



SHINER FFA

Handbook

For Members Participating In:

Supervised Agriculture Experience Programs

Career Development Events

Leadership Development Events

Speaking Development Events

Leadership Training Events

Officer Team

Stock Show

510 County Road 348

Shiner, Texas 77984

361-594-3131 x458

shiner.ffanow.org



Like Shiner FFA on
Facebook to see
reminders about
deadlines and
upcoming events!

2024-2025 Shiner FFA Officers

President	Callie Sevcik
Vice President	Jase Rainosek
Secretary	Chase Malinovsky
Treasurer	Erin Pustka
Reporter	Barrett Shelton
Sentinel	Kara Remschel
Historian	Eli Tronicek
Chaplain	Livi Akin

A Letter From Our President:

Dear FFA Students, Parents, and Supporters,

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a restful and memorable summer. We are thrilled to enter another exciting year with FFA. Whether you are returning members or joining us for the first time, we are thrilled to have each of you as a part of our FFA family.

FFA offers many opportunities for growth and learning, from leadership development to hands-on experience in agriculture. It's a pathway to discover and pursue your passions. Beyond leadership and agriculture, FFA is an avenue for developing essential life skills such as public speaking, teamwork, and networking with professionals through events. These diverse offerings help members build well-rounded skills and prepare for successful futures in various fields related to agriculture and beyond. Some exciting events we have planned include:

- Fruit, meat, & Dessert Fundraiser- late October for December delivery
- 1st annual Shiner FFA BBQ Cookoff- January 2025
- 45th annual Shiner FFA Stock Show- March 7th
- Shiner FFA Crawfish Boil- April

Just a little bit about me, I am 17 years old and a Senior. I play volleyball, basketball, and softball, and I am a cheerleader. As well as being a leader in FFA, I'm a leader in FCA, Treasurer of NHS, a member of StuCo, and partake in our school base floral shop, "Bunches of Beauties." I was FFA reporter last year and excited to serve as your president this year.

We can't wait to see our members excel in and out of the classroom and one day become leaders here at Shiner FFA. See you all soon!

Warm regards,

Callie Sevcik

SHINER FFA POLICIES

The FFA policies are set forth to enhance the agricultural educational experience of the students. The Shiner FFA Organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Policies are written to act as a system of guidelines for FFA members participating in Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs, Career Development Events, Leadership Development Events, Speaking Development Events, Leadership Training Events, and being on the officer team. Understanding these expectations is intended to help everyone have a great experience.

STUDENT FFA MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

The same rules of conduct published in the Shiner I.S.D. Student Handbook will apply to all FFA settings. FFA members will be held accountable for any additional rules approved by the FFA advisors, principal, and superintendent that are specific to FFA. Failure to comply could result in conditional suspension depending on the severity of the case and circumstances.

1. Treat people the way you want to be treated.
2. Be respectful.
3. Be honest and trustworthy.
4. Take pride in your work.
5. Treat your equipment and facilities as though you own it.
6. Be a positive force at every team practice, game, match, or meet.
7. Be a good communicator. Advisors cannot read your mind.
8. Give your best effort in the classroom and on your team.
9. Refrain from profanity.
10. Obey the laws of our society.
11. Conform to the dress code set forth in the student handbook.

The National FFA Organization operates under a Federal Charter granted by the 81st Congress of the United States, and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The U.S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for the FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs.

CONDUCT AND ATTITUDE

A person's conduct is directly related to their attitude. Members should see themselves as ambassadors, not only for their program, but for their school and community as well. People in other communities will develop an impression of Shiner based on the conduct of our members. Members with excessive and/or serious inappropriate behavior or attitude problems will be disciplined and could be removed from the FFA program.

GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT

Be a good citizen and associate with other good citizens. Obey the laws of the community and the school. Take pride in your schoolwork, do the very best you can. Be respectful to those in authority. Take pride in your dress and appearance. Treat equipment and property as if you paid for it. Always tell the truth. Take and keep only what belongs to you. Be at every team practice and various events on time. Give your best effort at every practice and competition.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Student members will be expected to:

- Maintain a grade of 70 or above in all classes to be eligible to play or to participate in all extracurricular activities according to the U.I.L. Failing members must attend tutorials. Members who fail a grading period are ineligible for competition.
- Be successful in the classroom under the authority of the teacher and demonstrate a respectful and cooperative attitude.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FFA

Members are expected to be in class regularly and to be punctual. FFA members with excessive academic absences may be removed from an FFA team or SAE Program (Supervised Agriculture Experience). Absences, excused or unexcused, will be handled by the advisor of each team or SAE Program.

MISSED PRACTICE

You may only have 3 unexcused tardies and/or absences to practices before being dismissed from the team. If you are going to be late or absent you must notify an advisor 48 hours prior to practice.

PARTICIPATION CONFLICTS FFA

Members are encouraged to participate in as many activities as possible and logical. However, when conflict arises, the advisors/sponsors and student should try to come to a workable practice and competition plan with the final decision made by the student. District, area, or state competition takes precedent over non-district competition.

ELIGIBILITY

Student's must meet the eligibility rules found in Section 400-440 of the Constitution and Contest Rules published by the University Interscholastic League and other rules provided by the local board.

TRAVEL

Members are required to travel to FFA events with the team unless extenuating circumstances arise. All arrangements must be made prior to the trip. Members may only be released to their parents/guardian and a written consent form signed and given to an FFA advisor before the departure of the trip. All school policies and FFA policies will be followed on FFA trips.

Travel Permission Slip

Please read, sign and return this last page

Dear Parent/Guardian of _____,

Your child is an active member of Shiner FFA and therefore will be traveling to contests, camps, conventions, and shows. These events are encouraged for supplemental learning outside of the classroom and will be used as a tool for success in your child's FFA career.

I, _____, (student) have read the SHINER FFA HANDBOOK and understand all the terms and conditions for being an active member. I agree to abide by the rules and expectations. I agree to have my FFA advisor transport me to various events.

I, _____, the parent of _____ have read the SHINER FFA HANDBOOK and understand all the terms and conditions for my child to compete and travel with the Shiner FFA advisors.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

UNSPORTSMAN-LIKE CONDUCT

The FFA member is expected to represent their community, chapter and school with integrity and class. A FFA member who displays unsportsman-like conduct will be disciplined by the advisor. The member may also be dismissed from the FFA program.

SUSPENSION FROM THE FFA PROGRAM

The student may be removed from the FFA program if the student engages in conduct punishable as a felony listed under Title V of the Texas Penal Code. Only the FFA Advisor may suspend a member from the total program. Reinstatement may occur if the Ag teacher has reevaluated the member's attitude, behavior and / or academic performance change. The advisor may suspend a member from the team the member is participating. Documentation of why the member is being suspended will be provided and the parents will be contacted. The FFA advisors are responsible for seeing that discipline is consistent.

STEALING

Taking things that do not belong to you will not be tolerated. A member caught stealing at any time will not only be subject to the Student Code of Conduct. This also includes equipment not turned in after the season and equipment that belongs to the district that was "found" or "given" by someone else. Depending on the seriousness of the offense, a member may also be prosecuted by the law.

PROFANITY

Profanity or crude language in the FFA program will not be tolerated. Members heard using profanity or crude language will be disciplined. Our aim is to change this behavior.

RESPECT FOR ADVISORS

Advisors should receive respectful responses from members when addressing them. Whenever advisors are talking, members are to give them their undivided attention.

LETTERING

We believe that the team awards students receive at the end of the year for taking part in FFA are symbols of hard work, dedicated effort, positive attitude, and a desire to be successful. At the end of this document you will find the application. The advisors will notify the members when they are ready to accept applications for ordering jackets. Applications on next page.

