



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

TO: FFA Chapter Advisors

FROM: Mrs. Jasmine Standridge, California FFA Leadership Development Coordinator
Mrs. Jill Sperling, California Department of Education, State Supervisor

SUBJECT: 2026 GREENHAND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

Once again, we are excited to deliver our highly successful Greenhand Leadership Conferences (GLC) for our first-year members. The programs and leadership development team for California FFA has been working diligently to provide an upbeat, engaging, and energized conference experience for emerging students, highlighting the opportunities and impact they can experience in Agricultural Education.

Who: Freshmen

When: September - October

What: Each student will cover:

- **Welcome**
 - Build self-confidence through establishing healthy habits. Engage in conversations to discover the importance of building relationships and meeting new people.
- **Explore Ag Ed and FFA**
 - Identify how Agricultural Education creates well-rounded individuals through the three-ring model of Classroom & Laboratory (Knowledge), Supervised Agricultural Experience [SAE] (Skill), and the National FFA Organization (Relationships). Explore the agricultural education pathways their schools may offer and the five benefits of agriculture education to take back for their own experience.
- **Discover SAE**
 - Dive deeper into the circle of FFA to explore Career Development Events (CDE), Leadership Development Events (LDE), Conventions, and Conferences. Investigate the circle of SAE. Create a personal action plan that addresses the FFA, Classroom, and SAE areas.
- **Recognize their impact and goals**
 - Complete a personal plan of action by adding S.M.A.R.T. goals in the areas of Personal Life and Community.

THE CALIFORNIA FFA CENTER

Post Office Box 460 • Galt, California 95632

Phone 209.744.1600 • Fax 209.744.1602 • www.calaged.org

Registration:

Conferences for 2026 will be hosted at 11 locations throughout California (the list of sites and dates is included in this packet).

Registration opens July 29, 2026, and closes Monday, August 31, 2026. The cost is \$45 per student, plus a \$2 Judging Card fee per participant and a \$20 per Advisor cost (for lunch). ***Please note, price is pending Adult Board approval of the 2026-2027 California FFA state budget.*** Send payment to: Ewell Educational Services, Inc, P.O. Box 3298, Glen Rose, TX 76043-3298.

A maximum of 180 seats will be available at each location (this may vary depending on the site capacity). To be certain you secure the number of seats you need, complete the registration materials and mail payment immediately. Each conference will begin promptly at 9:00 am and conclude at 2:00/2:05 pm. All conferences will include lunch.

ALL REGISTRATIONS WILL BE HANDLED ON A FIRST-COME BASIS.

One week prior to your registered conference, you will receive an email with additional instructions. As a reminder, we will not be printing and handing out certificates to GLC participants. The certificates will be available on calaged.org for advisors to type in and print on the advisor's end after the conference.

Teacher Expectations:

When you arrive, you will receive shirts, based on a generic size chart. You may exchange sizes if time permits. Distribute colored wrist bands evenly among your chapter. You do not need to individually choose which student gets each color; they will be mixed up again later. We just ask that we don't have uneven groups.

Plan to **arrive between 8:15 and 8:45 am.** GLC will start at exactly 9:00 am to keep with the schedule and will end no later than 2:00/2:05 pm. If schools arrive late, students will enter the conference mid-session, only when instructed to do so by a facilitator.

We will have a space dedicated to Advisors for working during the day and meeting while supervising students. Teachers will be expected to supervise students and be present with them when they eat lunch outside and be available on site in the event of an emergency and for student management. A staff member/ chaperone must always be present on site and in supervision while students are participating in an out-of-school sponsored event. At some locations, staff will have informal meetings coordinated by their regional supervisors or CATA leadership.

Liability Waiver - California FFA is not directly responsible for students, advisors or chaperones attending events sanctioned by the state association. Local school districts and designated advisors/chaperones are responsible for the oversight and management of themselves and their students. Local management also includes securing proper insurance and medical waivers as designated by a chapter's local school board.

Multimedia Recording and Usage Policy – The California Department of Education & The California Association of FFA staff and its designees may capture photos, video and other recordings of participants before, during and after events at events sanctioned by the state association. Please be aware that all recorded media may be used by the California Association of FFA in future print materials, online materials (including FFA websites and official social media accounts) signage, slideshows, podcasts, videos and other uses in physical and digital forms. Attendance at events sanctioned by the state association implies your consent to be photographed, videotaped and otherwise recorded for these purposes.

GREENHAND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

2026 CONFERENCE DATES AND ADDRESSES

Sep. 22 – 23 Petaluma, Penngrove Elementary School, 365 Adobe Road, Penngrove, CA 94951

Sep. 22 -23 Lakeside, Lakeside Rodeo Arena, 12584 Mapleview St., Lakeside, CA 92040

Sep. 24 – 25 Cal Poly Pomona, Kellogg West Conference Center, Bldg. 76, Pomona, CA 91768

Sep. 23 - 24 Redding, Foothill Palo Cedro HS, 9733 Deschutes Rd, Palo Cedro, CA 96073

Sep. 30 – Oct. 2 Lemoore, Lemoore College, 555 College Ave. Lemoore, CA 93245

Sep. 30 – Oct. 2 Lodi, Lodi HS, 3 S Pacific Ave, Lodi, CA 95242

Oct. 2 Fresno, CSU Fresno, Resident Dining Hall, Fresno, CA 93710

Oct. 6 – 9 Bakersfield, Kern Ag Pavilion, 3300 East Belle Terrace, Bakersfield, CA 93307

Oct. 12– 14 Turlock, Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, E2 Building, 900 N Broadway, Turlock, CA 95380

Oct. 13 – 15 Paso Robles, Midstate Fairgrounds, 2198 Riverside Avenue, Paso Robles, CA 93446

Oct. 13 – 15 Gridley, Butte County Fairgrounds, 199 E Hazel St, Gridley, CA 95948

Contact/ Questions:

Judging Card – Mrs. Alyssa Ewell, 979/ 446-0865, alyssa@judgingcard.com

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Mrs. Trisha Chapman, tchapman@californiaffa.org