never truly know what someone else is going through. I lost the ability to use my body the way I always had, but through every physical setback, I slowly built mental and emotional strength with each step along the way.

This experience also helped me develop employability skills that reach far beyond FCCLA. I gained resilience, adaptability, perseverance, and empathy. These are skills that matter in every career field and leadership position, and I know they will help me someday as I build my own career in the Education and Training Pathway as an elementary school teacher. The National Program Student Body aligns with the mission of FCCLA because it teaches members that leadership is not just about achievements or titles. Strong leaders know how to overcome challenges, care for themselves, and continue showing up even when life gets difficult.

My experience taught me to apply two of the Student Body units, “The Real You” and “The Resilient You,” and showed me how positive mental and emotional health affects every aspect of my life. “The Real You” helped me understand the importance of mental strength and staying confident in who I am, even during one of the hardest times of my life. Through Student Body, FCCLA helps me and other student members understand that taking care of our mental, emotional, and physical health is not weakness, it is strength.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Kylee Bangerter State: Utah

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Picture this: a 16 year old junior walking into her first FCCLA Board Meeting where only two faces are familiar. She thought she understood how FCCLA ran behind the scenes, but it only took a few minutes in that room to realize how much responsibility truly exists beyond the student level.

This is me experiencing connections that will change my understanding of a national student led organization forever. Sitting in board meetings, I see FCCLA from a completely different perspective. It is not just STAR Events and conferences. It is decisions, planning, problem solving, and a constant focus on what is best for FCCLA members across the state. This is when I begin to truly understand the impact and influence that FCCLA advisors and the state board have behind the scenes. They are the foundation that keeps everything running smoothly, even when students do not see it happening. It also changes how I view advisors. Instead of just seeing them as authority figures, I now see them as mentors and collaborators, people who are genuinely working alongside students to make FCCLA an organization that changes lives.

Being part of this environment expands my understanding of leadership. I am learning that leadership is not always obvious or loud. A lot of it happens behind the scenes, where people are carefully thinking through decisions that affect hundreds or even thousands of students. I am also learning responsibility in a deeper way. When you are trusted with a seat at the table, your voice matters, but so does your ability to listen, think critically, and represent others well.

I am learning how to slow down, listen more intentionally, and understand that every opinion shared in that room carries weight. This experience is teaching me that leadership is not about being the loudest voice, but about being a thoughtful one that considers the bigger picture. As a National Officer, I would carry this mindset into every conversation and decision I make. I want members across the country to feel heard, represented, and valued within FCCLA.

Now, picture this: a 17 year old senior walks into her first FCCLA National Board Meeting prepared and confident, ready to represent 250,000 FCCLA members nationwide. She steps into the room not fully knowing what to expect, but understanding the weight of the responsibility she has been given. She leaves that experience with a clearer understanding of what it means to lead with purpose and accountability. This is who I am, ready to step into new spaces, work with people I've never met, and build meaningful relationships that extend into the future and beyond, creating lasting connections.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

KYLEE BANGERTER

UTAH NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE

SCHOOL: [REDACTED] GRADE: JUNIOR CHAPTER: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] YEARS IN FCCLA: 4 YEARS OF FCS INSTRUCTION: 3

EDUCATION

EDUCATION & TRAINING CAREER PATHWAY

11th Teaching as a Profession - 0.5 credit
11th Child Development - 0.5 credit
11th Culinary - 0.5 credit
10th Food Safety and Nutrition - 0.5 credit
8th FCS Exploration - 0.5 credit
7th College/Career Awareness - 0.5 credit

SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

2026 [REDACTED] Varsity Cheerleader of the Year
2025 UTU Chinese Speech Contest Winner
2024 [REDACTED] High Freshman Student of the Year
2024-25 Youth Church Second Counselor
2024-Present [REDACTED] Varsity Cheerleader
2023-Present High Honor Roll Student
2023-Present [REDACTED] Student Section Spirit Leader
2023-Present NHS Member
2023-25 National Chinese Speech Contest 1st Place
2023-24 Student Council President
2023 [REDACTED] Intermediate Student of the Year
2022-24 Hope Squad Member

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

2024 Foster Care Christmas
2024-25 St. George Marathon Volunteer
2024-25 Cops and Robbers 5K Race Volunteer
2024-Present Nanny Caregiver
2024 Special Needs Rodeo Volunteer
2023-24 4-H Youth Council Secretary
2023-Present YLI Threads Large Order Supervisor
2022-25 Christmas Shop with a Cop

CONTRIBUTION TO FCS EDUCATION:

2025-26 Utah CTSO Day on the Hill
2025 Capitol Leadership Legislative Advocacy
2024-26 FCS/CTE Newspaper Article Advocacy
2024 WCSD Meeting Presentation

EXPERIENCE

CHAPTER:

2026 Teaching as a Profession Internship
2026 Hygiene Kits for Women
2025-26 Blankets for Women's Hospital
2025 \$4000 Fundraiser for Chapter Travel
2025 Bears for Cancer Patients
2025 Cookies for Angel Tree
2024-25 Flower Arrangements for Single Women
2024-26 [REDACTED] FCCLA Chapter President
2023-25 Food Pantry Service Project
2023-24 [REDACTED] FCCLA Chapter Member
2022-23 [REDACTED] FCCLA Chapter Member

REGION:

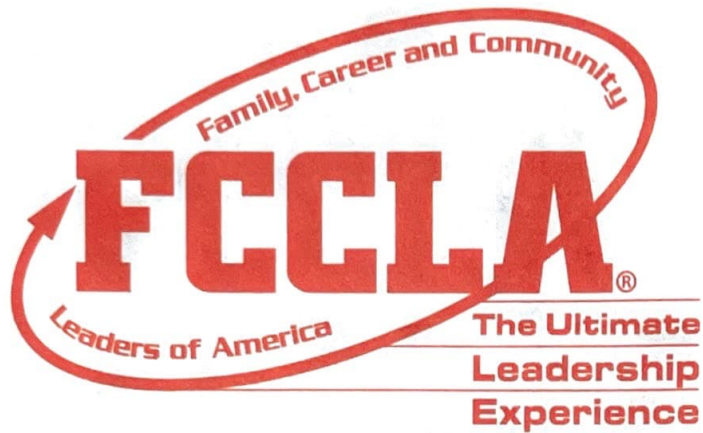
2025-26 Region Conference Leader
2025 STAR Event: Nutrition & Wellness - Gold
2024 STAR Event: Professional Presentation - Gold
2024-Present Region 5 Representative
2023 STAR Event: Event Management - Gold

STATE:

2025-26 Utah FCCLA State Board Member
2025-26 Utah CTSO Day on the Hill
2025 Nutrition & Wellness - Silver
2024-25 Leadership Training Institute
2024-25 Utah FCCLA State VP of Public Relations
2024 Professional Presentation - Gold 1st Place
2024-25 Fall Leadership Workshop Presenter
2024 Fall Leadership Key Note Speaker
2023 Event Management - Gold 1st Place
2023-25 Fall Leadership Conference

NATIONAL:

2026 PSA Safe Rides Save Lives Applicant
2025 Capitol Leadership
2025 Voting Delegate
2024 Disney Leadership Institute
2024 Professional Presentation - Gold - 1st Place
2023-24 Power of One Recipient
2023 Event Management - Gold - 2nd Place



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Jennilyn Hess

State: Utah

Region: Pacific



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Jennilyn Hess

State: Utah

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

One FCCLA national program that aligns with its mission and other aspects of this organization is the Families First national program. As students progress through this national program, they learn how they can improve the quality of life for their future families, as well as other families in their communities.

One way to look at this growth is that as students go through life, they are creating their own amusement parks for their future families to utilize. There are many different ways this national program works alongside the other aspects of FCCLA to give students the tools they need to determine the best "rides" to put into their future life amusement park.

FCCLA as a whole, "promotes personal growth and leadership development" as it states in the mission. One of these major focuses being the "family member" role. As the only CTSO with a major focus on the family, helping students to learn the importance of a strong family base for children is a key point of FCCLA. It gives students a desire to create this base in their own future families. By giving them this base, students understand what things they want to allow to influence their family life in the future.

Families First most directly relates back to Purpose 2, which is "To strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society". This national program helps to give students more understanding of family relationships, while also giving students the knowledge to prioritize self-care. Additionally, it helps students to gain experience in safety and other developmental skills that help them prepare to care for children and be a good family member.

There are two different Career Clusters that connect with the Families First national program. The first is the Education and Training Career Cluster. It focuses on creating the best rising generation, which is something the students will be doing as future parents. The second Career Cluster is the Financial Services Career Cluster. This cluster helps to teach students how to protect their financial well being in the future, which is a major part of starting a family and keeping that family safe and protected. By gaining the knowledge of how to shape the future generation, students will better be able to decide which rides will be best for them and their future families, and which ones they want to include in their future amusement park.

Additionally there are many employability skills learned in this national program that will be used in many aspects outside of FCCLA. It helps students to learn how to balance different aspects of life, such as a career with a family life or anything else the students might be participating in, while also helping to grow problem solving skills for students.

All of these things working together help to form a perspective that the students will be able to utilize while they are creating their own amusement parks for their lives.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Jennilyn Hess

State: Utah

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

Two years ago, I had the chance to work with Sage Higley as a state officer for Utah FCCLA. At my very first overnight conference for FCCLA, I shared a room with her and I was terrified because being a state officer was something so far outside of my comfort zone. Sage noticed and was super nice about everything, offering to let me pick which bed I wanted and even sharing some of her snacks with me. She displayed this kindness through all of her interactions and taught me that leadership doesn't just mean a title.

One thing that really stood out to me about Sage was her constant professionalism. Not only was she able to make connections and have her personality shine through while she was doing her work, she was able to remain professional at all times. Sage also had a major focus on each individual, helping everyone to feel involved and that she truly cared about them and how they were doing. This is one thing I have tried to duplicate in my leadership because I want to be able to help future leaders feel the way she made me feel, giving me the ability to see myself as a current leader instead of a future leader.

I believe her leadership and willingness to include other people is one of the reasons I was so drawn to her. She helped me to understand that I could be a leader and I truly believe that I am the leader I am today because of her influence and constant encouraging smile! I'm forever grateful to call her one of my best friends and a part of my FCCLA family!

If I have the opportunity to serve on the National Executive Council, I would keep my focus on helping each individual find their "Ultimate Journey", which is what Sage helped me to see. I believe that every member has the potential to be a leader, but they sometimes just need someone to encourage them to step outside of their comfort zone. I also believe that leadership is something that is meant to bring others up, not push them down. Sage constantly showed this willingness to brighten someone else's day. I will continue to follow her example by helping to bring joy to the people I interact with and becoming friends with those who may need it.