Shiner FFA Letterman Jacket

*A total of **15 points** accumulated during your FFA career is required to receive a letter Jacket. *Point totals in each area are non-cumulative where applicable to increasing levels of success. (Ex. Student placing 5th in state contest would receive a total of 5 points.)

Leadership Development Events

- Top ten (individual or team) any LDE contest **1 pt**
- Member of District Leadership Team **1 pt**
- Member of Area Leadership Team **2 pts**
- Member of State Leadership Team **5 pts**
- Member top 10 State LDE **7 pts**
- 1st Place State LDE Team **15 pts**

Career Development Events

- Member of Area CDE (Or state team with no area qualifier) **1pt**
- Top ten individual at a Spring CDE contest (area & state) **1 pt**
- Member of State Qualifying CDE Team **5 pts**
- Member of Top Ten State CDE Team **7 pts**
- 1st Place State CDE Team **15 pts**

Speaking Events

- Compete in District Speaking event **1 pt**
- Compete in Area Speaking event **2 pts**
- Compete in State Speaking Event **3 pts**
- Top 10 at State Speaking **7 pts**
- 1st Place at State Speaking **15 pts**

Horticulture Shows (Majors or County)

- Exhibition of placing Horticulture project in class @ county or major **3 pts**
- Division Winner or Grand or Reserve over all @ county **5 pts**
- Grand or Reserve at majors **10 pts**

Livestock (each animal may receive points once a year ex. heifer)

- Exhibiting at animal at Shiner Stock Show **1 pt**
- Making Grand Showman at Shiner Livestock Show **7 pts**
- Making Reserve Grand Showman at Shiner Livestock Show **5 pts**
- Making Grand Overall at Shiner Livestock Show **7 pts**

- Making Reserve Overall at Shiner Livestock Show **5 pts**

- Showing at a Major- **1 pt**

- Making sale at Major **5 pts**

- Championship banner @ Major **15 pts**

Majors include: (State Fair, Star of Texas, Austin, Houston, San Antonio, Ft. Worth, San Angelo)

FFA Awards, Offices & misc.

- Chapter Officer **2 pts**

- Talent team at the District level **1 pt**

- Talent team at the Area level **2 pts**

- Talent team state qualifying **3 pts**

- Talent Team- top 10 at state **7 pts**

- Talent Team State Winner **15 pts**

- Selling over \$1000 in fundraisers **1 pt**

- Greenhand Honor/ star Award **1 pt**

- Chapter Award **1pt**

- Most Active / star Award **1 pt**

- Proficiency Award **1 pt**

- State Courtesy Corps **1 pt**

- FFA Ambassadors **2 pts**

- State Convention Media **2 pts**

- Ford Scholar Program **5 pts**

- Earning Lone Star FFA Degree **3 pts**

- Running for district / Area officer **1 pt**

- Elected district/ Area officer **3 pts**

- Exhibit an Ag Science Fair project (majors or state convention) **1 pt**

- Top 10 Ag Science Fair project (majors or state convention) **2 pts**

- Win state Ag Science Fair project (majors or state convention) **5pts**

- Apply for Star or Proficiency Area level **3 pts**

- Apply for Star or Proficiency State level **5 pts**

- Win star / proficiency award state level **15 pts**

DEGREES OF FFA MEMBERSHIP

Greenhand FFA Degree FFA members enrolled in their first year of high school credit agricultural science, that have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program and that have demonstrated their understanding of the history and purpose of the FFA may apply for their Greenhand Degree. This degree of active membership is awarded at the chapter level.

Chapter FFA Degree Those FFA members that have received their Greenhand Degree may apply for the Chapter Degree. Members must be enrolled in an agricultural science class, have completed at least two semesters in agricultural science at or above the ninth grade level, have in operation an approved SAE program, demonstrate leadership skills and be actively involved in the activities of the local FFA chapter. This degree of active membership is awarded at the chapter level.

