

FFA Motto:
**Learning to Do,
Doing to Learn,
Earning to Live,
Living to Serve.**



Columbia-Brazoria FFA Member Handbook 2023-2024

"Columbia-Brazoria ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission to or employment in its educational programs or activities."

Hello and welcome to Columbia-Brazoria FFA!

We are so glad that you have decided to be a part of the Columbia-Brazoria FFA! This handbook will help you answer any questions that you may have regarding our FFA chapter. We are looking forward to this year and cannot wait to meet with all of you throughout the year!

2023-2024 Columbia-Brazoria FFA Officers

President- Sydney Sorensen
Vice President- Jenna Ringgold
Secretary- Colten Richard
Treasurer- Evelyn Wallace
Reporter- Olivia Winegeart
Sentinel- Elizabeth Yonts
Student Advisor- Katelyn Keen
Historian- Kaleb Parten

Columbia-Brazoria Agriculture Sciences Department Contact Info

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Columbia-Brazoria FFA Website / Social Media

Columbia-Brazoria FFA has its own website which contains lots of information about Ag Classes, Alumni Chapter Information, FFA Information, Links to Livestock Show Rules, and a Calendar.

Website: www.columbiabrazoriaffa.ffa.org
Like us on Facebook: Columbia-Brazoria FFA
SportsYou: 52PF-F3F2

FFA Costs

FFA Membership and Dues

Annual Membership dues are required to become a member of the Columbia-Brazoria FFA, and the cost of the FFA dues are paid for by the Columbia-Brazoria Independent School District. This includes dues for Local, District III-Southwest, Area III, Texas FFA Association, and the National FFA Organization. Membership also includes a subscription to the FFA Horizons Magazine which will arrive sometime after January 1st.

In order to be considered an **ACTIVE MEMBER** of the Columbia-Brazoria FFA Chapter and compete/participate in **all aspects of the Columbia-Brazoria FFA Chapter**, you must abide by the following rules:

1. Be enrolled in at least one year-long Ag Science class during the course of the membership year.
2. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.
3. Pay a CBFFA Travel Fee of \$30.00, which will include your FFA Chapter T-shirt, which must be worn to various FFA events and competitions.
4. Have successfully completed the Random Drug Test, Medical History, and Emergency Contact forms in online RankOne system.

Columbia-Brazoria Jr. FFA Membership and Dues

Jr. FFA membership is open to Columbia-Brazoria ISD students that are in grades 3-7 that are not in an Ag Science course. Dues for Junior Members will be \$25.00 and includes your Chapter t-shirt. Joining the Columbia-Brazoria Jr. FFA allows the member to participate in local meetings as well as showing at county and major livestock shows under the supervision of the Ag Science teachers. Since they are not enrolled in a high school Ag Science class they are not allowed to participate in LDE's that are sponsored by the Texas FFA. Columbia-Brazoria Jr. FFA members will be considered active and remain active FFA members as long as they pay their dues and attend both the first FFA meeting and three additional meetings during the year, including the annual awards banquet.

FFA Jackets

FFA Jackets can be purchased for \$85. This will include your jacket and a tie / scarf and cover shipping costs. Students who need a jacket "tailored" because a standard size does not fit them properly (i.e. extra long arms) are charged an additional \$20. Please allow approximately 4 weeks for delivery. All members are encouraged to purchase a FFA Jacket if they have plans of competing on LDE's or CDE's. All jacket orders will be placed by the Agriscience Instructors. No jackets will be delivered to students until they have paid in full. Each year a jacket will be awarded to the Greenhand at both the Junior High and High School campuses who says their FFA Creed from memory first. The second Greenhand to accomplish this task at each campus will receive a jacket at half price.

FFA Chapter Shirts & Hoodies

FFA Chapter shirts are available to purchase for \$15.00 and hoodies/sweatshirts are available to purchase for \$40.00. These can be purchased through any Ag Teacher. The 2023-2024 Officer Team designed this year's shirt and hoodie.

State Convention

Texas FFA convention is the highlight of Texas FFA's year. Nearly 12,000 FFA members, advisors, administrators, alumni, parents and industry partners come together to celebrate the achievements won by the past and present generations of agriculturalists, while continuing to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success. Attendees will be inspired and motivated to take pride in our industry, serve our communities, and become leaders of the next generation. While at the convention, FFA members and guests will experience motivational speakers, award presentations, exciting exhibits, and plenty of entertaining activities. Tentative costs are estimated at \$100 a student and this includes transportation, hotel, three lunches, registration costs, and a fun day activity.