I needed Sage to push me out of my comfort zone and to encourage me to become the leader she knew I could be, and because of her I've had experiences that have changed my life in immeasurable ways. I want to be able to use my own experiences to help others live the lives they will be proud of! I know that by following in Sage's example I will be able to help create the leaders of tomorrow by guiding them to find their own leadership experiences.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

JENNILYN HESS

Utah National Officer Candidate

INTRODUCTION

Utah

████████████████████
████████████████████
11th grade student

4 years in FCCLA

2 years of FCS Instruction

FAMILY AND CONSUMERS SCIENCE CLASSES TAKEN

Teaching as a Profession 1 - .5 credits

- 10th grade
- Education and Training

Teaching as a Profession 2- .5 credits

- 10th grade
- Education and Training

CTE Internship (1st grade)- .5 credits

- 11th grade
- Education and Training

CTE Internship (2nd grade)- .5 credits

- 11th grade
- Education and Training

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES EDUCATION

CTSO Day on the Hill

- Advocated for Family and Consumer Science classes at the state and local levels

State New Adviser Trainings

- Guided Chapter Advisers to be better prepared for working with students

College and Career Awareness training for CTSOs

- Organized a training for 7th grade students on the importance of CTSOs and Family and Consumer Science classes

PARTICIPATION IN FCCLA

National

- Star Event Participant: 2022-2025
 - National qualifier: 2022, 2024
 - Placed 2nd Nationally in Teaching Strategies: 2025

State

- Utah FCCLA VP of Public Relations: 2025-2026
 - Ran the State social media accounts
 - Worked with the State Executive Council to lead meetings and run conferences
- Utah FCCLA VP of National Programs: 2024-2025
 - Helped to educate the State delegation about the importance of National Programs
 - Built professional connections with peers, advisers, and community members
 - Built professional LinkedIn and Instagram accounts

Region

- Utah Region 4 Representative: 2024-2026
 - Planned and oversaw Region Activities and Conferences for two consecutive years

Local Chapter

- Vice President: 2025-2026
 - Assisted the chapter president with duties
- State Representative: 2024-2025
 - Guided members towards becoming more involved in FCCLA, specifically encouraging and teaching students how to participate in STAR Events
- Co-President: 2023-2024
 - Built leadership skills and increased involvement
- Officer: 2022-2023
 - Reestablished Jr High chapter

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

National Honor Society Officer

- Mastered peer leadership skills
- Developed networking and communication abilities

████████████████████ Youth City Council Member

- Focused on service and helping the community
- Learned about city politics
- Developed Leadership and communication skills

Church Youth Group Leadership

- Gained valuable accountability and organization skills



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Natalie Fannon

State: Virginia

Region: Southern



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Natalie Fannon

State: Virginia

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

One impactful national program offered by FCCLA is the Families First National Program, which helps youth become strong family members for today and tomorrow, strengthens families as a foundational unit of society, explores careers that support families, provides safety education for youth to foster safe and healthy families and communities, and helps youth understand how nurturing children builds stronger families. This National Program aligns with FCCLA's mission, "to promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education", by presenting the family as the basic unit of society and encouraging FCCLA members to understand their roles and responsibilities within their families and communities. Families First provides many opportunities for members to learn about diverse aspects of families and family life. The program reflects FCCLA's purposes by providing opportunities to strengthen the family as a basic unit of society. Families First also aligns with the third purpose, "To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community", by promoting leadership development while encouraging cooperation and respect for different perspectives. Additionally, the program connects with the Family and Consumer Sciences Career Clusters, particularly Human Services and Education and Training, by helping members understand human development and interpersonal relationships, preparing them for careers in counseling, teaching, social work, childcare, and community service. By learning about these career clusters, members develop the knowledge and skills that are necessary to support individuals and families in professional workplaces. Beyond career preparation, Families First provides members with important employability skills that are applicable far beyond FCCLA involvement, including communication, teamwork, leadership, time management, and adaptability. Members learn to listen effectively, express ideas, resolve conflicts, and work with others to achieve a common goal: all skills that are valued by employers across various industries. Families First also encourages responsibility by requiring members to take initiative and manage projects. By developing an understanding and cultural awareness through diverse family structures and perspectives, participants become more adaptable and prepared to work in an increasingly diverse workforce. In conclusion, the Families First national program not only supports FCCLA's mission and purposes but also prepares members to become responsible leaders, effective employees, and well-rounded citizens who contribute positively to their families, workplaces, and communities, demonstrating the program's lasting impact beyond FCCLA.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Natalie Fannon

State: Virginia

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

A meaningful connection I have made within FCCLA that expanded my understanding of leadership and responsibility is my experience serving in multiple leadership roles, such as serving as Virginia FCCLA's First Vice President during the 2024-2025 school year, where I experienced being able to work directly with members at the local, state, and national levels. I learned that leadership is not defined by a title or position but by serving others with integrity, accountability, and purpose. During my time as a state officer, I learned that responsibility requires much effort and preparation because members depend on their leaders to be prepared in all situations. I've discovered along my journey that leadership is built on trusting those around you. When leaders are trustworthy, they form an environment where members feel valued and supported. These connections have helped me realize the importance of servant leadership, as effective leaders prioritize others' concerns, listen to team members from different perspectives, and create opportunities for individuals to succeed instead of seeking personal acknowledgment. Working with my state officer team came with working with leaders who had different backgrounds and experiences than I did. This opportunity strengthened my communication and teamwork skills and helped me learn the importance of empathy, inclusion, and respect. I also gained a better understanding of the importance of representing the organization's values beyond my official responsibilities as a state officer, demonstrating that leaders serve as valuable role models whose actions and decisions influence those around them and reflect on the organization as a whole. Through challenges and new opportunities, I've learned how to problem solve, remain flexible in changing situations, and keep a positive attitude while working toward a common goal. These connections will strongly influence my approach to serving as a national officer, guiding me to lead with service, integrity, and professionalism while prioritizing the members' voice and representing the organization to the best of my ability by demonstrating its mission and values at all times. As a national officer, I will focus on building meaningful relationships with members across the nation by listening to their ideas, understanding their needs, and making sure that their voices are represented. I will aim to advertise involvement in FCCLA by encouraging members to take hold of leadership opportunities, participate in different programs, and develop lifelong skills that prepare them for success. I will work to create an environment where all members feel seen, welcomed, and empowered to lead. My experiences would also motivate me to serve as a positive role model who demonstrates responsibility, leadership, and a strong commitment to personal and professional growth. By applying the lessons I have learned about trust, accountability, and servant leadership, I will strive to make a meaningful and positive impact, support the evolution of future leaders, and contribute to the continued success and growth of FCCLA while serving its members with dedication and purpose.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

