

MONTANA FCCLA

June, 2026

News

Save The Date for Fall Leadership Rally!



Keynote Speaker
Rhett Laubach



State Outreach Project Track:
Lindsey Cobble, LTT



New Leader Track:
Brooklynn Gross, former LTT



Montana FCCLA's Fall Rally is back September 27-28 at the Billings Hotel & Convention Center! Make plans now to learn, network, and grow your leadership skills with FCCLA members from all across Montana!

At this year's Fall Leadership Rally:

- Meet the 2026-27 Montana State Executive Council, ready to deliver exciting sessions promoting attendee networking.
- Advisers may register three chapter leaders, three State Outreach Project leaders, and three new members, in addition to any District Officers.
- Arrive early and kick off your Rally experience with a pre-conference ZooMontana adventure! Attendees may register for a zoo visit prior to the start of the conference.
- Visit with our exhibitors to learn more about resources to support your chapter's Career Connection outreach projects, and pick up your FCCLA swag at the **Fall Rally Swag Shop!**
- Meet dynamic speakers including **Rhett Laubach**, our keynote speaker and trainer for the Chapter and District Officers track. Attendees will learn practical strategies for becoming the kind of leader that builds a strong team and makes a lasting impact.
- Our State Outreach Project attendees will explore the 2026-27 State Outreach Project with **Lindsey Cobble**, of the FCCLA Leadership Training Team. Attendees will also meet representatives of organizations all across the state with resources to support local outreach projects.
- Our new leaders will learn all about FCCLA programs, events, and opportunities from **Brooklynn Gross**, a former member of FCCLA's Leadership Training Team (LTT), and current LTT trainer.
- Advisers will receive specialized training, including a pre-conference **New Adviser Training session**.
- Attendees will receive a registration gift, as well as training in their designated area.

Registration is now open and closes September 1; final registration closes September 13. Find more details on the [Montana FCCLA website!](#) and in the flyer at the end of this newsletter.



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STATE ASSOCIATION

Montana FCCLA in the Spotlight at NLC!



Montana FCCLA is proud to recognize the chapters participating in the 2026 National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.! The **Fashion Show** at the National Leadership Conference celebrates creativity, innovation, technical skill, and personal expression through fashion design.

Finn Graden, of the Ellis FCCLA Chapter, submitted original garment designs for consideration, which were evaluated by a panel of judges using criteria that included presentation, design elements, trend relevance, fit and balance, construction, finishing techniques, and the designer's inspiration and creative process. Congratulations to Finn on this outstanding accomplishment! We look forward to celebrating Finn and the other designers as they bring their creations to life on the runway at the 2026 National Leadership Conference.

The **FCCLA Showcase** celebrates chapter achievement, student leadership, creativity, and the meaningful work that takes place in FCCLA Chapters across the nation. Participants will have the opportunity to share National Program and STAR Events projects, chapter recruitment efforts, fundraising ideas, and other outstanding accomplishments with conference attendees.

Congratulations to **Emma Feldmann** and **Sofia Frick-Redd**, of the Dutton/Brady FCCLA Chapter, for taking part in this exciting opportunity. We look forward to celebrating the innovation, dedication, and leadership they will display while at NLC!

Montana FCCLA Chapter Advisers will also be recognized while at the National Leadership Conference. Congratulations to **Lorie Martinez**, of the Columbus FCCLA Chapter, for her completion of the **Master Adviser Academy**. Ms. Martinez will be recognized for completing the Master Adviser Academy, which is designed for advisers with five or more years of experience and offers advanced opportunities to contribute to national FCCLA initiatives. Participants collaborate with peers, strengthen their professional portfolios, and receive recognition at the National Leadership Conference for their continued commitment to FCCLA leadership and excellence.

Congratulations to **Amanda Swenson**, of the Manhattan chapter. Ms. Swenson will be recognized for completion of the FCCLA **New Chapter Adviser Academy**, which supports advisers in their first three years by providing resources, guidance, and connections to help them build strong, successful chapters. This program fosters professional growth while strengthening the foundation for long-term chapter success.

Ms. Swenson is also the recipient of the **Spirit of Advising** award, which honors chapter advisers who exemplify unwavering dedication and commitment, often working behind the scenes to nurture the success of their students. These advisers have made remarkable contributions through their support of students, provision of learning experiences, encouragement of positive character development, and overall dedication to fostering student leaders.



