



MICHIGAN FFA STATE OFFICER

MYTH VS. FACTS



*Region IV
State Vice President
2023-2024*



"SERVICE THAT FEEDS THE MIND AND SOUL."



MYTHS & FACTS OF STATE OFFICE



INTRODUCTION

There can be a lot of misconceptions when it comes to running for State Office. But transparency is key, and we're committed to it. In this document, you'll see real hand accounts and facts from Past State Officers sharing the real details it takes to be a Michigan FFA State Officer. Below is the qualifications a candidate must meet when applying, sourced from the MI FFA State Officer Code of Conduct:

"A candidate must be an active member in good standing, have or be receiving the State FFA Degree, and meet the requirements for active membership during the time they serve as a state officer. They may not have been elected to state office in the past and must be either a high school senior who will graduate at the end of the current school year or a high school graduate with enough remaining membership eligibility to serve. This means the candidate must run for state office no later than the second state convention following graduation from high school. Active membership terminates on November 30, following the fourth national convention after graduating from high school."

MYTH vs. FACT

A GUIDE FOR POTENTIAL MICHIGAN FFA STATE OFFICERS



MYTH: You need to take a gap year from school in order to serve as a State FFA Officer.

FACT: You do NOT need to take a gap year from school in order to serve as a State FFA Officer. Many of our current and past officers have attended university while fulfilling their year of service, averaging 12-15 credit hours per semester.



MYTH: Only high school seniors can apply for State Office.

FACT: You can run up to two years after you graduate high school if you have received your State FFA Degree.



MYTH: You need to study a major related to agriculture, food, or natural resources (AFNR) to be a State FFA Officer.

FACT: You do NOT need to study a major related to AFNR to be a State FFA Officer. Many of our current and past officers have had a wide variety of majors, from Hospitality to Journalism to Engineering. You should have a strong passion for AFNR, but it is not a required major.



MYTH: State Officers have no time to do anything.

FACT: While it's true that State Officers are busy, they do have lives outside of FFA. Past state officers have managed a full-time academic schedule (12 hrs. per semester), while some have managed to work part-time jobs. The expectation is for state officers to make FFA a top priority during their year of service.

MYTH vs. FACT

A GUIDE FOR POTENTIAL MICHIGAN FFA STATE OFFICERS



MYTH: You need to have served or currently be serving as a Regional FFA Officer in order to run for State FFA Office.

FACT: While state officers must demonstrate leadership ability, they do **NOT** have to have been or currently be a Regional FFA Officer in order to run for State FFA Office.



MYTH: You will be responsible for **ALL** expenses as a State FFA Officer.

FACT: The Michigan FFA Association pays for your travel during the year. Lodging and food are covered on extended trips such as trainings and conferences. And your Official Dress and business casual dress are provided for you.



MYTH: You have to attend Michigan State University to be a State Officer

FACT: You do **NOT** need to attend Michigan State University to be a State FFA Officer. Many of our current and past officers have attended other institutions such as Aquinas, Northwood, or even chose to work through the year.