



Georgia FFA Association State Dues Fact Sheet - 2009



In 2008-2009 dues to the Georgia FFA Association are \$3.50 per person; and dues to the National FFA Organization are \$5.00 per person.

Funds generated from state FFA dues cover costs for:

1. FFA Operating Budget (photocopying services, copy paper, pens, storage, toner, etc...)
2. State Officer travel expenses. Officers are reimbursed 35 cents per mile, while the state rate is 50.5 cents.
3. A portion of the state dues are budgeted to offset the cost of conducting the state convention; as convention registration and sponsorship do not cover the entire cost of the convention.
4. Expenses to send 23 voting delegates to the National FFA Convention (i.e. airline or bus fee, and lodging fees for each delegate.) Delegate meal expenses were covered by the FFA Foundation in 2008.
5. All area and state level CDEs (scantrons, facility rental, equipment, materials, etc...)
6. Wages for part-time student workers at the FFA office.
7. Purchasing advisor incentive gifts for 100% membership recognition (i.e. Fossil watch, jacket, vests, bags; cost ranges from \$5,000 - \$10,000 annually.)
8. Production costs to publish & mail 3 inserts in the FFA New Horizons magazine to more than 28,400 students; and post the insert on the New Horizons Online site (\$3,900 per insert). Currently ads for UGA and ABAC generate an income of \$800 per issue.
9. Paying the certification fee for all national CDE participants from Georgia (\$25 for each CDE; that fee will increase to \$35 in 2009).
10. Postage fees (i.e. mailing membership cards, and submitting applications and forms to National FFA, mailing invitations to state convention sponsors; things that cannot yet be done via email).
11. Special projects (i.e. flowers for funerals, memberships and sponsorships in related agriculture and education organizations, signs/banners, FFA Day at the Capitol, etc..).

Significant reasons to consider a dues increase

- Overall increase in the cost to operate the State FFA Office;
- Increasing costs to conduct career development events, convention, conferences, FFA Day at the Capitol, etc;
- Increasing fuel prices make it more expensive to pay the travel expenses for the state officer team;
- U.S. postage fees have increased three times since 2002, and will increase again in 2009; and
- An increase of this measure should prevent another dues increase for several years.

Funds generated from state FFA dues DO NOT cover costs for:

1. The salary of the FFA Executive Secretary, FFA Leadership Program Specialist, FFA Foundation Director or FFA Office Secretary;
2. The travel expenses of the FFA Executive Secretary, FFA Leadership Program Specialist, FFA Foundation Director or FFA Office Secretary;
3. Rent for the state FFA office facility or the FFA Foundation office facility (the University of Georgia provides office space for the state FFA office);
4. The plaques, awards, travel funds, and scholarship funds that FFA members earn for winning area and state events (these expenses are paid by the FFA Foundation)

Facts to Consider

- The most recent increase in state dues in Georgia was at the 76th Georgia FFA Convention in 2004. The delegate body voted to increase dues from \$3.00 to \$3.50.
- The national average for state dues is \$5.76.
- 18 state associations have state dues higher than \$5.00;
- 21 state associations have state dues at exactly \$5.00;
- 10 state associations have state dues below \$5.00;
- 3 associations report no state dues (CA, DE, Virgin Islands)
- Of the 10 states with the largest FFA membership, Georgia currently has the lowest dues;
 - 2 Associations charge \$4.00 (MO, IL)
 - 3 Associations charge \$5.00 (NC, OK, TX)
 - Wisconsin charges \$5.50
 - Ohio charges \$7.50
 - Florida charges \$10.00
 - California does not charge state dues
- State Convention Registration Fees (\$20 per person) in Georgia have not increased since in 2001; though the Convention quality, opportunities offered and attendance have all increased
- Currently Georgia FFA members do not pay a registration fee for Area or State level CDEs.
- The FFA Association and the FFA Foundation are two separate entities, each with its own budget and financial responsibilities.