



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT...

Hey, Montana FCCLA! I hope you all are doing well, and have enjoyed district meetings so far! November is a busy month for Montana FCCLA, and I am honored to represent our big sky state at the national level in Birmingham, Alabama for the National Fall Conference. The Fergus FCCLA chapter is bringing Lexi Breidenbach, Khale Bartel, Brooke Ruckman, and myself along with our advisor, Megan Vincent. Three of our members are competing at NFC, and we all look forward to bringing back some great feedback and ideas as we "Experience the Ultimate Journey." As always, don't hesitate to reach out via my email, lauren.president@mtfccla.org with any questions or concerns!

SPOTLIGHT ON KACIE PERKINS

Kacie and her amazing FCCLA students from Powell County put on the most wonderful district meeting. We had the best time getting to know other students, learning about STAR Events and having pizza at the bowling alley. Kacie's crew did well at the ProStart competition, and State. She has so many wonderful ideas and keeps the students achieving and giving back to the community year after year. Thank you for all you do!
~Karen Strong, Flathead FCCLA

CONNECT WITH US!





COMING UP!

District Meetings:

November 14, District 1 & 3/9,
Great Falls

District 2, Belgrade

District 5, Glendive

District 11, Dillon



November 15, District 8,
Medicine Lake

District 10, Columbus

November 17: Vision Zero
priority grant requests are due

December 1: grant requests
are due

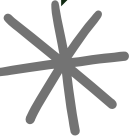
December 1: Fitness State
Outreach Project Grant
applications due

National FCCLA Events:
October 11: National Fall
Conference Regular
Registration and Housing
Deadline

November 10-12, 2023: National
Fall Conference (Birmingham,
AL)

January 25-27, 2024: Chapter
Adviser Summit (Seattle, WA)

CHAPTER OUTREACH GRANTS



Montana FCCLA is fortunate to have many partners supporting local chapter outreach projects, but time is running out to apply!

Vision Zero: Offers support for local traffic safety projects-- priority application is **November 17**; final application deadline is **December 1** (see the flyer later in the newsletter for full details; visit the Montana FCCLA website to apply)

Financial Fitness: Supports local financial education projects up to \$200 (see the flyer later in the newsletter for full details; visit the Montana FCCLA website to apply)

Grants to fund chapter outreach service projects are coming soon! Watch the website for more details!

WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY AFFILIATED CHAPTERS!

Congratulations and welcome to the following chapters who have affiliated for the 2023-24 membership year!

Beaverhead	Broadwater	Butte
Carter County	Columbia Falls	Cm Russell
Dawson County	Dutton Brady	Fairfield
Fairview	Flathead	Glasgow
Huntley Project	Malta	Manhattan
North Star	Park City	Plevna
Powell County	Power	Red Lodge
Reed Point	Roundup	Shepherd
Sheridan	Stevensville	Sunburst
White Sulphur		





STAR EVENTS

By Emma Harrison
VP of Competitive Events

November STAR Event

It is about that time of the year to start picking out your STAR Event so you can compete at state, get that gold medal and go to Seattle for Nationals. There are all sorts of different categories in the STAR Events.

Once you have narrowed down what you like and what project you would like to do you need to know the requirements for the project. You need to see what grade levels are allowed to do it, if it is an individual or a group project, if it is a portfolio or display, what the limit is on pages/slides/photos/etc, and what materials you need.

There are a lot of different fine print details to a project you can't skip over. Your advisor and you need to look at the rubric together even if your advisor has done the project before, because rubrics do change. I did the Leadership project and the next year when another member did the same project they realized at the end that the whole time they were supposed to be reading and following the recommendations the book provided on how to become a better leader. Many projects require surveys, research or other ways to prove that the concern you identified in your Planning Process is a legitimate concern. You will lose points without this documentation. There are a lot of details, but they are all spelled out in the guidelines.