**Emma Feldmann and
Sofia Frick-Redd
Dutton/Brady FCCLA**

**Finn Graden
Ennis FCCLA**



**Lorie Martinez
Columbus FCCLA**



**Amanda Swenson
Manhattan FCCLA**



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National Membership Package Benefits are Updated

For the past several years, FCCLA has been offering chapters membership packages which make membership more accessible to all members. One of the most popular features of these packages are the additional benefits available to the chapters utilizing the packages. These benefits have changed a bit for the 2026-27 year--check out the enhanced benefits summary in the graphic to explore the features that your chapter will love!

RESOURCES INCLUDED IN CHAPTER PACKAGES (2026-2027)

Chapter Affiliation Packages include a one-year subscription to the FCCLA Knowledge Hub, which expires July 31. The Knowledge Hub is comprised of the following resources, which are not included in Basic Affiliation Rates and are otherwise available for individual purchase through the FCCLA Portal.

Access to the FCCLA Knowledge Hub has been expanded to include FCCLA Members in addition to FCCLA Advisers. Based on feedback from chapter advisers, this enhancement allows students to directly access and engage with the platform, increasing the overall value of Chapter Packages and positioning the Knowledge Hub as a comprehensive resource for expanding student access to instructional materials.

Knowledge Hub Individual Resources and Value:

Knowledge Hub Resource	Description	Value
Digital National Programs	Career Connection, Community Service, FACTS, Families First, Financial Fitness, Stand Up, Student Body	\$420
Challenge Test Readiness Resource	A digital, self-paced preparation tool designed to support student success on FCCLA Challenge Tests, including sample questions and strategies across content areas.	\$40
Competitive Event and National Program Overview Videos	An on-demand library of short videos aligned to Competitive Events and National Programs, designed to support classroom instruction and student preparation.	\$75+
Total Value		\$535+

Culinary Corner



Hello from Montana ProStart! I hope your summer is going well and that you are recharging your batteries! For those of you headed to NLC for FCCLA, have a wonderful time and best of luck to your competitors! On the ProStart front, we are gearing up for our next round of Data Collection! **Please be on the lookout for an email from me asking for your responses to the official data collection survey.** Additionally, as the next school year approaches, please consider what students you know of that may be working summer jobs in the hospitality industry, as we would love to help them earn their COA (Certificate of Achievement) and be recognized at SLC next year! If you know of anyone who should be receiving emails from me, please share my email address with them jordan@mtfccla.org or pass their info on to me. Thank you!

~Jordan Collins, Montana ProStart Coordinator

2026-27 Membership Affiliation

Before we know it, the 2026-27 school year will begin, which means it is time to begin thinking about affiliation! The Montana FCCLA Board of Directors has recently approved membership rates for the coming year, voting to continue offering a variety of membership package options and keeping membership dues consistent with rates for the previous year. Affiliation opens August 1, when chapters may use the portal to register their chapter members.

National Leadership Conference Updates

Montana FCCLA will be represented in Washington, D.C., by over 130 members, advisers and chaperones at the National Leadership Conference this summer. Advisers and members are encouraged to check the website for updates frequently. Montana FCCLA has prepared an [NLC Guide](#) to help in navigating the NLC experience.



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PARTNERSHIPS

This document summarizes Montana FCCLA's partners, growth, funding, and the opportunities provided to members through the Ultimate Leadership Experience.

MEMBERSHIP

In 2025-26, Montana FCCLA consisted of:
1485 Members in grades 6-12
62 Chapters
71 Chapter Advisers

- The Montana Department of Education sponsored grants and awards for chapter traffic safety projects
- The annual State Outreach Project Career Connection was sponsored by Reach Higher Montana
- FCCLA offered the new FCS Career Connections trainings and challenges at the State Leadership Conference in conjunction with partners from the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Sherbert Enterprise, The Porch, Greater Gallatin United Way, Montana Head Start, Explore Montessori & Academy, Montana Advocates for Children Coordinator, MSU Early Childhood Project, and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
- ProStart sponsored the state-level ProStart and FCCLA Culinary Competition, the Montana ProStart Leadership and Service Scholarship and the Montana ProStart Ultimate Leader awards.
- Sysco, ProStart, and the Montana Pork Producers partnered to sponsor a Culinary Camp
- The State Leadership Conference Industry Immersion Tour included on-site learning for attendees at Buff City Soap, the HRDC, and Aurore Bakery.
- Montana State University and Gallatin College served as a sponsors for our State Leadership Conference, along with Montana Pork Producers, Chef Eduardo Garcia, the Montana Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, Zwilling/JA Henckels, Bequet Confections, Reach Higher Montana, Rocky Mountain Credit Union, and the Montana Office of Public Instruction.