FFA Member Participation

Every FFA member should take advantage of the variety of activities that the FFA has to offer. We will recognize those members of the FFA who have actively participated in the many activities offered. Additionally, members will not be selected to travel to any District, Area, or State FFA activities unless they have been active in local chapter activities and have paid their CBFFA Travel Fee. Sign in sheets will be at each activity held. Please make sure you sign your name on the sheet to receive credit.

Activities:

- Local Activities
 - Chapter meetings
 - Chapter fundraisers
 - Community service projects
 - Serving on a committee
 - Recruitment Activities
 - Teacher Appreciation Luncheons
 - National FFA Week Activities
 - Chapter Banquet
- District Convention
- Area Convention
- LDE's / CDE's / SDE's
- District, Area, State and National level camps and conferences
- Exhibiting Animals at Major and County Livestock Shows
- Participating with the Shooting Club
- Participating in FFA Sanctioned Rodeos
- Other SAE activities

Columbia-Brazoria FFA & Agriscience **Department Code of Conduct**

FFA Members should conduct themselves at all times to be a credit to their organization, chapter, school, community, and family. Requirements and Expectations at school and during all school sponsored activities are outlined below:

FFA members should:

1. Communicate in an appropriate manner.
2. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
3. Respect the rights of others and their property.
4. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.
5. Follow all Columbia-Brazoria ISD school rules and policies.

FFA Members Will Not:

1. Be a part of robbery and/or theft.
2. Assault or vandalize people or their property.
3. Fight or be a part of a violent situation.

4. Use or be in possession of fireworks or firearms of any type while on school grounds or at a school-related activity.
5. Be a part of sexual harassment situations.
6. Use unethical practices to show or exhibit their projects.
7. Partake, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol beverages.
8. Partake, possess, or be under the influence of tobacco, vapes, cigarettes, or other inhaled nicotine products.
9. Partake of, possess or be under the influence of illegal substances.
10. Partake in, or be negatively involved in social media and cyberbullying of any kind.
11. Initiating negative comments and connotations about the Columbia-Brazoria Ag Science Department, instructors, or other members and affiliates on social media.

Consequences:

- Notification of Columbia-Brazoria ISD Administration and appropriate authorities.
- Notification of the parent or guardian.
- Removal of student from the activity.
- Removal of the animal or exhibit. The animal or exhibit will be declared ineligible for further participation in the event.
- Upon returning to the school, consequences outlined in the Columbia-Brazoria ISD Student Handbook will be enforced.

Meetings

Columbia-Brazoria FFA will hold a meeting once a month during the school year. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm and will be held at CHS unless you are notified otherwise. Meetings are an important function of the FFA and all members are encouraged to attend as chapter business is voted upon and important information is passed out. FFA Meetings are highly recommended that you attend.

The 2023-2024 Meetings will be held on the following dates:

August 28, 2023	November 13, 2023	January 29, 2024
September 25, 2023	December 11, 2023	March 25, 2024
October 30, 2023		April 29, 2024

FFA Banquet May 7, 2024

The Annual FFA banquet is a celebration of the Columbia-Brazoria FFA member’s achievements throughout the year. Every member and their parents are encouraged to attend. All members should wear their FFA Official Dress.

Columbia-Brazoria FFA Alumni Chapter

The Columbia-Brazoria FFA Alumni Chapter is made up of parents and extended family members of current and former FFA students, members of the community, business leaders, and former FFA students. The purpose of the Alumni Chapter is to support the Columbia-Brazoria FFA program and its members. Money raised from fundraisers is used to support the FFA chapter with various activities as needed, as well as funding FFA scholarships for seniors at the end of every year. Alumni meetings are held each

month in conjunction with the monthly FFA Chapter meetings. Your participation allows for families and community members to work together to ensure the success of our students! More information can be found on the Columbia-Brazoria FFA Alumni Facebook page and from the Agriculture Science Teachers.

FFA Officers

As an FFA member, you have the opportunity to run for a chapter, district, area, state and national office. As an officer you are in a position of leadership, which will require time and energy. Running for office is not a decision that should be taken lightly.

Chapter Officer Elections – Officer Elections are held at the end of April or beginning of May each year. To declare yourself as an officer candidate, you must complete an officer application and turn it in to an Ag Science Teacher by the deadline, which is communicated by the Ag Science Teachers. The officer candidates complete a 3 part election process as follows:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. FFA Officer Interview (Conducted by outside Interview Panel) | 40% |
| 2. Vote by Columbia-Brazoria FFA Membership | 30% |
| 3. Columbia-Brazoria FFA General Knowledge / Parliamentary Procedure Exam | 20% |
| 4. Legible handwritten FFA Officer Application (to be graded by outside judges) | 10% |

***In the case of a tie, the interview will break the tie. In the case of an additional tie, the test score will be the second tiebreaker.