Lone Star FFA Degree This is the highest degree of membership the State FFA Association can award. FFA members that apply to receive the Lone Star Degree only after they have received the Chapter Degree. Those wishing to receive their Lone Star Degree must have been an active FFA member for at least two years, complete at least four semesters of agricultural science at or above the ninth grade level, maintain a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program, invest significant time and money in their SAE, demonstrate their leadership skills and show a commitment to the FFA through involvement at the chapter level and above. This degree of active membership is awarded at the state level during the Texas FFA Convention.

American FFA Degree This degree of active membership is awarded by the National FFA Organization and is the highest level of active membership which can be achieved within the FFA. This final step in the FFA Degree system encourages members to grow and achieve personally toward establishing yourself in an agricultural career. Members may apply for their American Degree only if they have received the State FFA Degree, have graduated from high school at least twelve months prior to the national convention and meet the very high standards of the degree.

FFA Officer Application

Due: _____ to Mrs. Sunvison _____

Process of Officer Election:

1. Officer Application- including Resume and Referral Letters & signed contract 25%
2. Officer Interview- 25%
3. FFA Knowledge Test 25%
4. Popular Vote 25%

Name:

Phone Number:

Email:

Grade:

Parent/Guardian's Name:

Parent Email or Phone number:

Agreement to the FFA Officer Team Requirements

I have read, studied and understood the above points. If elected to a FFA officer position, I will carry out my responsibilities in accordance with these statements and understand that I can be removed from office by the Shiner FFA Officer team and/or Advisor if I do not satisfactorily follow these established standards. I also understand that if I become an Officer and I am not compliant with the rules that have been set forth, I will receive demerits, unless otherwise noted.

Printed Name of the Officer Applicant

Signature of Officer Applicant

****PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR REFERRAL LETTERS &
RESUME****

OFFICER CONTRACT MUST BE SIGNED & RETURNED
Questions:

1. Describe activities and involvement that you have in FFA.
2. Describe your 3 best leadership qualities and how they would help you in an officer position.
3. What would be your number one goal as an officer?
4. On the Shiner officer team, there are multiple personalities that must mold together. How will you aid in the molding of all these personalities into one complete team?
5. Being a FFA Officer takes a lot of time commitment.... How do you plan on managing your time & responsibilities?
6. If elected, how do you plan on being a role model throughout the year?
7. How will you ensure that all members feel welcome in our FFA program and build a more inclusive atmosphere?
8. How would you advocate for agriculture & the FFA in our school?
9. What are 6 things you cannot live without?
10. If you could change 3 things about Shiner FFA, what would they be?

FFA Officer Contract

(This Contract is subject to change per Advisor's discretion)

1. A FFA Officer must be enrolled in at least one Agriculture Science course per semester during the school year, and be a dues paying FFA member IN GOOD STANDING.
2. As a FFA Officer you must fulfill duties as assigned to you, including position & committee responsibilities. All officers will be assigned a primary responsibility that they will be required to live up to as set by the Chapter Advisors.
3. All officers are responsible for knowing their lines for opening and closing ceremonies during all meetings. Officers must know their lines by the 1st fall semester student meeting. Officers not able to perform their lines at the time may be removed from their chapter post.
4. As a FFA Officer you must own and wear official dress, as stated by the Official FFA Manual, to all activities unless otherwise stated by advisors. Officers MUST be present at all official chapter functions unless prior approval has been given. This applies to UIL/School Activities.
5. FFA officers are responsible for knowing and obeying the FFA Code of Ethics, found in both the Official FFA Manual and the Shiner FFA Constitution.
6. FFA officers MUST attend all Chapter and Officer Meetings, as well as other duties and activities assigned to ensure the success of the chapter. Not more than one (1) activity can be missed due to an unexcused absence or the officer will receive one demerit. Officer meetings are to be held on set dates to insure the success of the chapter.
7. Excused absences are defined as school related events, death in the family or life threatening issues, church related activity, and/or community service which has been approved, IN ADVANCE, by all of the FFA advisors. Attendance of each FFA Officer to chapter-sponsored activities is critical to the development of the program; excused absences are limited to two per semester. *When planning absences, realize the chapter members are looking to you as an example and your choice of priorities.
8. Officers must respectfully represent the FFA at all times and serve the organization in a manner that is acceptable. Disrespect shown by FFA officers to each other and/or others will not be tolerated and could result in an automatic demerit or dismissal. Disrespect is defined as the lack of respect and not being a team player when decisions are made by the officer team/advisors. Respect is defined as esteem; regard; honor; courtesy. This applies to all aspects of social media as well as text messages.
9. All FFA officers must meet the NO PASS NO PLAY requirements for eligibility. Eligibility grades are those at the end of each grading period. If a student receives a grade below 70% in a regular academic/elective class or below a 60% in an Advanced Placement (AP) class at the end of a/any grading period (Six Weeks) they will receive one demerit.
10. All officer candidates must be passing throughout the entire time of the election process.