OPPORTUNITIES

In 2025-26, Montana FCCLA offered opportunities to chapters and members, including:

LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- State Leadership Conference & Competitive Events
- Support for State Executive Council Activities
- Fall Leadership Rally

CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMS

- ProStart Program Support
- ProStart Competition
- Culinary Camp

SERVICE

- Chapter Service Project Grants
- Chapter Service Project Incentives and Recognition
- State Leadership Conference Service Project Training Sessions & Projects
- Service Hall of Fame

TEACHER & ADVISER SUPPORT

- Staff Training
- Advisor Communities Mentoring Program
- Recognition
- First-Time Attendee Scholarships

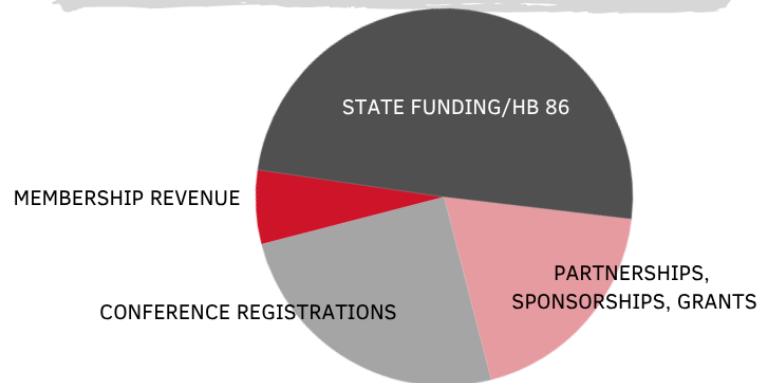
MEMBER RECRUITMENT

- District Meetings

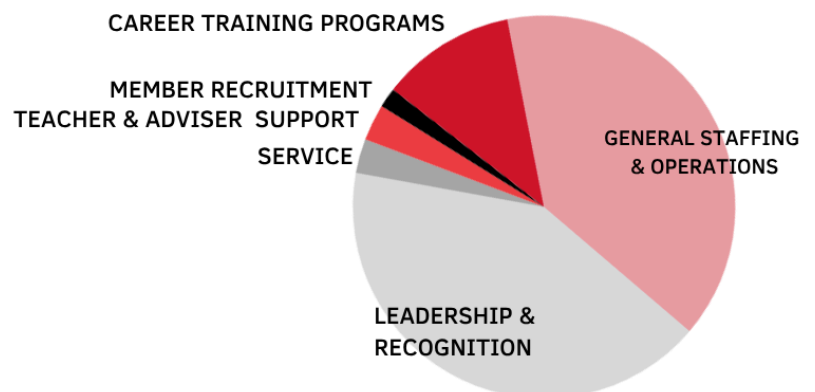
GENERAL STAFFING & OPERATIONS

- Salaries & taxes
- Insurance, supplies, technology

IN 2025-26, MONTANA FCCLA WAS FUNDED THROUGH THESE SOURCES:



IN 2025-26 MONTANA FCCLA USED FUNDING IN THIS WAY TO OFFER THESE OPPORTUNITIES :





2025-26 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ENGAGEMENT

- 87% of chapters attended District Meetings
- 24 Chapters Recognized through the STAR Chapter Program
- 335 Competitive Events Participants registered for the State Leadership Conference
- Seven new chapters affiliated and two inactive chapters re-affiliated
- Membership grew by 15.6%
- Retained 80% of all FCCLA Advisers in years 1-5 of advising

OUTREACH & SERVICE

- 16,994 Service Hours Reported
- 29 Chapters Reporting Service Hours
- 3 Outreach Project Grant Opportunities for chapters
- Service Hall of Fame Recognition
- Service Road Trip at State Leadership Conference
- Seven service partners for the State Leadership Conference Service Project

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- 24 College/Career Readiness Workshops at the State Leadership Conference
- Three FCS Career Connections Training Tracks offered at the State Leadership Conference
- Industry Immersion Tour at State Leadership Conference visited three area businesses
- Growth of 10% in culinary competitive events at the State Leadership Conference
- 31 Confirmed ProStart Schools this year, growing by 19%
- 1,519 students have completed some sort of industry certification;
- 336 are participating in dual credit opportunities
- 582 have participated in internships, apprenticeships, career exploration or job shadowing
- Over 5,464 industry-based work hours were logged by our ProStart participants
- Meetings and conferences including the State Leadership Conference, District Meetings, Fall Leadership Rally and Culinary Camp
- Competitive Events
- Leadership and Service Scholarship and ProStart Leadership and Service Scholarship
- Ultimate Leader Award and ProStart Ultimate Leader Award
- Officer Candidate Opportunities