For more information on running for a district, area, state or national officer position, contact an Ag Science teacher.

FFA Motto

Learning to Do
Doing to Learn
Earning to Live
Living to Serve

FFA Mission Statement

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The FFA Creed

I believe in the future of agriculture with a faith born not of words but of deeds - achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so - for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

Opening and Closing Ceremonies

President States: **FFA members, why are we here?**

Members rise in unison on the third tap and respond:

To Practice Brotherhood, honor agricultural opportunities and responsibilities and develop those qualities of leadership which an FFA member should possess.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: *(please note, there is NO comma after nation. Do not pause.) I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.*

Dress Code

At all FFA events that Columbia-Brazoria FFA attends that do not require Official Dress, a certain level of professionalism and presentation in regards to dress code is required. All clothing and personal hygiene must abide by the CBISD Dress Code policy in addition to the guidelines listed below. All CDE contests and other FFA activities (unless otherwise stated) will abide by the State FFA CDE Dress Code.

Official Dress and FFA Officer/Committee Attire:

The uniform worn by FFA members at local, district, area, state, and national functions is called official dress. It provides identity and a distinctive, recognizable image to the organization.

Female members should wear:

Black skirt: hem should be at the knee
White collared blouse

Male members should wear:

Black pants or slacks
White collared shirt

Official FFA Scarf
Black Nylon hosiery
Black dress shoes: closed toe/heel/no embellishing
Official FFA Jacket: zipped to top
***NO FACIAL JEWELRY
***HAIR MUST BE OF NATURAL COLOR
***NO VISIBLE TATTOOS
***NO DISTRACTING JEWELRY

Official FFA Tie
Black socks
Black Shoes/Boots (low top dress shoes)
Official FFA Jacket: zipped to top
***FACIAL HAIR MUST BE CLEAN SHAVEN
***HAIR MUST BE OFF COLLAR/IN PONYTAILS
***HAIR MUST BE OF NATURAL COLOR
***NO EAR OR FACIAL JEWELRY
***NO VISIBLE TATTOOS
***NO HATS/CAPS WORN

For the HLSR AGventure and/or other activities approved by the Ag Teachers Ladies may wear:

Black Slacks/Black Jeans- limited sparkles
Plain Black closed-toe, closed heel shoes/boots
Black socks if socks are visible
Black belt- limited sparkles

CDEs:

- Buttoned down, collared shirt
- Nice Jeans or Slacks that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes.
- Closed Toe Shoes are required
- No Caps or Hats (*except hard hats in meats contest*)
 - *NO FACIAL JEWELRY, HAIR MUST BE OF NATURAL COLOR, MALES MUST BE CLEAN SHAVEN, NO VISIBLE TATTOOS, NO DISTRACTING JEWELRY, NO EARRINGS FOR MALES, AND NO HATS OR CAPS TO BE WORN*

Showing Livestock, Ag Mechanics and Shooting Sports:

- Collared Shirt, tucked into pants
- Nice Jeans that fit at the waist and are free of fading or holes.
- Closed Toe Shoes are required – IE need to wear boots or leather shoes
- Belt should be worn
- No Caps or Hats while showing
- Hair should be pulled away from face and look orderly.
 - *NO FACIAL JEWELRY, HAIR MUST BE OF NATURAL COLOR, MALES MUST BE CLEAN SHAVEN, NO VISIBLE TATTOOS, NO DISTRACTING JEWELRY, NO EARRINGS FOR MALES, AND NO HATS OR CAPS TO BE WORN (COWBOY HATS IN THE SHOWRING ARE ACCEPTABLE)*

Traveling:

Changing on long trips will be at the teacher's discretion. There will be no changing in any vehicle. After advisor's permission is granted students may change only right before departing the location in the appropriate place. IE bathrooms.

Leadership Activities

The following activities are offered to all members in the Columbia-Brazoria FFA. Some activities may have prerequisites based upon leadership achievements.