11. FFA officers cannot use, possess, or be under the influence of any illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco either on or off campus. Violation of this rule will constitute removal from office.
12. FFA Officers must maintain their personal appearance and hygiene in a professional manner. FFA Officers will be prohibited from wearing articles of clothing that advertise alcohol, tobacco, drug use or sexual connotations.
13. FFA Officers will be removed from office if he/she receives one (1) or more school suspension(s) or gets sent to alternative school in the year of service.
14. The FFA Officer team will consist of no less than six (6) chapter officers. The officer positions are as follows: President, Vice- President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Sentinel. Additional officer positions may be added on any given year. **Advisors have the right to amend this rule on a yearly basis.**
15. All officers must compete in one (1) Leadership Development Event in the fall AND one (1) Career Development Event in the spring of the academic year that they are an officer.
16. FFA Officers must participate in ALL Chapter Fundraising activities.
17. If for any reason an officer is removed from or forfeits his or her position, the replacement officer will be assigned by the Chapter Advisors, except in the case of the President where the Vice-President will assume the duties of the chair.
18. If any of the above rules are broken, the FFA Officer will receive one demerit or at the agriculture teachers discretion.
19. A FFA Officer must have met the requirements for the FFA Chapter degree.

FFA Officer Referrals

You will be required to submit 3 referral letters. Please adhere to the following requirements:

- Letters must be from your teachers, and/or job supervisors/boss/manager. No parents, No friends. Must be an adult that has witnessed your work ethic, leadership capabilities, and/or performance with responsibility.
- Must be submitted through sealed and signed letter, or via email to Ms. Moye
- Must submit by 5pm on _____, with Application or received via email. For example, Referral Letters should be able to describe any combination of the following:

Your ability to lead - Your ability to manage your time - Your ability to uphold your responsibilities - Your work ethic - Your social skills - Your ability to be depended on Etc. etc...

FFA Knowledge Test

Test will be given on: _____ Ms. Moyer's Room _____

The FFA Knowledge test will be based on information that can be found in your FFA Manual & Parliamentary Procedure Guide. Below is an abbreviated study guide. This does not guarantee that all of the questions of the test will pertain to this guide, it is merely here to assist with your studies. Test will consist of a minimum of 20 multiple choice questions. An online copy of the FFA manual may be found here - <https://www.ffa.org/about/who-we-are/official-manual>

A completed summary of Motions has been provided for you to study for the Parliamentary Procedure Questions, which is following your study questions:

FFA KNOWLEDGE GUIDE:

What year was the FFA organized?

Who wrote the FFA Creed?

What is the symbol for the Sentinel?

What is the correct order of business for a chapter meeting?

What are the four types of membership?

In 1933, some FFA members arrived at the national convention in crisp, blue corduroy jackets with the FFA emblem on the back. Official delegates voted to adopt the jacket as the organization's official dress. Where were these members from?

What was the year when girls were voted into membership in the FFA?

The gavel is tapped _____ times to call the meeting to order.

Who is regarded as the "father of the FFA"?

The Smith-Hughes Act was established in _____.

How many Areas does Texas have?