NATALIE FANNON VIRGINIA

██████████ | 11th grade | 4 year member | ██████████

FCCLA OFFICES HELD:

- Chapter President (2025-2026)
- State First Vice President (2024-2025)
- Chapter Vice President (2023-2024)

FCS CLASSES TAKEN:

- Career Investigation
- Family Relations
- Peer Tutor: Independent Living

National Participation:

- Capitol Leadership (2025)
- National Leadership Conference (2023-2025)
- National Member of the Year Applicant (2025)
- Fall Leadership Institute (2024)
- National Voting Delegate (2024)
- National Fall Conference (2023)
- Families First National Program Runner-Up (2025)
- Go for the Red Individual Application (2025-2026)
- Power of One Completer (2024-2025)
- National Connection Network (2024-2025)
- Franklin Covey FCCLA Leadership Academy: 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens completer (2023)
- National FCCLA week participant (2023-2025)

Competitive Events Experience:

- 2023 Top 15 Digital Stories for Change, Level 1
- 2023 NLC 1st Place Digital Stories for Change Level 1
- 2023 NFC FCCLA Knowledge Test, Level 2, 3rd Place
- 2024 NLC FCCLA Knowledge Test, Level 2, 1st Place
- 2025 NLC FCCLA Knowledge Test, Level 2, 4th Place
- 2025 Virginia Knowledge Quest, FCCLA Knowledge, Level 3, 1st Place

State Participation:

- Virginia State Leadership and Recognition Conference (2023-2025)
- 2024-2025 Virginia State First Vice President
- Chair of the Bylaws Revision Task Force (2024-2025)
- Virginia FCCLA Board of Directors Member (2024-2025)
- BOD Competitive Events, Membership, and Operating Policy Committees (2024-2025)
- State Officer Scholarship, Gold Level (2025)
- SEC Leadership Trainings and Meeting (2024-2025)
- Secured Virginia Foundation Partnerships totaling \$1,350
- VA FCCLA College Day Presenter (2024)
- Recruited State Officer Candidates (2024-2025)
- State Fair Competition Evaluator (2024)
- State Contests Evaluator (2024-2025)
- Created a video to promote SLRC on the VA FCCLA website (2025)
- Made multiple social media posts for VA FCCLA
- VA FCCLA College Day at ██████████ (2025)

Local Participation:

- School Board Presentation and Awards (2023-2025)
- ██████████ Fall Rally (2022-2025)
- ██████████ Fall Rally presenter (2024-2025)
- Presented to the ██████████ Horizons Board Meeting (2025)
- Participated in all National Programs
- Canned Food Drive (2023 and 2025)
- Nursing Home Visits (2023-2025)
- Spaghetti Meal Delivery Project for Hurricane Helene victims (2024)
- Halloween Family Night (2023)
- "Christmas at the Cove" (2023)

Contributions to FCS Education

- School Board Advocacy for FCS and FCCLA (2023-2025)
- FCCLA session Presenter at the Virginia Association for Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences Conference (2024)
- Advocated for FCS, FCCLA, and CTE at Capitol Leadership (2025)
- Advocate on social media for FCS and FCCLA averaging 1,000 views and 150 likes.
- Featured by National FCCLA for National Be A Teacher Day (2025)

School and Community Participation

- National Honor Society (2025–Present)
- Straight-A Student, First Honor Roll (2019–Present)
- Volunteered at ██████████ Primary School (visits and summer program, 2023–2024)
- Tennis player (2026)
- Cheerleading (2022–Present), Co-Captain (2025–2026)
- PR Director at ██████████ Brothers Tire (2022-Present)



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Veronica Yorro

State: Virginia

Region: Southern



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Veronica Yorro

State: Virginia

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

When I think of FCCLA, the first thing that comes to mind is future leaders. One FCCLA National Program that prepares future leaders while aligning with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters is Career Connection. Career Connection allows FCCLA members to explore themselves and their future careers. Career Connection helps members learn more about themselves, the workplace, and future careers, putting them on the pathway to success. The units of Career Connection are My Skills, My Life, My Career, and My Path.

Career Connection is related to Career Clusters by teaching students employability. The Career Clusters build on those skills by helping students explore and prepare for careers. Each Career Cluster represents a group of related careers that allows members to learn about opportunities in different career industries. Arts and Design includes fashion, interior design, visual arts, and creative careers where students use creativity and design skills. Hospitality and Tourism prepares students for culinary arts, event planning, lodging, and tourism careers focused on service and experiences. Financial Services teaches students about careers in finance, planning, and consumer services while helping others manage money. The Education and Training cluster includes careers in teaching, training, and leadership, where students inspire learning and growth. Human Services focuses on counseling, community services, mental health, and personal care careers that support others. Public Services introduces careers in emergency services, social work, public health, and government that serve communities.

Through Career Connection, I was able to explore careers in Human Services that helped individuals or families. This has ignited my desire to become a Guardian Ad Litem (GAL). Learning employable skills such as problem-solving, communication, and advocacy will be needed in my future career. Career Connection showed me that I can make a difference by supporting children and advocating for their rights in the court system.