Fall Semester

- FFA Greenhand Orientation
- District FFA Greenhand Camp
- Area III Greenhand Camp
- Brazoria County Fair
- National FFA Convention (if we qualify)
- District, Area & State Leadership Development Events
- Fall semester Livestock Judging

Spring Semester

- Elite Conference
- Career Development Events (Judging Contests)
- Fort Worth Livestock Show
- San Antonio Livestock Show
- San Angelo Ag Mechanics Show
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
- Rodeo Austin Livestock Show
- Speaking Development Events
- Ag Science Fair
- Program Sales
- Tour Guiding
- Officer Opportunities (Chapter, District, Area, and State)
- District Convention
- Area Convention

Summer Break

- District Leadership Camp for Chapter Officers
- Chapter Officer Retreat
- State FFA Convention

Leadership Development Events (LDEs)

Leadership Development Events (LDE's) are held during the fall semester of the year. These events help you develop public speaking and leadership skills. Columbia-Brazoria FFA competes in as many contests as we can each year. You must compete at the district level and place either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd to compete at the area and state level. You must win the state contest in order to compete at the National Contest. Lists of the contests are below:

Jr. & Sr. FFA Skills	Jr. & Sr. Creed Speaking	Job Interview
Jr. & Sr. FFA Quiz Team	Radio Broadcasting	Ag Advocacy
	FFA Public Relations	

Should a student miss a competitive event due to unreasonable circumstances unapproved by an advisor, the student/parent will be responsible for the competition fee for that individual's student event.

Speaking Development Events (SDE's)

Public Speaking contests are held in the spring of each semester. You must compete at the district level and place either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd to compete at the area and state level. You must win the state contest in order to compete at the National Contest.

Extemporaneous Speaking:

Gather information in binders or a USB flash drive, draw a topic at the contest and then you have 30 minutes to prepare and then deliver a speech over a drawn topic.

Jr. Prepared Speaking:

Deliver an original prepared speech over the topic of your choice. Greenhand students in 8th and 9th can compete.

Sr. Prepared Speaking:

Deliver and original prepared speech in one of the six categories below:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| ***Natural Resources | ***Agricultural Policy |
| ***Plant Science | ***Agribusiness |
| ***Animal Science | ***Agriculture Technology and Communications |

Should a student miss a competitive event due to unreasonable circumstances unapproved by an advisor, the student/parent will be responsible for the competition fee for that individual's student event.

Career Development Events (CDE's)

There are many different Career Development Events (CDE's) that are held in the spring semester of the school year. You must place either in the top 5 or in the top 15% of all teams competing in that event at the Area contest in order to advance and compete at the State contest. Some contests advance to National competition and some do not. The list below is a sample of the CDE contests that the Ag Teachers have trained in the past. We are open to trying new contests and not limited to the contests below.

Horse Evaluation, Livestock Evaluation, Milk Quality, Poultry Evaluation, Entomology, Floriculture, Nursery Landscape, Wildlife, Land Evaluation, Vet Science, and Shooting Sports

Should a student miss a competitive event due to unreasonable circumstances unapproved by an advisor, the student/parent will be responsible for the competition fee for that individual's student event.

TP&W Shooting Sports Team

The Columbia-Brazoria FFA Shooting Sports Program participates in the Clay Target Shooting Program, also known as Ag Clays, created by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. This program is open to students who are enrolled in or have completed the Wildlife, Fisheries, and Ecology Management Class ("the Wildlife class") and is designed to help students develop personal skills that may be carried on throughout a lifetime of enjoyment of the outdoors.

A variety of shooting sports competitions are held throughout the state that offer team and individual prizes, as well as cash scholarships. This year, The CBFFA Shooting Sports Program will participate in the San Antonio Stock Show shoot, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo shoot, and the Ag Clays State Tournament, as well as other shoots throughout the year.

To be eligible to participate on the team, students must follow strict rules and guidelines. Among these rules, participants must meet all FFA membership requirements for the current year, make 80% of scheduled practices in order to be considered for State Competition; participants must provide his/her own firearms, ammo, hearing protection, shooting glasses, and pay for all competition entry fees, range fees, hotel fees, etc.

Awards, Degrees, & Member Recognition

The following is a description of the awards that are available to members at various times throughout the school year. These are awarded at the chapter level as well as at the District, Area, State, and National Level.

Star Awards

All students are eligible to apply for the Chapter Star Awards Program. Applications will be graded by the Ag Science Teachers and points are awarded for participation based off of the CBFFA Letterman Jacket Point System. Star Awards are also available at the District, Area, and State level.

- Star Greenhand (1st year FFA Member)
- Star Chapter (2nd year FFA member)
- Blue Award (FFA member in their Junior year)
- Gold Award (FFA member in their Senior year)

Proficiency Awards

To apply for proficiency awards at the chapter level you must complete the application that will be passed out in March. Proficiency awards are given to members that excel in various Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) areas. Proficiency Awards are also available at the District, Area, and State level. For more information on how to apply at the district, area, and state level talk to an Ag Teacher.

FFA Degrees

There are four degrees available to Columbia-Brazoria FFA members. Each degree has certain criteria that must be met. Below is a brief description of the awards, when they may be received and some of the criteria that must be met in order to be awarded these degrees. (Refer to the Columbia-Brazoria FFA, Texas FFA, and National FFA Constitution)

Greenhand Degree:

Given to a 1st year FFA member.