What is the last word in the "FFA Creed"?

The FFA motto is:

The highest degree that the FFA member can be awarded is the:

What is a CDE?

Who designed the blue corduroy FFA jacket?

What does the acronym SAE stand for?

During an FFA meeting, one tap of the gavel is used to:

During an FFA meeting, two taps of the gavel are used to:

The name of the National FFA magazine is:

What state has the most FFA members?

What are the symbols included on the FFA emblem?

What are the symbols for the following offices?

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Reporter Sentinel

What words begin every paragraph of the FFA creed?

In what year did the FFA officially change its name?

The colors of the National FFA Organization are:

The name of the first female National FFA President was:

What is a “division of the house”?

To be eligible to receive the Chapter FFA Degree, a member must meet the following minimum qualifications?

What does it take to get your Lone Star Degree?

Parliamentary Procedure Guide:

Adjourn – allows the meeting to be officially over *gain recognition from chair
“Mr./Madame President, I move to adjourn the meeting.” *second required, not debatable, not amendable, majority vote

Call for the Orders of the Day – used when the group deviates from the agenda and you would like to follow the agenda *no recognition needed, not debatable or amendable
“M/M President, I call for the orders of the day.” President then asks the secretary to read the orders (agenda) President then asks members if there are objections to following the orders of the day If there are objections, a vote must be taken and need 2/3 vote of the membership to not follow the orders of the day

Lay on the Table – used to postpone decision on the motion until the next meeting (at the latest) *requires recognition “M/M President, I move to lay this motion on the table.” *requires second, not debatable or amendable, majority vote

Amendment – used to change a motion, but never the intent of the motion ** Three ways to amend a motion: 1. Addition – adding a word or phrase 2. Subtraction (striking out) – removal of part of the motion but not to change the intent 3. Substitution – removing part of the motion and inserting a new word or phrase “M/M President, I move to amend the motion by adding the words “and we pay our own way.” **motions can only be amended twice, require recognition, a second, are debatable & amendable, and a majority vote

Main Motion – used to bring items of business to the group; can not be used if any other motion is on the floor **The only acceptable way to start a motion is to say... “I move...” *recognition required “M/M President, I move that we take a trip to City Hall to learn about our city’s government.” *second required, debatable and amendable, majority vote (the main motion is the lowest ranking of all motions)

Take from the Table – used to bring a motion that was previously tabled back on the floor *requires recognition “M/M President, I move to take from the table the motion concerning our raffle fundraiser that was tabled at our last meeting.” *requires second, not debatable or amendable, majority vote **If motion passes, the chair states that the motion is back on the floor in its debatable and amendable form. Then asks for discussion

SHINER FFA OFFICER POPULAR VOTE

On _____, *nominations* will be held at the April meeting

You will complete your election process with a *popular vote*. You will give a quick 2 min speech as to why you should be an officer, and the members will vote on the candidates. Results will be tallied and figured into your officer election process, and results will be given at Banquet

Please contact Ms. Moyer if you have any questions pertaining to this packet.

GOOD LUCK!!

LIVESTOCK SHOWS

1. The livestock show exhibition of animals cannot be considered a “school sponsored trip” because the students are not trained in a classroom and are not riding to the site by way of school vehicles.
2. Transportation of animals and/or students is not a duty as listed on the Ag teacher’s contract. One of the reasons why this is not a school sponsored trip is because there is an opportunity for the student to gain profits as an individual while no monies will go to the school in any circumstance. Unlike a school sponsored activity where students will not have an opportunity for any monetary gains, the possible money earned from livestock shows will go directly to the exhibitors. In addition, the individual receives the recognition, whereas at a school sponsored activity, the team from the school will receive the recognition as well as any trophies/awards (the students do not get to keep them). The normal procedures for a student to attend a livestock show as part of the FFA are as follows. For the safety and well-being of the student, there will be parental responsibility for the supervision as well as the expenses related to the animal project, i.e. feed, lodging, meals, and transportation. Logistically, while at the livestock show, teachers and students work together on the animals. After they are finished they depart for the day and meet back the next morning. When the students and parents depart, they are on their own – responsible for themselves. This is no different from a student going home from school. This is a standard and normal procedure for attending the shows and exhibiting these animals. This is another reason why there are no permission forms required of parents. The parent/guardian is present and assumes responsibility for the student. Since this is not a school sponsored trip, neither the district nor the teachers are liable for the students’ actions outside of the Livestock Show grounds. The Shiner ISD policy reads: “The district shall not be liable for any injuries that occur to students riding in vehicles that are not provided by the school.”