To not stress yourself out, look over the rubric and make sure you understand it. Some projects are really big and you have to put on an event or show the process of making your project, or you need to show your FCCLA chapter throughout the year so you need pictures. Take lots of pictures of everything - like you sewing your project, or working with other people. If you are putting on an event you need to have lots of pictures of organizing the event and the event itself. For the Chapter in Review Portfolio you need pictures of your chapter doing everything - meetings, community service, fundraising, promoting FCCLA, attending your district meeting, etc.

In every project there is also the oral presentation. Some you have 10 minutes to present, others you have 15 minutes to present your project. Do you need a paper copy of your project or can your project be electronic? Take those 30 minutes, sit down and look over your entire rubric so you know you understand it and know what you need so you are prepared to start your project.

STAR Event rubrics can be overwhelming the first time you look at them. I suggest going through each component and laying out a timeline for when you will complete that piece and who is responsible for its completion. A brief outline of what you will do for each component is also helpful. Doing your homework and laying out a plan will help you be more confident in your project. Best of luck to all of you competitors!

REMEMBER TO....

Submit your service hour reports on the Montana FCCLA Website

Nominate someone to be featured in next month's FCCLA Spotlight

Make your voice heard through the Strategic Planning process





NATIONAL PROGRAM SHOWCASE



The 2023-24 Montana FCCLA State Outreach Project is Financial Fitness. Your chapter can make a positive difference for others in your community by implementing an outreach project focused on helping to educate others about wise financial decisions.

Some resources that are available to chapters this year include free [FCCLA Financial Fitness curriculum](#) for chapters, [local outreach project grants](#) to fund your chapter's project, and [professional development](#) for advisers to help their chapters participate in the State Outreach Project. Additionally, chapters submitting a report by March 1 are eligible to win a state award for their project. Some ideas for a Financial Fitness Outreach Project might include:

- Ask students to collect financial wisdom across the generations; compile into a bulletin board to highlight the influence of others on our spending.
- Compare costs of dining out with costs of preparing the same meals at home; create a cookbook full of restaurant recipes and share at a local grocery store.
- Host a consumer night, where members research consumer issues and share displays with their findings; add snacks and an electronic game as you welcome the public and increase their consumer awareness.
- Research children's books with financial messages; visit an elementary school to read with children and influence their future spending habits.

CULINARY CORNER



November is National Peanut Butter Lover Month! Peanut butter is a great way to add healthy fat and protein to your day! Here are some fun ways to incorporate peanut butter into snacks and meals:
Add into a bowl of oatmeal.
Dip apple slices in peanut butter. Mix with yogurt. Add a spoonful to your top ramen.

In ProStart news: Be on the lookout for updated rules coming soon!



MONTANA FCCLA DISTRICT UPDATES!



Hello, something really exciting coming up for District 1 is our District meeting. I am really excited for it. We get to join together with District 3/9 on November 14th, at University of Providence, Great Falls. I am really looking forward to the workshops that are going to be held this year, they are also all going to be student lead workshops. I can't wait to see everyone from my District as well as District 3/9. I am thrilled to see everyone I know there, as well as new faces.

Brylee Stordahl, VP of Community Outreach, Conrad

I am looking forward to the District 2 fall meeting! We will be experiencing The Ultimate Journey with a travel theme! Grab some tacky tourist accessories and join the journey through our student led workshops! I'm so excited to see everyone there!

Alexus Phelps, VP of Membership, Belgrade



District 3/9's meeting will be held on November 14 in Great Falls, Montana at the University of Providence. We are doing a joint meeting with District 1 to form a regional meeting. District 1 president, Brylee Stordahl and I are super excited to bring new workshops, speakers, and leadership opportunities for students! I can't wait to see the District 1 and 3/9 FCCLA members there, and good luck to all candidates running for office!