1. Be enrolled in agricultural education and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program.
2. Learn and explain the FFA Creed, motto, salute and FFA mission statement.
3. Describe and explain the meaning of the FFA emblem and colors.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of the history of the organization, the chapter constitution and bylaws and the chapter Program of Activities.
6. Personally own or have access to the Official FFA Manual and the Official FFA Student Handbook.
7. Submit a written application for the Greenhand FFA Degree.

Chapter Degree:

Given to 2nd year FFA members.

1. Must have received the Greenhand FFA Degree.
2. Must have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least 180 hours of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, have in operation an approved supervised agricultural experience program and be enrolled in an agriculture science course.
3. Have participated in the planning and conducting of at least three official functions in the chapter's Program of Activities.
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
 - a. earned and productively invested at least \$150 by the member's own efforts; or worked at least 45 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or a combination thereof; and
 - b. developed plans for continued growth and improvement in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Have effectively led a group discussion for 15 minutes.
6. Have demonstrated five procedures of parliamentary law.
7. Show progress toward individual achievement in the FFA award programs.
8. Have a satisfactory scholastic record.
9. Have participated in at least 10 hours of community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.
10. Submit a written application for the Chapter FFA Degree.

Lone Star Degree:

Given to 3rd year FFA members.

1. Have received the Chapter FFA Degree.
2. Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree.
3. While in school, have completed the equivalent of at least two years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at or above the ninth grade level, which includes FFA traditions
4. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
 - a. earned and productively invested at least \$1,000; or
 - b. worked at least 300 hours in excess of scheduled class time; or
 - c. a combination thereof, in a supervised agricultural experience program.
5. Demonstrate leadership ability by:
 - a. Performing 10 procedures of parliamentary law.
 - b. Giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or FFA.
 - c. Serving as an officer, committee chairperson or participating member of a chapter committee.
6. Have a satisfactory scholastic record as certified by the local agricultural education instructor and the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in the planning and completion of the chapter's Program of Activities.
8. Have participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level.
9. Have participated in at least 25 hours of community service, within at least two different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.

American Degree:

Given to an FFA Member the year after they have graduated High School.

1. Have received the State FFA Degree, have been an active member for the past three years (36 months) and have a record of satisfactory participation in the activities on the chapter and state levels.
2. Have satisfactorily completed the equivalent of at least three years (540 hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an agricultural education program, or have completed at least the equivalent of 360 hours of systematic secondary school instruction in agricultural education and one full year of enrollment in a postsecondary agricultural program, or have completed the program of agricultural education offered in the secondary school last attended.
3. Have graduated from high school at least 12 months prior to the national convention at which the degree is to be granted.
4. Have in operation and have maintained records to substantiate an outstanding supervised agricultural experience program, through which the member has exhibited comprehensive planning and managerial and financial expertise.
5. A student after entering agricultural education must have:
 - a. earned at least \$10,000 and productively invested at least \$7,500; or
 - b. earned and productively invested \$2,000 and worked 2,250 hours in excess of scheduled class time. Any combination of hours, times a factor of 3.56, plus actual dollars earned and productively invested must be equal to or greater than the number 10,000. Hours used for the purpose of producing earnings reported as productively invested income shall not be duplicated as hours of credit to meet the minimum requirements for the degree.
6. Have a record of outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement and have achieved a high school scholastic record of "C" or better as certified by the principal or superintendent.
7. Have participated in at least 50 hours of community service, within at least three different community service activities. These hours are in addition to and cannot be duplicated as paid or unpaid supervised agricultural experience hours.
8. Applicants must submit an application with the signatures of the chapter president, chapter advisor, superintendent or principal, and state advisor or state executive secretary, certifying accuracy of all statements in the application and that the applicant conducted him/herself in a manner to be a credit to the organization, chapter and community.

Fundraising Activities

The Columbia-Brazoria FFA does many activities throughout the year that require money. Our community service projects, food and refreshments at meetings, transportation costs, camp registration fees, entry fees for Leadership and Judging Teams, our banquet, and other activities that we participate in take a large sum of money to support. **YOU ARE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES THAT WE HAVE.** The more money that our group earns, the more activities we can participate in. Fundraising activities will vary from year to year, so join our fundraisers and take an active role in supporting your chapter. **Incentives are only based on the number of items sold in the yearly meat/fruit/desserts FFA fundraiser.**

2023-2024 CBFBA (8th grade-12th grade) Fundraising Incentives:

- Highest Items Sales Member (Must have sold at least 75 items): Custom FFA buckle
 - Only one buckle given for Highest Items Sales Member
- 50 items or more sold: Receive a free FFA Jacket and tie/scarf or \$85.00 FFA Store Credit
- 30 items or more sold: Custom FFA RTIC cup
- 20 items or more sold: 2 Free FFA Banquet Ticket

2023-2024 CBFBA Junior FFA (3rd grade-7th grade) Fundraising Incentives:

- Highest Items Sales Member (Must have sold at least 75 items): Custom FFA buckle
 - Only one buckle given for Highest Items Sales Member
- 50 items or more sold: \$85.00 FFA Store Credit
- 30 items or more sold: Custom FFA RTIC cup
- 20 items or more sold: 2 Free FFA Banquet Ticket

Scholarship Opportunities

There are over \$2 million in scholarships given out to Texas FFA members each year at the State FFA Convention. There are also many local scholarships that are available to FFA members as well. Below is a list of some of the scholarships that are available to qualifying FFA members. Many scholarships are based on FFA activities. It is important that you participate in as many FFA activities as possible beginning with your freshman year. Check with the Ag Teachers about deadlines.

1. Scholarship Opportunities through Texas FFA Association Scholarship Programs

Graduating Seniors apply during the Spring Semester at the District Degree Check. Scholarship is based on academic rank (must be in top 25% for Houston, top 50% for the others), SAT/ACT scores (minimum 1000 on SAT, minimum of 20 on ACT), financial need and FFA activities. A minimum of seven members from each Area Association will advance to state interviews to compete for these awards.

- San Antonio Livestock Show \$20,000
- Houston Livestock Show \$20,000
 - You do not have to be an Agricultural or Life Science Major to receive this scholarship.
- Rodeo Austin Scholarship \$16,000
- Richard Wallrath Education Foundation \$10,000
- Jim Bob Norman Memorial \$10,000
- C.J. "Red" Davidson \$8,000
- Southwestern Exposition \$4,000
- Farm Credit Bank of Texas \$2,000
- Texas Agricultural Education Fund \$2,000
- Young Farmers of Texas \$2,000
- Vickie Rosenbusch Memorial Scholarship \$2,000

2. National FFA Scholarships

Graduating seniors apply for various scholarships. Students may obtain an application from www.ffa.org, the National FFA website. Eligibility requirements and award amounts are listed as well.

3. Columbia-Brazoria FFA Alumni Scholarship

Graduating seniors who have been an active, dues-paying FFA member for two years may apply for the Columbia-Brazoria FFA Alumni Scholarship. Applications can be picked up each spring from the Counselors' Offices. Please see/speak to the Alumni chapter for updates and more information.

4. Brazoria County Fair Scholarship

Graduating seniors who have participated in the Brazoria County Fair are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applications will be available during the spring semester on the fair's website www.bcfa.org.

5. Agriscience Fair Competition

The Agriscience Fair offers the opportunity for members to demonstrate their agriscience abilities through a science fair competition. These competitions are available at most major stock shows and through Texas FFA. Various scholarships are awarded at each of these events.

6. Proficiency and Star Awards

Students can obtain various scholarships through participation in advanced awards. Students who win on the state and national levels will receive scholarships.

7. Career Development Events

Students can win various scholarships at various contests if they win high individual honors. Additionally, colleges scout judging team members and offer those students with exceptional abilities scholarships to judge at their universities or colleges, respectively.

Letterman Jacket Qualifying Criteria

Students who participate in FFA and have earned the requisite number of points during the current school year will be eligible. The Student will pay for the letterman jacket with the vinyl sleeve. All upgrades and patches are purchased and paid for by the student and or parent.

Criteria for Attainment of Letterman Jacket

- Students must be an active member of the Columbia-Brazoria FFA Chapter in the year in which he/she is eligible for a letterman jacket.
- Students must earn a combination of **30 points from three separate categories** to receive a letter jacket.
- We will use JudgingCard.com to identify and confirm placements at LDE, CDE and Speaking Contests.
- "Majors" include: State Fair, Star of Texas, Houston, San Antonio, Fort Worth, San Angelo, Austin
- "Events" such as BCFA that have multiple shows within a species will count as 1 event. Example: BCFA commercial heifer, open heifer show, Scramble show will count as 1 event total.
- Shooting Competitions that have multiple disciplines will count as one event. Example SALE that has trap and sporting clays will count as one event total.
- **Community Service points will only be awarded for hours worked/served in an approved capacity by the Ag Science Teachers. Items donated will no longer count towards letterman jacket points!**