The first purpose, "To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life," connects to Career Connection because it shows how FCCLA helps students build leadership skills, explore career paths, and gain confidence for life after high school. In the mission, the line "Developing skills for life through career preparation" relates to Career Connection by showcasing FCCLA's focus on employability skills and career preparation.

The skills students learn in Career Connection help them in school by leading by example and showing professionalism and responsibility. When working on projects for classes, students use skills like communication and teamwork. These skills may be utilized in future workplaces. In a healthy workplace, communication, teamwork, and professionalism are always needed. These skills are also very helpful in community leadership, including community service projects and more.

The National Program Career Connection supports FCCLA's mission, purposes, Career Clusters, and employability skills by helping members explore themselves, their future careers, and prepare for life after high school. Through Career Connection, students gain the tools to turn their goals into real career opportunities and future success.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Veronica Yorro

State: Virginia

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

I do not believe I could choose just one of my FCCLA connections to highlight, because FCCLA has connected me to countless opportunities, experiences, and relationships that have shaped who I am today. Serving as Virginia's State President, attending Capitol Leadership to advocate for CTE, FCS, and FCCLA, and serving on the National Nominating Committee expanded my understanding of leadership and responsibility. These experiences helped me become a better leader, communicator, and person. Through FCCLA, I have realized that leadership is more than a position; it is the ability to be accountable, listen to others, inspire people, and make a positive difference. This understanding would guide my approach as a national officer.

Serving as Virginia's State President, I represented and led Virginia's Delegation, created bonds with my state council and staff, and made sure every member's voice was heard. Attending Capitol Leadership taught me how to speak confidently with legislators, share the importance of these programs, and represent students professionally. Serving on the National Nominating Committee, I learned about hard work, communication, and how to listen to different opinions. Mentors such as my advisors and past officers helped me succeed in these roles.

When I first started in FCCLA, I thought leadership meant guiding others toward a common goal, but leadership is much more than that. My experiences taught me that leadership is lifting others up, serving with heart, and inspiring people to believe in themselves. One of the most valuable parts of my FCCLA journey has been building skills like dependability, communication, confidence, problem-solving, and listening. While leading my officer team, these skills helped in planning our state conference, listening to ideas, communicating my thoughts, and solving problems. I also had to step up when unexpected opportunities came.

Some responsibilities I had as Virginia State President were representing Virginia at State and National events, serving on the Nominating Committee, and making sure my team felt supported. During Capitol Leadership, I advocated for CTE, FCS, and FCCLA. I stayed accountable by following through on my responsibilities even when it was challenging. I learned that responsibility is crucial for success.

These experiences have shaped my leadership style. I focus on responsibility, accountability, and teamwork while leading with character and integrity so everyone feels valued. My goals as a National Officer would be to be a positive example for upcoming members and inspire them to realize that hard work pays off. I would represent members with honesty, fairness, and purpose.

Through these experiences, FCCLA has helped me grow into a stronger leader, a more confident communicator, and a person who understands the value of responsibility, service, and meaningful connections. Because of these experiences, I am ready to lead with character and make meaningful connections as a National Officer.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.



FCCLA Offices Held

- State President 2025-2026
- Chapter President 2022-2023
- Chapter President 2021-2022

Competitive Events Experience

- Challenge Test-FCCLA Knowledge, 2025 Participant
- Interpersonal Communications, 2025, Gold and Trophy State level
- National Programs in Action, 2023, Gold and Trophy State level, Silver National level
- Focus on Children, 2022, Gold and Trophy State level, Gold and 3rd place National level
- Challenge Test 2022, 1st place, Nutrition and Wellness for Life

National Participation

- National Presidents Network, 2025, 2026
- National Nominating Committee at NLC, 2025
- Capitol Leadership, 2025
- Fall Leadership Institute, 2024, 2025
- National Leadership Conference, 2022, 2023, 2025
- National Voting Delegate, 2025
- Power of One Completer, 2023, 2025
- Stand Up National High School Winner, 2023
- National Fall Conference, 2022

State Participation

- State Leadership Conference, 2022, 2023, 2025, 2026
- SEC Leadership Training, 2025
- Created a video promoting FCCLA involvement, 2025
- VA FCCLA College Days Presenter, 2025
- State Fair Competition Evaluator, 2025
- State Contests Evaluator, 2025
- FCCLA College Day Participant, 2022, ██████████ University
- VA FCCLA Contest Participant, 2022, 2023, 2024
- VA FCCLA State Fair Participant, 2023
- ACTE Conference, 2026

Contributions to FCS Education

- School Board Advocate for FCS, FCCLA, and CTE, 2025
- Exhibitor at Virginia Distracted Driving Summit, 2025
- Advocated for FCCLA, FCS, and CTE at Capitol Leadership, 2025
- Advocated for FCCLA, FCS, and CTE at the Virginia House and Senate
- Received the Achievement Award for the Family and Consumer Science Department, 2022
- Participated in the ██████████ Parade representing FCCLA, FCS, and CTE, 2026

Family and Consumer Sciences Education

- 6th Grade- FCS Exploratory I
- 7th Grade- FCS Exploratory II
- 8th Grade- FCS Exploratory III
- 9th Grade- Introduction to Hospitality, 1.0 credit
- 10th Grade- Introduction Early Childhood, 1.0 credit
- 11th Grade- Nutrition and Wellness, 1.0 credit

