

2026 Florida Future Educators of America (FFEA) State Conference

I. PLANNING INFORMATION

Location:

DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Orlando 5780 Major Blvd Orlando, Florida 32819 1-800-407-351-1000

Dates:

January 16 - January 18, 2026

Conference Attendees:

High school members (sophomores, juniors and seniors only), advisors and chaperones.

Registration Information:

\$175.00 per person

All chapters are required to submit a completed online registration form, which is located at 2026 FFEA State Conference Registration by Monday, December 1, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET, and full registration payment for the number of individuals registered is also due on Monday, December 1, 2025. Late registration/payment will NOT be permitted except in extreme circumstances and with advanced approval from the FFEA State Coordinator.

Payment options include check or credit card (Visa, MasterCard or Discover). If paying by check, please attach a copy of the invoice along with all check payments submitted. The invoice will be emailed to you after the completion of the registration process. Please make the checks payable to the **Florida Education Foundation** and mail to:

Attn: Ashley Monroe Florida Department of Education 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 124 Tallahassee, FL 32399

The registration fee does **NOT** include lodging expenses and transportation to and from the conference. Please note, the following meals are provided in the registration fee:

- Dinner buffet on Friday, January 16, 2026
- Continental breakfast on Saturday, January 17, 2026
- Lunch buffet on Saturday, January 17, 2026
- Breakfast buffet on Sunday, January 18, 2026

The cost of one FFEA Conference T-shirt is included with each registration.

If you have questions regarding registration, please contact edrecruit@fldoe.org.

Cancellations:

To cancel an individual registration for the conference (not a hotel reservation), the deadline is, **Friday, December 19, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET**. Cancellations must be made in writing via e-mail to edrecruit@fldoe.org no later than this date in order to receive a refund. Please note, refunds may be subject to a fee.

Substitutions:

Substitutions are permitted in the event that a registered student(s) is unable to attend the conference. The deadline for substitutions is **Friday, December 19, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET**. Please forward the name(s) of all individuals who will attend as substitutes so that we may prepare name badges accordingly. If a registrant is unable to attend at the last minute and a substitute cannot be found by **Friday, December 19, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET**, a request for a refund will not be honored.

II. LODGING INFORMATION

Room Rates:

\$169.00 per night

The above rates may be offered for guests arriving three days before and three days after the event, depending on availability. There will be discounted self-parking for overnight guests at \$18.00 per vehicle per night during the dates of the conference.

State taxes will not be assessed when payment is made with a school check and a copy of your

district's certificate of tax exemption is provided to the hotel. Payments made by personal check or credit card are subject to taxation. There is a 1% Orange County Convention Center District fund tax that will be applied to all room reservations regardless of tax exempt status.

District/School P-Cards should NOT be used to make hotel reservations unless the card can be physically presented on-site at check-in.

Reservations:

Reservations must be made directly to the Double Tree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Orlando no later than **Friday, December 26, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET**. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 1-800-222-8733 or online. Advisors, the link for online reservations is <u>2026 FFEA State</u> <u>Conference Hotel Reservations</u>. All reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card. The same district/school/personal credit card MUST be presented upon check-in. Please request the group rate for the **Florida Future Educators of America**. This rate will be honored, subject to hotel availability. Any reservation requests made after **Friday, December 26, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET**, will be accepted subject to availability.

Cancellations:

Should you need to cancel your hotel reservation, you must cancel your reservation five days prior to your arrival date. Reservations cancelled within five days prior to arrival will be charged by the hotel, one night's room and tax (this also includes no shows). This first night's room and tax charge will not be reimbursed by the Department.

Check-In/Out:

Guest check-in begins at **4:00 p.m. ET**. Check-out is **11:00 a.m. ET**.

A valid credit card or cash will be required at check-in. This includes District/School P-Cards that were used to make reservations.

Any request for late check-out must be made with the front desk on the evening/night prior to checkout and, if granted, may be subject to a late checkout fee.

Lodging Subsidy:

THIS IS NOT A REIMBURSEMENT.

