



## Explaining: “Delivery of the FFA Mission”

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*FFA is the premier youth development organization for agricultural education students that provides life changing experiences for its members.*

Those experiences are driven by a strong mission and a compelling vision. Telling our story to others is critical to our continued success. As a result, the "Delivery of the FFA Mission" document was created to serve as a reference guide to help explain the what, why and how of delivering the FFA mission.

"Delivery of the FFA Mission" connects the FFA mission to the FFA vision and explains how we deliver premier leadership, personal growth and career success. This document is intentionally written in broad terms so it can be shared with a variety of audiences.

Adding your own personal experiences and stories to the explanation will only strengthen the presentation. Thank you for telling the powerful story of FFA!

### SCHOOL-BASED AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION (THREE-COMPONENT MODEL)

What is agricultural education? The three-component model makes us unique.

#### *Explain the three-component model:*

- **Classroom/Laboratory:** taught by a teacher in a classroom
- **SAE (supervised agricultural experience):** experiential learning, where students apply in a real-world setting what they learn in the classroom
- **FFA:** offers experiences that help students develop "power skills" and leadership abilities.

Students gain knowledge in a classroom; they apply that knowledge in an SAE; they develop leadership skills and receive recognition in FFA. This is our competitive advantage.

#### *Other ways to look at the three-component model:*

Classroom/Laboratory	SAE	FFA
Instruction	Experiences	Life Skills
Theory	Application	Motivation
Learning	Doing	Recognition
Rigor	Relevance	Relationships



## DELIVERY OF THE FFA MISSION

**What:** FFA Mission - Premier Leadership, Personal Growth, Career Success. This is *what* we do.

**Why:** FFA Vision - Grow Leaders, Build Communities, Strengthen Agriculture. This is *why* we do what we do.

**How:** The way we deliver premier leadership, personal growth and career success helps us accomplish the FFA mission to fulfill the FFA vision.

### *Components of Mission*

Sixteen components define the three parts of the FFA mission. In FFA, these 16 components are called LifeKnowledge®, which brings real leadership lessons to life. FFA programs and activities are developed to advance the components of the mission.

### *Platforms for Delivery of Mission*

Content areas (i.e., platforms) through which the mission is delivered. FFA is a youth development organization that advances agriculture through a variety of platforms. The mission comes to life in these platforms.

### *Delivered Through*

What most people think of when they think of FFA. Experiences that bring the mission to life for students on all three levels: national, state and local. The local level is the heart of the organization: advisors and students. Delivery is important - but *what* we deliver (the mission) is even more important!

### *College/Career-Ready Students Prepared For*

#### **AGRICULTURAL CAREERS**

Students are prepared to embark on a career in agriculture, identified by the eight career pathways.

#### **NON-AGRICULTURAL CAREERS**

Students may not go directly into agriculture; they may choose another career that could be utilized in the agricultural industry. The FFA experience is valuable even if students do not enter agricultural careers. As a result of participating in FFA, they are more informed and supportive consumers.

All students are prepared for career success in their chosen field. They are leaders building their communities and strengthening agriculture, regardless of their career choices. The components of the mission become the power skills that differentiate our members in career readiness.

### **Why:**

This brings us back full circle to the FFA vision for the reason *why* we do what we do:

## *Grow Leaders, Build Communities, Strengthen Agriculture*

The FFA mission and the FFA vision (the *what* and the *why*) have remained constant over the years. But the *how* (the way the mission is delivered) has changed and will continue to change to remain relevant in the future.