Local Participation

- School Board Presentation, 2025
- Meals that Matter Service Project, 2025
- Bundles of Cheer Service Project, 2025
- Pre-K Pages Service Project, 2024
- Pink Drinks for Breona Service Project, 2024
- Political Politeness Stand Up Project, 2024
- Thrifty Treats Financial Fitness Project, 2024
- Catering Capers Career Connection Project, 2023
- Share Your Sunshine Student Body Project, 2023
- Pop-Up Sweet Shop Service Project, 2023, 2025
- Student Body Mental Health Week, 2023
- Families First Calendar Food Drive, 2023, 2024
- Safe Streets for Sweet Treats FACTS project, 2022
- Wreaths Across America, 2023, 2024
- Planned and participated in FCCLA week activities, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Open House FCCLA Volunteer, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Helped raise over \$200,000 through fundraisers

School and Community Participation

- National Technical Honor Society, 2025
- Spanish Honor Society, 2025
- National Honor Society, 2025
- Student Representative School Board, 2025
- Superintendent's Advisory Committee, 2024
- Gifted and Talented Program, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
- ██████████ Resort Ski Attendant, 2025
- Cross Country, 2024, 2025
- Basketball, 2022, 2023, 2024
- Softball, 2022, 2023, 2024
- Honor Roll, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Speaker at Veterans Day Assembly, 2025
- Student of the Month, 2 times
- SCA Class President, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Ronald McDonald House Volunteer, 2022, 2023, 2024
- Morning Announcements, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- Rec League Softball, 10 years
- Rec League Cheerleader, 6 years
- Little League Basketball, 6 years



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Maximus Eismann

State: Washington

Region: Pacific



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 1

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Maximus Eismann

State: WA

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

If you could strengthen the most important thing in someone's life, would you? This is important because family is the foundation for everything we do, our choices, our future, even our career. What are you going to do? Ignore it or step up and make your family stronger? This question is the purpose behind FCCLA's Families First National Program.

Families First is a national peer education program that helps young people explore, understand, and appreciate all the different sides of family life. It lines up perfectly with FCCLA's mission to promote personal growth and leadership through Family and Consumer Sciences education. It gives members real chances to grow as leaders while learning skills they can use in life and in their careers.

One of FCCLA's main purposes is to strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society. Families First doesn't just talk about that. It makes members actually do something about it by becoming stronger family members and leaders today and tomorrow. It pushes us to explore careers that support families, teach safety so families stay healthy, and show how nurturing kids builds something solid that lasts.

For me personally, my family is real tight knit and close. We eat together, talk about everything, and have each other's backs no matter what. That closeness directly impacts my life every day. When things get hard at school or with decisions about my future, I know I can go home and get honest advice and support. It makes me want to go into a career where I can help other families stay strong, maybe something in Human Services or teaching, because I see how much a solid family changes your path. Without that foundation, wouldn't be as confident about my goals or my choices. Families First helped me appreciate that even more by giving me projects to improve family relationships and understand different family dynamics. This program connects straight to the Human Services and Education and Training Career Clusters. You learn real skills like communication, problem solving, teamwork, and responsibility that employers want. Those aren't just FCCLA skills. They're 21st Century Skills we can take to any job or career. Think about it; if you can handle family conflicts or plan family activities, you can handle team projects at work, deal with customers, or lead others. It prepares you for life beyond FCCLA because strong family roots make you a better worker, a better leader, and a better person in the community.

A quote that shows how important this is comes from FCCLA's own purposes: strengthening families as the foundational unit of society. Just like a tree needs strong roots to grow tall, people need strong families to build good lives and good careers. My family made my life better by teaching me responsibility, love, and how to work with others. That directly shapes what I want for my future.

In conclusion, Families First aligns with everything FCCLA stands for by putting family first, just like the name says. It builds leadership, connects to real career clusters, and gives employability skills that last way beyond high school. If we all focused on strengthening families like this program teaches, we would prevent a lot of problems before they start and create better futures for everyone. We can step up and make a difference.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ESSAY 2

The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Maximus Eismann

State: WA

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

If you could meet someone who makes you see leadership in a whole new way, would you jump at the chance? This is important because seeing real leadership up close can push you to want more for yourself and for the people around you. What are you going to do, let that moment pass or let it change how you step up? For me, that moment came when I met one of Washington state presidents at a conference.

Meeting that state president really expanded my understanding of leadership and responsibility. Before that, I knew officers existed but I didn't fully get how big the role was or how much it could matter. At the conference, we talked about how he planned big state events, listened to members' ideas, and made decisions that helped chapters across Washington. He told me stories about staying up late to fix problems for members and traveling to different schools to support them. That conversation hit me hard. It made me feel free to do whatever I wanted and fly to greater heights because I wasn't being held down by social requirements or worrying about fitting in. It taught me that true leadership means taking on responsibility so you can lift up others and push forward. Responsibility isn't just doing your tasks; it's owning the chance to grow bigger, listening when members need help, and helping everyone else see they can do the same. That moment made leadership feel exciting and possible for me. It showed me this is something I would like to do because you get to break limits and create real change. I saw how one person stepping up can inspire a whole group to try harder and reach further.

This experience would influence my approach to serving as a national officer every single day. I would use the role as an opportunity to strive for greater limits for FCCLA, for the people in it, and for myself. I would work hard to plan strong national events, listen to what members from every state actually need, and make decisions that help chapters grow. Just like the state president did for Washington, I would travel, answer questions from members, and fix problems when they come up. I would make sure every member feels that same freedom I felt; like they can grow without anything holding them back. My family encourages me in everything I do, and that gives me more opportunities to take on things like this. Their support backs me up so I can focus on leading strong. As a national officer, I would bring that same drive to every decision, every event, and every conversation so I could help members feel free to fly higher and take on their own responsibilities with confidence.