Lauren Plagenz, President, Fergus County

The District 4 meeting was held in Colstrip on October 11 and we had SO much fun!! We started with the meeting with officer elections, and it's safe to say that District 4 is in excellent hands for the coming year! Our new President : Frankie Smith, Vice President : Emily Brandenburg, Secretary : Tatiana McAlister, Historian : Addy Purkett, Parliamentarian : Brynna Schacht. Various workshops were held, from focusing on Financial Fitness to safe driving. The day was a huge success!!

Annika Sorenson, VP of Finance, Forsyth



Please register your chapter ASAP for the District 5 Leadership Kickoff in Glendive on November 14 with registration beginning at 8:30. A light breakfast will be available when you arrive. We will have four FCCLA workshops, two service workshops, and a dance workshop. Our keynote speaker is a local from Glendive - Briana Berg. Throughout the day we will gain skills in leadership, financial fitness, STAR Events, strategic planning, and traffic safety; make new friends, and elect our 2023-24 District Officer Team. I can't wait to see you all there.

Advisors, please make sure your officer candidates take their online test with your school proctor this week. Good luck District Officer Candidates!

Emma Harrison, VP of Competitive Events, Wibaux

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MONTANA FCCLA DISTRICT UPDATES!



District 6/7 had a successful district meeting. We held our meeting in Deer Lodge on October 24th. With a fun neon theme, and an ice breaker that kept people going all day, everyone had fun. We ran multiple workshops. Sheila Cozzie for MTD ran a workshop on traffic and driving safety. We also had a workshop on Financial Fitness, as well as STAR events. For a fun twist, we worked a knife skills workshop for those interested in cooking and Prostart. We ran last minute nominations and elected a new slate of District Officers. For President, we elected Natalie Seitzinger, for Vice President we elected Hailey Warner. Our new Secretary is Lucie Williams, and for Recreation we elected Meadow Smith.

I would like to give a special thanks to Victory Lanes bowling alley for letting us use their facility to host lunch, and to The Rialto in Deer Lodge for letting us host our meeting there. Out of the ten chapters in our district, seven were able to attend. I am so delighted to have gotten to meet all of you in person and so thankful you were able to attend our meeting.

Madeline Schrecengost, VP of Programs, Powell County

District 8 FCCLA is ready to kick off their year in Medicine Lake on November 15th. We will have five different workshops, as well as a young and very influential keynote speaker, Walker Ator. Walker is a junior at Montana State University in Bozeman majoring in political science and a business certificate. He is a part of Montana's Own Scholar Program that helps students gain workforce skills for their major and is just a great program to be a part of.

Zoey Ator, VP of Parliamentary Law, Medicine Lake



District 10 will have their meeting Nov. 15th in Columbus. The theme for our meeting is "FCCLA - the Ultimate Journey" with airplanes, maps, route signs, and other travel decorations. The workshops have destination themes to go with the topic being presented. The STAR event workshop will be in "Hawaii" while stargazing atop Mount Kilauea. The jitterbug workshop will be in Nashville. The cupcake decorating workshop will feature Paris, France. And the tie blanket workshop will be at the North Pole. The group will make tie blankets for our community service project and will go to a place in Billings that shelters homeless kids. Our guest speaker is Keith Lauver from Red Lodge.

Jill Baumgardner, First Vice President, Harlowton

District 11 will be hosting their district meeting in Dillon, at the University of Montana Western, on November 14th! We have several workshops to engage students, and are pleased to welcome Superintendent Randy Shipman of Dillon as a speaker. Looking forward to seeing District 11 there, safe travels!

Jacob Harvey, VP of Public Relations, Beaverhead County



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MONTANA FCCLA

November, 2023

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News



Strategic Planning, 2023-24

Montana FCCLA wants your perspectives! As a component of our Strategic Planning process, we are collecting input from our stakeholders to ensure our goals and activities reflect the priorities of those we represent so that we can offer The Ultimate Leadership Experience to our membership!

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
- Career preparation

WHAT IS A STRATEGIC PLAN?

A Strategic Plan collects data from a wide variety of stakeholders, then uses that data to determine priorities and set goals for the future.