Selecting a Livestock Project

The agriculture teacher’s role is advisory only. The selection and purchase of the project is a cooperative effort. The teacher will not dictate what to buy, how much to spend or from whom the purchase is to be made. The selection should however be coordinated with the teacher before the animal is purchased. The teacher wants to make sure you are purchasing the best animal for the price you are about to pay.

Expenses Incurred

The student and parent are responsible for the initial cost of the animal. Prices for all species vary widely. It is recommended that a parent be present when the actual selection and purchase is made. Any other expenses for the purchase of the animals must be paid by the parent. The parents will also be responsible for any expenses incurred by their child while feeding and caring for the animal during the school year.

If using the Shiner FFA Ag Barn, please request an Ag Barn Contract from the Ag teachers. It MUST BE signed and returned to the Ag teachers before moving into the barn.

Estimated Animal Expenses

Animal	Avg. Purchase Date	Validation	Initial Cost	Feed Cost	Misc Expenses (Vet, entries, validation, supplies)
Steer	April-July	Sat after Labor Day	\$500-\$10,000+	\$2000	\$150
Pig	Oct-Nov	1 st Sat of Dec	\$400+	\$300-\$500	\$50
Lamb	July-Oct	1 st Sat of Oct	\$400+	\$200+	\$50
Broilers	Mid Jan-March3	TBD-Mid Jan	\$75+	\$200+	\$50

Ownership

No animal may be owned by one person and fed by another. Each student must feed and care for his/her own respective animal. Animals may be validated and registered for stock shows under more than one child's name in the same family so that a sibling may show the animal in case of an injury or illness. The teacher should be notified of any special arrangements where students are taking turns in feeding and caring for their animals. Normally this type of arrangement will be discouraged.

Validation

Validation is the identification & registration ID of an animal that is to be shown in Texas. In order to show at any county or major shows, your animal must be validated and registered with the county extension office. Validation tags may need to be ordered months before tagging date. Contact the ag science teachers for information on validation tags and dates. Students and parents or legal guardian must be present with their animals at validation for signature purposes. If an animal missed the validation deadline it will not be able to be shown under any circumstances! Validation dates vary and are different for each species (Majors and Shiner Show). For students showing at majors and our Shiner show: County tags will remain in place until check in for the Shiner Show. At that time, the county tag will be replaced with the Shiner tag assigned at validation.

Validation costs are not entry fees to livestock shows. Each major stock show has its own information and guidelines printed or available on the internet. While we make every effort to inform our members of the requirements of stock shows, it is ultimately the exhibitor's and parents' responsibility to inform them and adhere to all requirements. All major breeding stock shows require a health certificate which can be purchased from a veterinarian. Students will NOT receive an extracurricular absence for these shows they may wish to attend.

Recommendations for Feeding and Care of Animals

The feeding and care of the animals is a very important aspect of the livestock project. Many believe it is responsible for at least fifty percent of the success or failure of the project. Below is a list of practices which, if done consistently, will lead to success in the show ring.

Daily Care The daily routine of feeding and care is very important. All animals should be fed twice daily, as close to twelve hours apart as possible. Normally this will require approximately thirty minutes in the morning and thirty minutes in the evening.

