

Illinois Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. (FCCLA) is a nonprofit national career and technical student organization for young men and women in family and consumer sciences education in public and private school grades 6—12.

Building Skills for Life

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work and societal issues through family and consumer sciences education.

Chapter projects focus on a variety of youth concerns, including teen pregnancy, parenting, family relationships, substance abuse, peer pressure, environment, nutrition and fitness, teen violence and career preparation.

Involvement in FCCLA offers members the opportunity to expand their leadership potential and develop skills for life - planning, goal setting, problem solving, decision making and interpersonal communication - necessary in the home and workplace.

Mission

To promote personal growth and leadership development through family and consumer sciences education. Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner and community leader, members develop skills for life through -

- * Character development;
- * Creative and critical thinking;
- * Interpersonal communication;
- * Practical knowledge, and
- * Career preparation.

Purposes

1. To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.
2. To strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society.
3. To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community.
4. To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony.
5. To promote a greater understanding between youth and adults.
6. To provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities.
7. To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today's society.
8. To promote family and consumer sciences and related occupations.



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Program Emphasis

FCCLA—

- * is the only in-school student organization with the *family* as its central focus
- * is a career and technical student organization that functions as an integral part of the family and consumer sciences education curriculum and operates within the school system.
- * provides opportunities for active student participation at local, state and national levels.

Membership

Illinois FCCLA has a statewide membership of approximately 4000 members in nearly 200 schools. FCCLA has a national membership of about 165,000 young men and women in 6,500 local chapters. There are 53 state associations including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Since it's founding in 1945, FCCLA has involved more than ten million youth.

Governance

Six state officers and ten national officers (students) are elected by the voting delegates at the annual State and National Leadership Meetings each year. These students and their Advisers (teachers) make up the State and National Executive Councils.

The State and National Board of Directors are composed of adult representatives from education and business and youth representatives from the Executive Councils.

Chapter Advisers are family and consumer sciences teachers.

Financial and Cooperative Support

FCCLA is supported primarily by student membership dues. Additional funds are raised from individuals, corporations and the Illinois Foundation for FCCLA. FCCLA is endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education (Office of Career and Technical Education), the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS), the Illinois State Board of Education, and the Illinois High School Association.

Staff

An executive director leads the organization and gives direction to and carries out programs, communications, membership services and financial management.

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