In conclusion, meeting that Washington state president at the conference changed how I see leadership and responsibility. It showed me the importance of the role and made me want to step into it. That connection would push me to serve as a national officer by always striving higher, owning my responsibilities, and giving others the freedom to grow. We can all step up if we take those moments and run with them.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

Maximus Eismann

Region: Pacific

State: Washington

School: [REDACTED]

Chapter: [REDACTED]

Years in FCCLA: 4 Years

FCS Courses

9th Grade Health .500 Credits

9th Grade High School Launch .500 Credits

9th Grade Future Prep .500 Credits

10th Grade Culinary .500 Credits

FCCLA Offices held

[REDACTED] Chapter

Treasurer 2022-2023

Treasurer 2023-2024

[REDACTED] Chapter

High School Vice President 2024-2025

High School Vice President 2025-2026

-Washington State

State Executive Vice President 2026-2027

Community Service

-4-H Chapter Community Service

Various 4-H community service events from 2018-2025

Anti-Pollution on Drain covers

Created Easter Baskets for Foster Kids

Made Rice Bags for Northwest Harvest.

Pulled staples out of stalls at the Fair Grounds

[REDACTED] Community Service

FCCLA Winter Wonderland 2025

FCCLA Can Food Trick or Treat

Adopt A Family 2024

Adopt A Family 2025

Adopt A Family 2026

Highly Capable After School Learning Volunteer

Regional Involvement

Region 7 Fall Meeting Attendee 2022-2025

Region 7 STAR Events Evaluator 2022-2023

Region 7 STAR Events Competitor 2024-2025

State Involvement

Washington State STAR Event Evaluator 2023-2024

Washington State Region 7 Officer Candidate 2024

Washington State STAR Event Competitor 2025-2026

National Involvement

National Leadership Conference Competitor 2023, 2025

National Officer Nomination Committee 2025

National Programs

-Power of One

A Better You – Worked on getting school work done faster 2023

Family ties – Focused on hanging out with family 2023

Working on Working – Tested to see fitting careers 2023

Take the Lead – Walked around and picked up trash in my community 2023

Speak out For FCCLA – Created a fun poster to try and increase membership 2023

FACTS 2024 - 2025

Community Service with FCCLA chapter

Family's First Practiced communication with family 2025

Awards

Completion of All units of Power of One 2023

Gold At Regional STAR Events 2024, 2025

Gold At State STAR Events 2024

Silver At State STAR Events 2025

Silver At Nationals Events 2025, 2026

School and Community Involvement

-School Council

Middle School ASB Treasurer

-Athletics [REDACTED] School

Middle School

Cross Country 2024

Wrestling 2024

Track 2025-2026

Swim 2025

-Athletics Club

Wrestling 2020 - Current

-Community

Morning Market 2023-2025

Working At McDonalds October 2025 - Current



2026 National Officer Candidate

Application Packet

NOC Name: Tessa Kenyon

State: Wyoming

Region: Pacific



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Tessa Kenyon

State: Wyoming

Choose one FCCLA National Program and explain how it aligns with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters while preparing members with employability skills that are applicable beyond FCCLA.

We all come from different walks of life, and our lives are different, yet one thing remains constant: we all have a family. No two families look or act the same, but they are all family. Whether your family is by blood, chosen, or a mix of both, there is no denying the vital need for family in society. The Families First National Program aligns not only with our own lives but also with FCCLA's mission, purpose, and Career Clusters, while preparing members with lifelong employability skills. This national program aims to strengthen the family unit and educate members about careers that support all parts of the family, along with countless other lessons. As we examine Families First, we can clearly see the connection between this program and FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters, as well as lifelong employability skills.

First, let's look at how Families First aligns with FCCLA's mission. The second line of FCCLA's mission states, "Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and community leader, members develop skills for life." As this quote shows, FCCLA's mission aligns perfectly with the Families First program. When focusing on these specific roles, we all learn how to be productive people and great family members. Families First helps members learn these roles, furthering FCCLA's mission.

Next, let's analyze how Families First aligns with FCCLA's purposes. Our second purpose is "to strengthen the function of family as a basic unit of society." This purpose aligns seamlessly with the goals of Families First. By completing Families First, our members better understand our second purpose, further illustrating the alignment between the Families First program and our second purpose. This purpose is "to promote greater understanding between youth and adults," which aligns with the unit "Dynamics." The unit "Dynamics" focuses on understanding families and family dynamics, which helps foster understanding between youth and adults. These examples further show the alignment of Families First and our purposes.

Finally, let's explore the alignment between Families First and our Career Clusters, as well as lifelong employability skills. The Families First National Program aims to help our youth today become leaders tomorrow and to explore careers that support families. In the Education and Training, Human Service, and Public Service Career Clusters, you can find careers that support families and inspire the next generation of leaders. In addition to the alignment with Career Clusters, Families First provides many employability skills that stay with you after graduation. By educating members on how to be strong family members, we are also educating them on how to be productive members of society. The same attributes of being a strong family member, such as communication skills, kindness, empathy, respect, and integrity, are the same as those of productive members of society. Families First prepares all members for success after graduation and aligns perfectly with FCCLA's mission, purposes, and Career Clusters.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 1. Additional pages will not be accepted.



The essay question below is limited to one page only, do not alter this format, and do not attach additional information.

National Officer Candidate: Tessa Kenyon

State: Wyoming

Reflect on an FCCLA connection that expanded your understanding of leadership and responsibility and explain how that connection would influence your approach to serving as a national officer.