The Department will pay the cost of two hotel rooms per FFEA chapter attending the conference for Friday and Saturday nights. Hotel subsidies and the group rate pricing and availability will only be available to registered FFEA chapters with members actively participating in the 2026 FFEA State Conference. Advisors without any chapter members participating in the FFEA State Conference will not be eligible for hotel subsidies and the group rate will be offered, subject to hotel availability.

The Department will pay the cost of a total of an additional room per Outstanding Chapter Award recipients attending the conference for Friday and Saturday nights. Session attendance and conference participation is mandatory by both chapter advisors and members to have your room cost covered.

The Department will not pay the cost of additional night(s) stay or additional rooms. Chapters failing to meet the attendance requirement will not be entitled to receive the lodging subsidy. Department staff will monitor compliance with this requirement.

Chapter advisors are responsible for making all reservations. To receive the above hotel subsidy, please email the FFEA State Coordinator at edrecruit@fldoe.org with the confirmation number of the room as well as the name under which the reservations were made that you wish to have covered by the lodging subsidy. The name under which this room is reserved should match the name on the conference registration form.

The Department will pay only the room rate for the two rooms for Friday and Saturday nights. Other incidental guest-room expenses incurred by FFEA conference participants will not be paid by the Department and will be the responsibility of the chapter.

Compliance with all district and state travel procedures are required.

III. DIRECTIONS TO CONFERENCE SITE

Online sources for driving directions:

Please use the websites below to obtain driving directions from your specific location. Google Maps

IV. ADVISOR AND STUDENT INFORMATION

Attendance Ratio:

Advisors and adult chaperones must accompany high school chapters and monitor students during all on-site and off-site activities. There may be no more than eight students per chaperone. Due to limited space, and to allow more chapters the opportunity to participate in this fantastic conference, please note that each chapter is limited to a maximum of 50 attendees for the FFEA State Conference. We will notify chapter advisors if additional registrations become available.

Students:

All students are required to return to their hotel rooms no later than the curfew time of 12:00 midnight. While away from the hotel, all students should be alert and remain with their group. While in the hotel rooms, all students should be quiet in order to avoid disturbing other hotel guests.

Insurance:

Each participant is responsible for his or her own insurance coverage. The Department does not obtain insurance coverage for this event. The contact information requested through the registration form is collected solely for the event of an emergency.

Recommended Attire:

Friday: Chapter shirt and jeans or similar attire

Saturday: Business casual attire

Sunday: Conference shirt and jeans (or similar pants) are recommended

All students are requested to wear their conference T-shirts (provided at registration) on Sunday.

Session Attendance:

Chapter advisors and students are required to attend **all** conference sessions, including general and concurrent sessions and chapter caucuses. Department staff will monitor session attendance. Compliance is required in order to qualify for the lodging subsidy. Chapter advisors willing to volunteer assisting in breakout sessions, please indicate on the registration. We will provide additional details of session time and event space, if needed.

Name Badges:

Name badges will be distributed to FFEA chapter advisors during registration. Advisors, students, chaperones and guests will be required to wear their name badges in order to be admitted to conference sessions and meal functions.

For More Information:

Please contact the Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development and Retention at 850-245-9614 or edrecruit@fldoe.org.

V. DEADLINES

Conference Registration: Monday, December 1, 2025 Chapter Display Entry Form: Monday, December 1, 2025 Inside Our Schools Video and Entry Form: Monday, December 1, 2025 Education Research and Entry Form: Monday, December 1, 2025 Student Lesson Plan and Entry Form: Monday, December 1, 2025 Public Speaking Competition and Entry Form: Monday, December 1, 2025 State Officer Application: Monday, December 1, 2025 **Hotel Reservations:** Friday, December 26, 2025 Conference Registration Fees: Monday, December 1, 2025 **Conference Cancellations:** Monday, December 1, 2025 Conference Substitutions: Monday, December 1, 2025 **Hotel Cancellations:** Five days prior to arrival

^{*}All deadlines are effective at 11:59 p.m. ET.