

## 2024 FFA National Convention

All FFA members are invited to attend the 97th annual FFA National Convention in Indianapolis this October 23-26! We will be driving down in school vans, staying at a nearby hotel for 3 nights and attending legislative and educational sessions, browsing the enormous college and industry exhibit halls, attending social events and watching top members compete and present. This is a great opportunity for students to meet peers with similar interests, explore their futures and learn amazing new things. For more information and a complete guide to the Convention, please visit [convention.ffa.org](https://convention.ffa.org).

We will leave from the VHS Ag Building on Wednesday October 23 at 8:00 am. Students should bring clothing and toiletries for 3 nights away, including a bathing suit for the indoor pool. At the Convention, all students will be required to wear **FFA Official Dress**, which includes black pants or skirt (within 2 inches of the knee), white button-up shirt or blouse, black socks or nylons (required if toes show), black shoes, and an FFA jacket and scarf or tie. The FFA jacket is always worn zipped to the top. Students have the option of ordering their own FFA jacket from [ffa.org/shop/officialdress](https://ffa.org/shop/officialdress) (our chapter is MI0416), which will have their name and FFA office (if any) embroidered on it. For students who prefer not to purchase a jacket, we have jackets, scarves and ties that are loaned to students for FFA events. Students ordering jackets should do so ASAP so that they receive them in time for Convention; those borrowing should try on a jacket and put their name in it to ensure that all have what they need. Students need to provide their own black pants/skirt, white shirt/blouse, black socks and black shoes. *Shoes should be comfortable for walking*, as we walk A LOT!!!

We work hard to keep costs low for attendees. Please bear in mind that ***on October 9, student payments become non-refundable***, since we will have to pay regardless whether or not the student attends. This year's cost for the Convention is \$385 per student, plus money for food and any entertainment events that they choose to attend: Career Success tours are \$23, concert tickets are \$55 each, rodeo tickets are \$35, and hypnotist show is \$25. Students should be certain to indicate their ticket preferences EARLY so that we can get them before they are gone!

Students who wish to attend should return the attached permission form and the FFA Code of Ethics, along with their payment of \$385 (checks payable to Vicksburg Community Schools) by October 1. Those planning to purchase a jacket should have it ordered prior to that date. Those borrowing a jacket should have it fitted and put their name in it before that date.

Please address questions to [nheikes@vicksburgschools.org](mailto:nheikes@vicksburgschools.org) or [mschlabach@vicksburgschools.org](mailto:mschlabach@vicksburgschools.org) We will be available by text and phone for emergencies only at 269-998-1577 and via the Remind app.