This past October, I attended the Fall Leadership Institute in Anaheim, California. Not only did all of my dreams come true at Disneyland, like eating delicious food and screaming on all the rides, but I also met someone who truly changed my view of leadership and my life. On the first day, my state officer team and I attended the workshop "Teamwork the Disney Way." Our cast member, Gwen, was a genuine, kind person who exemplified leadership in everything she did. These lessons are ones I take with me every day and truly shaped my experience as a national officer.

Gwen taught us about authentic leadership and the responsibilities leaders have when serving, and those lessons will stay with me forever. She taught me that leadership starts with authenticity and a desire to build a team. She first talked with us as herself, not someone she thought we would've wanted to see. She took the first step in being vulnerable and trusted us to do the same. Gwen inspired us to be authentic with each other, which led to our group becoming a small family, despite only meeting a few short hours before. Our group stayed friends the rest of the day, and some of those friendships continue today. Gwen made sure that each one of us was seen and heard, ensuring that our whole group was involved. She made herself relatable and continued to have real, genuine conversations with us, which made her impact even more immense.

Gwen also taught me that we, as leaders, have a responsibility to continue learning and to make every day better than the last. The most impactful lesson came when I was in a small group, and we finished the activity early. She told us how she got where she was today and how she had been going to school for years and had changed her major three times. Gwen told me that she was "in pursuit of lifelong learning, not just getting a degree." This genuinely changed my outlook on life. Instead of wishing our lives away, going from one thing to the next, whether it's one FCCLA office to the next, graduation to college, or anything else, we need to be in pursuit of lifelong learning. Our goal should be to live our lives to the fullest and be the best 'us' we can truly be.

As a national officer, I would take these lessons with me every day, just as I do today. I would ensure that I am always Tessa and not putting on a show of who I'd think people would like. I would challenge the members to be their most authentic selves by being my most authentic self first, showing that being you is the best thing you can ever do. Every day, I strive to make sure that every person feels valued and heard, and that a connection is formed with them. As a national officer, I would also accept the responsibility to be a lifelong learner. I will take any opportunity my way as a chance to learn and grow, and continue adding to my life list of lessons.

In the short time I had to get to know Gwen, she truly changed my life, and she'll never know the impact. In the same way, I'll have an impact on every member I meet as a national officer candidate, whether I know it or not. My understanding of leadership and the responsibilities that leaders face in their everyday lives changes every day as I continue to grow and learn.

STOP typing here! You must not continue typing past this page for Essay 2. Additional pages will not be accepted.

TESSA KENYON | WYOMING
CLASS OF 2027 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

Current High School Junior | Four Years in FCCLA | Four Years Family and Consumer Science Instruction

FCCLA PARTICIPATION

- Offices Held:
 - 2022-2023 [REDACTED] Middle School Vice President of Fundraising
 - 2023-2024 [REDACTED] High School Vice President of Projects
 - 2024-2025 Wyoming District Officer
 - 2025-2026 Wyoming State Vice President of Public Relations
- Conferences and Meetings Attended:
 - Wyoming State Leadership Conference (2023, 2024, 2025, 2026)
 - Wyoming Fall Leadership Conference (2023, 2024, 2025, 2026)
 - Wyoming Officer Planning and Training Meeting (2024, 2025)
 - National Leadership Conference (2024, 2025)
 - Wyoming FCCLA Legislative Meeting (2025 2026)
 - Fall Leadership Institute in Anaheim, CA (2025)
 - Capitol Leadership (2025)
 - Wyoming CTE at the Capitol Day (2026)
- Participation:
 - 2023 Creed Speaking Level 1: State 1st Place
 - 2024 Creed Speaking Level 2: Nationals 3rd Place
 - 2024 Say Yes to FCS Level 2: State 1st Place, Nationals 7th Place
 - 2025 Leadership Level 2: State 1st Place, Nationals 10th Place
 - 2023-2024 National Association of Parliamentarians Student Member
 - 2025 and 2026 Wyoming All-State Member
 - 2026 National Nominating Committee Member
 - 2026 Election Voting Delegate
 - 2024, 2025, 2026 Community Service Program Participant
 - 2024, 2025, 2026 Stand Up Program Participant

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES COURSES TAKEN

Eighth Grade	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Food and Nutrition A+	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baking and Pastry A+<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ 0.5 Credit Earned• Beginning Sewing A+<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ 0.5 Credit Earned	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced Sewing A<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ 0.5 Credit Earned• Fashion Design A+<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ 0.5 Credit Earned	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Culinary 1 A<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ 0.5 Credit Earned• Culinary Mentor A+<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ 0.5 Credit Earned

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES EDUCATION

- Educated [REDACTED] School District 25 Board of Trustees about FCCLA and FCS Participation (2023-Present)
- Educated incoming freshmen about FCCLA and FCS (Spring 2024 and 2025)
- Presented about sewing classes to community stakeholders (November 2024)
- Advocated with Wyoming Congressmen and Congresswomen for FCCLA, CTE, and FCS (February 2025 and 2026)
- Advocated with National Congressmen and Congresswomen for FCCLA, CTE, and FCS (November 2025)

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

- School Participation:
 - National Honor Society 2024-Present
 - Changing Attitudes Now (Anti-substance club) Board Member 2024- Present
 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes 2023-Present
 - Huddle Leader: 2024-Present
 - [REDACTED] FFA 2022-Present
 - RHS Student Advisor 2024-2025
 - Cheerleading 2023-Present
 - Student Council 2023-2025
- Community Participation:
 - [REDACTED] y (Dance Studio) 2012-Present
 - Recreational Dancer 2012-Present
 - Competitive Dancer 2017-2024
 - [REDACTED] Boutique Sales Associate 2025-Present
 - Center for Art, Technology, and Science Volunteer 2022-Present
 - [REDACTED] Church of Christ Youth Group Member 2024-Present