The Strategic Plan works as a guide to determine activities and opportunities offered to members, and to help make important decisions for the organization's future.

MONTANA FCCLA'S STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS & TIMELINE

JULY THROUGH NOVEMBER, 2023

During this phase, we will collect data from many sources in order to get a full picture of our strengths, weaknesses and opportunities. Target groups include: State Executive Council, chapter members, chapter advisers, parents, administrators, Board members, partners

INPUT FROM ALL STAKEHOLDERS HELPS TO CREATE AN ACCURATE, USEFUL STRATEGIC PLAN

DECEMBER, 2023

Once data has been collected, the information we have gained will be organized to help us better understand it.

JANUARY, 2024

The Board and the State Executive Council will examine the data and use it to brainstorm general goals for the organization moving forward

FEBRUARY, 2024

Once we have general goals in place, the Board and State Executive Council will draft specific objectives in categories such as leadership development, growth, partnerships, adviser support, chapter and district support, finances, staffing and board development

MARCH, 2024

Once finalized, the Board and State Executive Council will share the 2027 Strategic Plan at the 2024 Montana FCCLA State Leadership Conference

APRIL, 2024-2029

The 2029 Montana FCCLA Strategic Plan is used to guide decisions regarding programming, funding, and partnerships



STRATEGIC PLANNING

2029: SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

An important piece of Montana FCCLA's future is strategic planning, Your Board of Directors is now collecting input from members, advisers, administrators, parents, partners, and all of our stakeholders to help influence our programming and activities through the next five years. The graphic to the left shares the planned timeline for our 2029 Strategic Plan. Please visit our [Strategic Planning page](#) and complete the survey that best describes your participation with Montana FCCLA, then share the link with others to help everyone have a voice!

✉ director@mtfccla.org

📍 Box 11409, Bozeman, MT 59718

🌐 www.mtfccla.org



SAVE THE DATE!

STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

MARCH 14-15 IN BOZEMAN



CONNECT WITH US!



EVER WONDER HOW YOU CAN EDUCATE OTHERS ABOUT TRAFFIC SAFETY?



NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO FIND OUT

2023-24 VISION ZERO

Fund your project to help you and your peers reduce distracted driving with a Vision Zero grant!

Priority application deadline: November 17  Final grant application deadline: December 1
Visit mtfccla.org for full details

The percentage of crashes involving young drivers has not changed significantly during the past 19 years.

Texting while driving has the same effect on reaction time as consuming four beers in a single hour.

Inattentiveness, carelessness, and driving speed accounted for over 50% of the crashes in the past 10 years.

Offered through a partnership between the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and the Montana Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
Questions? Contact Sheila Cozzie, 406-444-7301 scozzie@mt.gov



2023-24 MONTANA FCCLA STATE OUTREACH PROJECT



Financial Fitness is FCCLA's National Program designed to help members learn about:

EARNING



SPENDING



SAVING



PROTECTING



Montana is currently ranked 29/50 states in terms of financial literacy access (source: Montana Office of Public Instruction).

Improved education results in better financial options for Montana individuals and families.

Although the Class of 2026 is required to complete a financial literacy course before graduation, Montana FCCLA has the tools ready now to teach others about earning, spending, saving, and protecting their finances.

Chapters can apply for mini-grants of \$200 to help chapters develop and implement projects to help others better understand financial management. Chapters completing the final report about their efforts are eligible to win cash awards of \$500, \$300 or \$200!

