

<https://www.nysffa.org/updated-3/30/2020-ny-ffa-state-convention-may-14-16-2020-cancellation-statement>

**As of 5/21/2020, New York Agricultural Education and FFA have made additional difficult decisions to cancel all State Finals for Career and Leadership Development Events for the 2020 year.**

We have based this decision on the following critical factors:

- Our prioritized concern for student and community health and safety
- The closing of New York's K-12 public schools and Universities to in-person learning through the remainder of the school year
- Uncertainty as to when group gatherings can safely resume while adhering to social distancing guidelines
- The uncertainty of the status of the New York State Fair
- Equitable access to virtual events, contest integrity, and the execution of quality contests
- National FFA has canceled all LDE/CDE's for the 2020 year
- The Big E will not be holding any in-person contests in 2020

While we understand that this cancellation is disruptive and disappointing, this decision was made in the best interest of everyone involved. This cancellation includes all Career and Leadership Development Events that are typically held at the New York State FFA Convention, Empire Farm Days, and the New York State Fair.

In an effort to still deliver on the promise of leadership development and career success opportunities to students, we are exploring ways to coordinate learning experiences and engage students with exhibition only activities throughout the summer. More information will be available as these options are discussed and developed.