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- New Adviser Webinar Series
- Monthly Adviser Webinars
- Adviser Communities Mentoring Program
- Culinary Educator Training
- First Time Attendee Scholarship for the Chapter Adviser Summit Training
- First Time Attendee Scholarships for the State Leadership Conference and Fall Leadership Rally
- New Adviser of the Year, Adviser of the Year, Spirit of Advising, ProStart Educator of Excellence Awards

ADVISER OPPORTUNITIES

- 21 Participants in the College and Career Readiness Fair
- 29 Sponsors for State Leadership Conference and Fall Leadership Rally
- 15 New Partners for the FCS Career Connections Training
- Secured 16 new partners

PARTNERSHIPS





SEPTEMBER 27-28, 2026



BILLINGS HOTEL &
CONVENTION CENTER

2026 FALL LEADERSHIP RALLY

TRAIN YOUR LEADERS. LAUNCH YOUR CHAPTER. BUILD YOUR PROGRAM OF WORK.

WHERE
LEADERS
ARE MADE



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
RHETT LAUBACH

Inspiring leaders to grow,
connect, and take action.

Learn more about Rhett at
yournextspeaker.com



WHO CAN ATTEND?

- Three Chapter Leader attendees
- Three Chapter Officer attendees
- Three State Outreach Project training attendees.
- Additionally, all District and State Officers, and Chapter Advisers



REGISTRATION

Regular registration fees.
Conference materials, dinner Sunday,
lunch Monday, and an attendee gift!

\$75

EARLY REGISTRATION

Reserve places; add names
between **May 27-September 1**

\$100

REGULAR REGISTRATION

Register your members
between **September 2-13**.



Registration closes **September 13**.

No registration changes can be
made after **September 13**.

All balances are due by **September 20**.



LODGING

- Billings Hotel &
Convention Center
- \$122 per quad room plus taxes;
includes free breakfast
- To register, visit
billingshotelmt.com
or call 406-248-7151.
- Room block is
released **September 1**.



KEY DATES

Sept 1 Early registration deadline
Hotel room block released

Sept 13 Registration closes
No changes after this date

Sept 20 All balances due



PRE-CONFERENCE SPECIAL EVENT!

Arrive early and explore ZooMontana for
only \$5 per person; Pre-registration is
required for this special event.

**Attendees must arrive between
9:30-9:45AM on September 27.**

PARTICIPATION OPTIONS



CHAPTER & DISTRICT OFFICERS

Chapter Officer attendees and District Officers will hone
leadership and teamwork skills, developing plans to enhance
opportunities for their chapter program of work for the year.

- Each chapter may register three attendees for this track,
as well as any FCCLA District Officers from their chapter.



NEW LEADERS

New Leader attendees will explore all that FCCLA offers to
members, developing a personal plan for engagement and
growth during the year.

- Each chapter may register three new chapter leaders
for this track.



STATE OUTREACH PROJECT LEADERS

State Outreach Project training attendees will explore the
FCCLA national program Career Connection, developing a
plan for local outreach projects sharing career exploration and
preparation activities for the year.

- Each chapter may register three State Outreach Project
track attendees.



CHAPTER ADVISERS

Adviser professional development sessions focus on chapter
management, Montana FCCLA programming, and a deep dive
into integrating Career Connection into FCS coursework, as
well as networking and mentorship opportunities. Advisers in
their first three years of advising are encouraged to arrive early
for New Adviser Training, starting at 11:30 on September 27.



Count on the Montana FCCLA Fall Leadership Rally to offer training for your Chapter
and District Officers, New Leaders, State Outreach Project Leaders and professional
development for advisers.

The full conference agenda will be available in late May. Expect the conference to begin
at 2PM on Sunday, September 27 and conclude by 2:30 on Monday, September 28.



**FALL LEADERSHIP RALLY IS
HOSTED BY YOUR 2026-27
STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**



MONTANA
STATE ASSOCIATION



**SECURE YOUR CHAPTER'S SPOT TODAY!
REGISTER ONLINE AT
MTFCCLA.ORG**