Chapters may also apply to receive FREE Financial Fitness curriculum!
(Advisers: contact Tracey to request the curriculum for your chapter)

Visit the [Montana FCCLA Website](#) for more information, project ideas, and to apply for grants by December 1

This State Outreach Project is possible through the support of BlueCross BlueShield of Montana and the Montana Financial Education Coalition





Financial Fitness in FCS and FCCLA

A Hybrid Professional Development Opportunity
for Montana FCCLA Advisers

December 13, 2023

Who should attend: Any Montana FCCLA Adviser

How it works: This conference offers a hybrid experience, combining the benefits of in-person with the flexibility of virtual attendance

What you will gain: Innovative strategies for integrating financial education into your FCS classroom and FCCLA activities

How to register: Complete [this form](#) by December 1

Cost: Attending is free; attendees pay for lunch at host sites

Attend in person at one of the hosted locations, or remotely on your own (some event activities will only be offered at one of the hosted sites below):

Adele Stenson
Glendive

Katie Umbracio
Ronan

Kim Knoche
Forsyth

Sandy Woldstad
Harlowton

Cathe Felz
Three Forks

Stacy Aaberg
Confad

Montana Chapters have four affiliation options to choose from. This includes three packages that allow **Perkins Funding** as payment to mitigate chapter fundraising and individual payment participation barriers for students and families, along with an option exclusively for middle-level chapters, serving students up to grade 9.

1 TRADITIONAL AFFILIATION

This is a continuation of past membership affiliation processes. Each student grades 6-12 who engages with or benefits from FCCLA programming is affiliated. Affiliation dues are paid from chapter fundraising or an individual/family fee.

- \$ **NATIONAL DUES**
\$9 per person
Minimum of 12 individuals
- +
- \$ **STATE PER PERSON DUES**
\$9 per person
No Minimum
- +
- \$ **STATE CHAPTER DUES**
\$65 per chapter
Flat rate to support State Officer Programming



2 MIDDLE LEVEL PACKAGE

27 or more members, grade 9 or younger.

- \$ **NATIONAL DUES**
\$250
- +
- \$ **STATE DUES**
\$135
(based on 15 members; over 15 members are free)
- +
- \$ **STATE CHAPTER DUES**
\$65 per chapter
Flat rate to support State Officer Programming

\$450 TOTAL

NEW IN 2023!

*USING THIS PACKAGE REQUIRES A SEPARATE CHAPTER AFFILIATION
*THE CHAPTER FEE IS WAIVED FOR SCHOOLS ALSO AFFILIATING A SEPARATE HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER.
*PERKINS FUNDING MAY BE USED TO PAY WITH THE MIDDLE LEVEL PACKAGE

3 TOP 25 AFFILIATION PACKAGE

Up to 25 members.

- \$ **NATIONAL DUES**
\$395
- +
- \$ **STATE DUES**
\$180
(this includes 5 free memberships)
- +
- \$ **STATE CHAPTER DUES**
\$65 per chapter
Flat rate to support State Officer Programming

\$640 TOTAL

MEMBERSHIP PACKAGES #3 & #4

Membership packages include numerous chapter adviser and student benefits.

- Flat-rate payment can occur via **Perkins Funding**, eliminating per-member dues solicitation and enhancing equity by reducing participation barriers.
- Chapters receive a National FCCLA program of their choice with 70+ lesson plans to integrate FCCLA into the classroom (\$75 value).
- Free National FCCLA Chapter Adviser affiliation (\$9 value).
- One (1) Adviser Academy Registration (\$90 value).
- One (1) Lifetime Alumni & Associates membership for any one of their choice (\$150 value).

\$325 VALUE

4 BIG SKY UNLIMITED AFFILIATION PACKAGE

Unlimited chapter members.

- \$ **NATIONAL DUES**
\$775
- +
- \$ **STATE DUES**
\$405
(based on 45 members; over 45 members are free)
- +
- \$ **STATE CHAPTER DUES**
\$65 per chapter
Flat rate to support State Officer Programming

\$1245 TOTAL

LONG-TERM BENEFITS FOR THE TOP 25 AND BIG SKY PACKAGES



- **Chapter Benefits:** Montana CTE funding provides \$400 for existing chapters + a per-member allocation. Increased 2023-24 membership will increase your 2024-25 CTE funding allocation.
- **State Benefits:** House Bill 86 funding, which comprises most of FCCLA state funding, is heavily based on membership. Increased statewide membership means additional funding to support chapter advisers and provide student leadership opportunities.