



Family, Career & Community Leaders of America
Missouri FCCLA

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69th Annual FCCLA State Leadership Conference

More than 1,600 students (grades 6-12) and their teachers convened March 22-24 for the 69th annual Missouri FCCLA State Leadership Conference at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. The conference is sponsored by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) for young men and women enrolled in family and consumer sciences education courses. Since 1945, FCCLA members have been making a difference in their families, careers, and communities by addressing important personal, work, and societal issues. Missouri FCCLA ranks fifth in the nation in membership with more than 9,000 members. There are 345 local FCCLA chapters across the state.

The conference centers on the student-developed theme “Camp Leadership.” The conference features speakers and workshops on topics such as preparing for college and careers, bullying prevention, traffic safety, and drug abuse prevention. In addition to leadership training, honors and recognition, 680 students participated in 30 competitive events, including entrepreneurship, culinary arts, job interview, career investigation, and chapter service projects.

Competitive event winners at the state conference will advance to compete during the National FCCLA Leadership Conference to be held July 5-9 in Washington, D.C.

The opening session began at 7:30 p.m. Sunday. The keynote address was delivered by Joel Penton, a motivational speaker and former Ohio State University football player from Ohio.

For more information, contact: Donna Sharpe, state adviser, Family Consumer Sciences Education, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (573/751-7964), or visit <http://www.dese.mo.gov/careered/fccla.htm> and <http://www.facebook.com/MissouriFCCLA>.

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