



TRENDING TOPICS

National FFA researches and determines 3-5 topics trending in agriculture, education and FFA each year. These topics are used throughout the advocacy and literacy platform, allowing us to provide better resources and education to FFA members.

Agriculture

- Reauthorization of [the Farm Bill](#)
 - The Farm Bill is a legislative package that is reauthorized (or passed) approximately every five years in Congress. The last version was signed into law by President Trump in 2018. While the Committee on Agriculture in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry in the U.S. Senate have diligently worked on legislative updates, action is necessary before the current law expires. Twelve titles are included in the bill, and each has a broad impact on the future of agriculture.
 - “The future of food and farm policy,” by The Hill;
<https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/3586694-the-future-of-farm-and-food-policy/>
 - U.S. House Committee on Agriculture: <https://agriculture.house.gov/>
 - U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:
<https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/>
- Environment, Sustainability, Climate Change and Carbon
 - The word carbon is commonplace in today's conservation conversations. Farm groups and policymakers are engaging in deeper conversations about how producers can benefit from implementing best management practices (or BMPs) to support the environment. The Inflation Reduction Act passed in 2020, invested approximately \$20B in climate-related conservation programs supporting American producers.
 - [Agriculture Provisions on Inflation Reduction Act](#)
 - [Carbon Credits](#)
 - [Cargill Sustainability](#)
 - [Climate Solutions](#)
 - [American Farmland Trust](#)
- [Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land](#)
 - [In 1978, Congress passed The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act \(AFIDA\), which brought transparency of American land holdings by foreign investors and governments. However, as geopolitical allies shift, land prices increase, and the future of food security a major topic, questions have arisen around the nations' sentiments towards foreign ownership of American soil. This topic has been elevated both federally and at the state level.](#)
 - [Foreign Holdings of US Agricultural Lands \(USDA Farm Service Agency, 2020\)](#)
 - [National Ag Law Center.](#)
- BIPOC agriculturalists
 - Black, Indigenous, and People of Color pioneered many farming methods that respected and cared for the land long before industrial agriculture. With the change in the country's landscape, the re-emergence of BIPOC agriculturalists and their contributions are appearing and how to provide a stable plan to allow these groups to thrive and provide resources.

- [Influential BIPOC agriculturists](#)
- [Land Stewardship Project](#)
- [Purdue roundtable](#)
- [USDA Committee on Minority Farming](#)
- [USDA Office of Tribal Relations](#)

Education

- Perkins Funding
 - Each year, the Federal Government appropriates (or spends) approximately \$1.4B on State formula grants (Basic State Grants), directly impacting the flow of dollars into local career and technical education programs. As this number expands and contracts through the federal budgeting process, the investment made at the local level has a corresponding relationship. Groups like the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) advocate annually for increased investment in Perkins.
 - [ACTE Policy Priorities](#)
 - [Perkins Collaborative Resource Network](#)
 - [Perkins V \(Advance CTE\)](#)
- Teacher Recruitment and Retention
 - The lack of supply and high demand for qualified teachers has always concerned school-based agricultural education. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the issue has become more troublesome for all subjects.
 - U.S. Department of Education Teacher Shortages Page: <https://tsa.ed.gov/#/reports>
 - [National Teach Ag Campaign](#)
- CTE
 - Career and Technical Education applies to schools, institutions, and **educational** programs specializing in skilled trades, applied sciences, modern technologies, and **career** preparation. The acronym CTE is not new to those in education, but how this program is engaged to meet workforce development needs continues to unfold.
 - [ACTE Policy](#)
 - [STEM](#)
 - [Workforce development](#)
 - [Post-pandemic needs and changes](#)
 - [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\) education](#)
 - [Work-based learning](#)
 - [Industry-based certifications](#)
 - [Inclusion of learners with exceptionalities](#)
- [Soft skill training](#)
- Technological trends in teaching and learning
 - [Hybrid vs. Online vs. In-person learning](#)
 - [Facilitated learning vs. teaching](#)
 - [Microlearning](#)
 - [Alternative assessments](#)
 - [Neuroeducation](#)
- Student trends:
 - [Learning loss](#)
 - [Social and emotional gap](#)
 - [Decreasing attention spans](#)
 - [School choice, including charter schools](#)
 - [Home-schooling](#)

FFA

- [The National FFA Caucus](#)
 - The National FFA Organization has been honored to have the support of Congress via the establishment of the bi-partisan and bi-cameral FFA Caucus. A sincere thank you to co-chairs Representative Jimmy Panetta (D-California), Representative Tracey Mann (R-Kansas), Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-Michigan), and Senator John Boozman (R-Arkansas).
- [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#)
 - National FFA recognizes the need to be a welcoming place for all. With chapters located in the most suburban to most rural, how can National FFA ensure its membership is representative of the school's population and those in our country?
- [SAE for All](#)
 - Supervised agricultural experiences (SAE) are an integral part of the three-component model of agricultural education. The experiential service and/or work-based learning program allows members to explore their passions and career interests. The roadmap includes launching a foundational SAE and eventually transitioning to an immersion SAE. These changes in the program have initiated conversations with the National FFA staff and delegates about making programmatic adjustments to the following:
 - American Degree
 - Proficiency Awards
- [FFA Strategic Plan 2022-25](#)
 - To keep our programs flexible, engaging, and inclusive, we updated FFA's strategic plan for 2022-25, creating a clear path to meet and exceed our objectives in the next three years.
- [Student Involvement](#)
 - Student involvement is the driving source for participation in FFA; however, involvement has steadily declined recently. Whether it is the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the shift to affiliate memberships in states or student burnout, advisors in a recent survey mentioned areas where they would like assistance. They include:
 - Student motivation
 - Recruitment and retention
 - Chapter officer training
- Middle school agricultural education and FFA chapter program growth