Halter Breaking (Cattle/Lambs) (Whips for Pigs) One of the most important considerations which arise early in the feeding period is teaching the animal how to lead with a halter or whip. The animal must be worked daily. This is no easy task and sometimes can be very time consuming. Consistency is the key. Normally this can be accomplished in the first several weeks.

Disease Prevention The pen should be cleaned daily for all types of livestock. This reduces fly problems. Regular worming for internal parasites and vaccinations are mandatory. The FFA department offers a program for worming and vaccinations on a regular scheduled which covers the show season for a small fee.

Approved Livestock Surgical Practices Many times it will be necessary to perform surgical procedures on livestock. These procedures can consist of docking of tails, castration, dehorning, etc. These procedures should be done by a veterinarian. Regardless of who does the procedure, the parent must realize there is always the possibility for complications. The owner must accept all risk of illness or death of the animal.

Weighing on a Regular Basis Knowing the animal's weight and weighing on a regular basis is very important. Weight gain or loss is the best indication of how well the animal is progressing. Animals should be weighed on a weekly basis. It is particularly important near show time, as weight limits and classes are critical to placing the animal. It is also very important to know the minimum and maximum weight limits for the category in which your animal will show. Weight limits may be found in the specific show catalogs or show rule summaries. Your advisor or someone on the contact list can give you valuable information on how to adjust your animal's weight near show time.

Exercise Proper exercise will allow the animal to develop muscle tone and reduce the bulkiness of the underline (belly). This is time consuming but very important, especially near show time. Animals must be walked or ran at least once daily. Normally, this should start around the first of October for sheep and cattle. Exercising the animal is probably the area neglected most by young people first learning to care for show animals.

Equipment Use Arrangements must be made with the ag teachers for the use of any equipment belonging to the FFA. Clippers, blowers, etc. must be cleaned and turned in to the supervisor at the end of each use. Use of the livestock trailers must be reserved through the designated ag teacher and a trailer use agreement from and copy of insurance must be on file. Any FFA equipment lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed while in the possession of a student will be replaced at the expense of the student and parent.

Grooming Livestock for Shows Along with feeding your animal, time must also be devoted to grooming. Washing, combing and clipping are daily activities for cattle and sheep. Conditioning skin and hair by exfoliating with rice root brush then using baby oil for darks and baby powder for lights is necessary for show pigs. The animals must be trained to stand correctly and calmly. This is critical because in some cases the judge may want to handle the animal. Proper grooming is required for all major shows and the Shiner FFA Show. The ag advisors are available to help and educate students with their project. They will also have handouts available on each species which will detail more about the care for your animal.

Livestock Show Websites • State Fair of Texas - bigtex.com • Heart of Texas- hotfair.com • Fort Worth - fwssr.com • San Antonio - sarodeo.com • Houston - hlsr.com • San Angelo - sanangelorodeo.com • Austin - rodeoaustin.com

Shiner FFA Equipment Use Agriculture Science Department has equipment available to the students and parents/guardians of the FFA to groom and fit their show animals. However, this equipment is costly and relatively expensive to replace and repair. It is the responsibility of all parties to maintain and care for the equipment that our department has. Therefore, the following rules apply in order to checkout and use the Ag Department's Equipment. 1. The designated Ag Teacher must check out equipment to the student or parent from the Ag Department. It is the student/parent/guardian's responsibility to return this equipment the following day in the same condition that it was checked out in. For example: equipment should be cleaned and free from sand, hair and other contaminants. 2. If equipment is damaged while in the student/ parent's possession, it is their responsibility to inform the Ag teacher of the damaged equipment. Abuse of the equipment leading to breakage will be the student's responsibility to repair the equipment. Lost or stolen items will be the student's responsibility to replace items with new equipment. 3. Equipment for use includes: Clippers with blades, blowers, lamb/goat trim table and cattle trim chute. 4. Equipment should not be handed over to another student without going through the checkout process or approval of designated Ag Teacher. It is intended for the use of Shiner FFA members only: This does not allow for the personal use of equipment. Equipment is intended for the care, and management of animals raised through the Shiner FFA.