Leadership Development Events

- Participate in LDE Contest 1 pt per team per year
- Top ten (individual or team) at any LDE contest, including District 2 pts per team per year
- Member of Area-qualifying LDE Team 2 pts per team per year
- Member of State-qualifying LDE Team 5 pts per team per year
- Member of State LDE Team placing in Top 10 7 pts per team per year
- Winning State LDE Contest 15 pts per team

Career Development Events

- Participate in CDE Contest 1 pt per team per year
- Member of team placing Top 10 at any CDE contest, including Area 2 pts per team per year
- Top ten individual at any Area or State CDE Contest 2 pts per team per year
- Member of State-qualifying CDE Team 5 pts per team per year
- Member of State CDE Team placing in Top 10 7 pts per team per year
- Winning State CDE Contest 15 pts per team

Speaking Events

- Participate in Speaking Event 1 pt per team year
- Placing Top Ten at any speaking event contest 2 pts per team per year
- Compete in District Speaking event 1 pts per team per year
- Compete in Area Speaking event 2 pts per team per year
- Compete in State Speaking Event 5 pts per team per year
- Placing in Top 10 at State Speaking Event 7 pts per team per year

Ag Mechanics

- Participate in Ag Mechanics show 1 pt per project per event
- Earning a Blue ribbon with Ag Mech project at any show 2 pts per project per event
- Exhibiting a placing Ag Mech project in class at county show or Blinn 3 pts per project per event
- Winning Showmanship at Brazoria County Fair, Blinn, or Majors 7 pts per event per event
- Division Winner or Grand/Reserve Overall at County Show or Blinn 5 pts per project per event
- Grand or Reserve Overall at Majors 15 pts per project per event

Livestock Shows

- Exhibiting an animal at Brazoria County Fair or Majors 1 pt/species/FFA event
- Winning Showmanship at Brazoria County Fair or Majors 7 pts/species/FFA event
- Winning Grand Overall at Brazoria County Fair 7 pts/species/FFA event
- Winning Reserve Overall at Brazoria County Fair 5 pts/species/FFA event
- Win class at Brazoria County Fair 3 pts/species/FFA event
- Making sale at Brazoria County Fair 3 pts/species/FFA event
- Making sale at Majors 5 pts/species/FFA event
- Win class at Majors 5 pts/species/FFA event
- Place Top 24 poultry at Majors 10 pts/species/FFA event
- Majors Championship Banner (Division/Reserve/Grand Champion) 15 pts/species/FFA event
- Participating in the BCFA Calf Scramble 1 pt/year
- Catching in the BCFA Calf Scramble 1 pt/year
- Participating in a Major Show Calf Scramble 1 pt/FFA event/year

- Catching in a Major Show Calf Scramble 1 pt/FFA event/year

Ag Clays Shooting Team (will only earn points if competing as a CBFFA Shooting Team Member)

- Member of the Ag Clays Shooting Team 2 pts per year
- Placing Top 10 at a shooting competition 2 pts per event
- Placing Top 10 at Majors / State Ag Clays shooting competition 5 pts per event
- Earning banner at Majors / State Ag Clays State Ag Clays Shoot 7 pts per event
- Winning high individual at Majors / State Ag Clays Shoot 7 pts per event
- Winning State Contest at FFA State Shoot 15 pts per event per year

FFA Rodeo

- Competing in FFA Rodeo (BCFA Series, SALE Rodeo, TXFFA Rodeo) 1 pt per event per year
- Competing for Brazoria County Rodeo Queen 1 pt per year
- Winning Brazoria County Rodeo Queen 7 pts per year
- Placing Top 10 at a FFA Rodeo event 2 pts per event
- Winning high individual at an FFA Rodeo in an event 7 pts per event

FFA Talent Competition

- Talent team competes at District Level 1 pt per year
- Talent team competes at Area Level 2 pts per year
- Talent team qualifies for state 7 pts per year
- Talent team wins state 15 pts

FFA Ag Science Fair

- Exhibit an ag science fair project (majors or state convention) 1 pt per year
- Top 10 ag science fair project (majors or state convention) 7 pts/event/year
- Win state ag science fair project (majors or state convention) 15 pts

Awards, Officers & Misc.

- Running for chapter office 1 pt per year
- Making chapter officer 2 pts per year
- Running for District / Area officer 1 pt per year
- Elected District / Area officer 3 pts per year
- Selling over \$1,000 in fundraisers 3 pts/fundraiser/year
 - 1 point per additional \$500 raised
- Earn Greenhand Degree 1 pt
- Receiving Star Greenhand Honor / Award 2 pts
- Earning Chapter Degree 1 pt
- Receiving Star Chapter Honor / Award 2 pts
- State Convention Involvement 2 pts per year
 - Courtesy Corps, FFA Ambassador, Media
- Ford Scholar Program 5 pts
- Earning Lone Star FFA Degree 15 pts
- Apply for Star or Proficiency Area Level 2 pts per year

Commented [1]: Add Mid Winter & DLC & ALC

Commented [2]: Done

- Apply for Star or Proficiency State Level 3 pts per year
- Winning Star / Proficiency Award State Level 15 pts
- CBFFA Sponsored Community Service 1 pt per day
 - Tour guides, parking cars, beach clean-ups, etc. At teacher's discretion.

FFA Graduation Cords

Students who meet *at least one of the following criteria* by the FFA Banquet of their Senior Year will be eligible for their graduation cords.

- Meet minimum requirements and apply for the Texas FFA Lone Star Degree via the AET Record Book System
- Qualify for a State LDE, CDE, or SDE contest
- Make the finals at the State FFA Shooting Competition
- Must have at least 50 cumulative hours of community service as documented in the AET Record Book System (Must have been completed on or after a member's first day as an Ag Science student)
- Serve as a Columbia-Brazoria FFA Officer for two years, one of which being your senior year

County Fairs & Major Livestock Shows

Columbia-Brazoria FFA is able to participate in the following County Fair & Major Livestock Shows

- Brazoria County Fair
- Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo
- San Antonio Livestock Expo
- Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo
- Rodeo Austin Livestock Show (only if participants have never attended before with that species)

Show Entries

The Agricultural Science teachers will assist in making arrangements for participation in any approved county and major livestock shows by holding a meeting to collect all entries. Entries in all other shows will be the responsibility of the student. It is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to be familiar with all rules pertaining to his/her livestock project (this information may include weight limits, entry requirements, age, etc.) Major Livestock Show Entries will be completed in November of each year.

Travel to and from Shows / Hotels / Meals

At least one parent or guardian is recommended to attend all livestock, agricultural mechanics shows, and shooting contests with their exhibitor. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to make arrangements to get themselves to and from shows as well as make arrangements for the hauling of their projects to and from shows. Please notify the FFA Advisors AT THE VARIOUS ENTRY MEETINGS if you are needing

transportation to and/or from various shows. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor's family to purchase hotel rooms and all meals while at the shows. The Ag Science Teachers will travel with families to various stock shows in the following scenarios:

- If there are more than five students participating
- If there are less than five students and one of the students is a first-year participant at that particular event

All expenses will be the responsibility of the competing FFA member. At least one parent of all Junior FFA exhibitors MUST accompany the exhibitor to ALL shows, including the Brazoria County Fair.

Equipment / Trailer Use

The trailer may be pulled by a parent of an FFA member as long as they have completed the necessary paperwork and provided proof of insurance to CBISD. The trailers are not allowed in any capacity to cross state lines. The truck may only be driven by the Ag Science teachers or CBISD employees. All other equipment is available for use to the members. It must be returned in working order and in good repair or the student will be expected to repair and/or replace the equipment, such as scales, chutes, blowers, etc.

Responsibilities to Buyers

The student will write, gain instructor approval, and deliver a Thank You note to the individuals who provide the premium money or the buyer of their project. A photograph of the exhibitor and their project should accompany the note if at all possible. Some Thank you notes will have a deadline to be completed by. These deadlines will be announced in class and in the monthly newsletter.

AgriLearn/Quality Counts Certification

Texas has the largest number of 4-H and FFA livestock projects in the nation. Young people participate at the county, district, regional and state level. The tremendous support and dedication of livestock show officials help make this possible. With this opportunity comes a responsibility for each exhibitor to learn and demonstrate the highest standards, both in personal character and in the feeding and care of their animals.

"Quality Counts" is designed to teach young people the importance of displaying good character in carrying out livestock projects, and in every aspect of their lives. "Quality Counts" helps them learn the importance of using proper livestock management practices so that food quality and safety are preserved.

Each student that exhibits a livestock project at a livestock show in the State of Texas must complete the online Quality Counts program. The website is <http://agrilife.org/qualitycounts/verification/>.

Rank One

All students participating in extra-curricular or co-curricular activities must have their respective Random Drug Test, Medical History, and Emergency Contact information on file before members are allowed to travel and participate with the CBFFA Chapter.

Columbia-Brazoria FFA Chapter Handbook Acknowledgement

I, _____ have read and fully understand the Columbia-Brazoria FFA chapter handbook. I agree to abide by the constitution, by-laws and handbook or face the consequences. I promise to uphold the principles of the Columbia-Brazoria FFA chapter and remain a member in good standing.

Student Printed Name

Date

Student's Signature

Date

Parent Printed Name

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

Parent Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Relation: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

STUDENT T-SHIRT SIZE _____