

**NATIONAL FFA CHORUS
STATE STAFF INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORM**

*Submit this form by April 15, 2006 to be considered for the 2006 State Chorus.
Send directly to: Mike Brammer, PA FFA Association, 2301 N. Cameron St., Suite 303,
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9406.*

Enclosed is the necessary information to help you in approving members for the National FFA Chorus. Our thanks in advance for your cooperation in recommending excellent and talented students. Late cancellations and conflicting schedules cause a great deal of difficulty in the music and performance planning. Please help us by making sure that all the students' applications are sincere in their interest, and if accepted, they can participate.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL FFA CHORUS

- **Students may only participate a maximum of two years in the National FFA Chorus or Band.**
- **Students may only be selected for National Chorus, National Band or National Talent.**
- **Approximately 100 students will be selected for the National FFA Chorus.**
- **This application may be duplicated for distribution to FFA advisors and applicants. No other application will be accepted.**
- **Selection will be based on voice quality and trying to achieve a chorus with balance.**
 - **Correct ratio of males/females**
 - **Balanced numbers of soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices**
 - **Note: most difficult to find are first (high) sopranos, first (high) tenors and (low) basses.**

INSTRUCTIONS & DEADLINES

- **Applications for the National FFA Chorus must be postmarked by July 1.**
- **An audition cassette tape must accompany this application.**
- **Only typewritten applications will be accepted.**
- **Applications should be mailed to the State FFA Supervisor for approval. Applications must then be forwarded to:**
- **Mail application to:**

<i>National FFA Chorus</i>	<i>Phone (616) 945-9766</i>
<i>Patti LaJoye</i>	<i>Email: jplajoye@triton.net</i>
<i>1430 Bridle Path</i>	
<i>Hastings, MI 49058</i>	
- **State associations and applicants will be notified around August 15.**
- **Chorus uniforms must be ordered with payment to the National FFA Supply Service by September 15. An order form will be sent with notification.**

STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE NATIONAL FFA CHORUS

- **Students selected must attend all rehearsals and performances in Louisville.**
- **The first practice is Saturday evening before the convention week.**
- **All chorus members are required to stay through the closing convention session on Saturday.**
- **If there is a conflicting activity (such as a National Career Development Event), the student must get permission from the National Chorus Director by October 1.**
- **Students are responsible for the cost of travel, lodging, food, convention registration fee and partial cost of their National FFA Chorus uniform.**

WHAT THE NATIONAL FFA CHORUS WILL PROVIDE

- **Expenses for music and the National Music Banquet.**
- **\$30 towards the cost of the National Chorus Uniform (see price list).**
- **Chaperones during practice, housing and convention.**

NATIONAL FFA CHORUS INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORM

ABOUT THE NATIONAL FFA CHORUS

- **Students may only participate a maximum of two years in the National FFA Chorus or Band.**
- **Students may only be selected for National Chorus, National Band or National Talent.**
- **Approximately 100 students will be selected for the National FFA Chorus.**
- **Selection will be based on voice quality and trying to achieve a chorus with balance.**
 - Correct ratio of males/females
 - Balanced numbers of soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices
 - Note: most difficult to find are first (high) sopranos, first (high) tenors and (low) basses.

INSTRUCTIONS & DEADLINES

- **Applications must be postmarked by July 1.**
- *No other applications will be accepted.*
- **An audition cassette tape must accompany this application.**
- **Only typewritten applications will be accepted.**
- **Mail application to:**

Place State FFA Supervisor
Address Label Here

- **State associations and applicants will be notified around August 15.**
- **Chorus uniforms must be ordered with payment to the National FFA Supply Service, by September 15. An order form will be sent with notification.**

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE NATIONAL FFA CHORUS

- **If selected, you must attend all rehearsals and performances in Louisville.**
- **The first practice is Saturday evening before the convention week.**
- **As a chorus member, you are required to stay through the closing convention session on Saturday.**
- **If there is a conflicting activity (such as a National Career Development Event), you must get permission from the National Chorus Director by October 1.**
- **You are responsible for the cost of travel, lodging, food, convention registration fee and partial cost of your National FFA Chorus uniform.**

WHAT THE NATIONAL FFA CHORUS WILL PROVIDE

- **Expenses for music and the National Music Banquet.**
- **\$30 towards the cost of the National Chorus Uniform (see price list).**
- **Chaperones during practice, housing and convention.**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Please contact your state FFA office to find out if there is a deadline for submitting applications for your state. Applications are due postmarked to the national director by July 1st, but it may be necessary for you to submit it to your state association by an earlier date.

HOW TO RECORD YOUR AUDITION CASSETTE TAPE FOR THE NATIONAL FFA CHORUS

- 1. This cassette audition tape is a requirement in application for the National FFA Chorus. Recording is simple...and allows the director to properly place you for this prestigious chorus.**
- 2. If you want to use a higher quality recorder that's fine...but a simple recorder with a built-in microphone is adequate.**
- Use a cassette tape that is of high quality. If the tape is of poor quality, there could be problems with play-back or mechanical difficulties. Each year there are students who are not selected because the tape is of poor quality and breaks or jams in the tape recorder.
- Print your name and address, plus your voice part, on side one of cassette tape label.* Also, be sure your full name and return address are on the mailing package. The application and audition cassette tape are due by July 1. Tapes will not be returned, and will become the property of the National FFA Organization.
- Start your recording on side one of the cassette. At the very beginning of the recording, slowly announce your name and address. Repeat your name, and then give your voice part (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass).**
- Starting on any comfortable pitch, again sing (unaccompanied) the song AMERICA ("Oh beautiful for spacious skies" etc.). It should be sung expressively from beginning to end, one verse only.**
- Start with the lowest note you can sing, and on each note of the continuous major scale going up to your highest note, we want you to sing a sentence. On each note, sing the words "This is the national FFA chorus audition". If you have access to a piano, you can play the pitch before singing each note, but when you sing the words, you should sing unaccompanied. For this part of the recording, do not sing softly, but sing with a full voice at each note. Sing the entire sentence on each note of the ascending major scale. You can sing these words with any rhythm that you choose, but sing them slowly on each pitch.**

.....Optional.....Optional.....Optional.....Optional

- 8. If you have a special solo talent and wish to be considered for any kind of solo work during the National FFA Chorus Convention Program, this is the part of the tape for you to show your stuff. Any special talent can apply whether it be instrumental, vocal...even the spoons! If you accompany yourself with a guitar, and want to show this talent, that is fine. If you sing classical music, and want this considered, that is fine. You may want to audition as a pianist, or a pop solo artist.**

It is not important to membership in the National Chorus that you do anything with this part of the audition. This is strictly optional. If you are using this optional specialty audition, please send a written note with the tape explaining what you have put on the tape in this section. This note is important. If it is missing, we will not know to continue listening past the seventh section of these instructions.

Be brief with this audition. We will not have time to listen to more than a few minutes of each song in this section. It would be better to give a portion of a couple of songs to show different styles or talents than to give only one song if you feel you have more than one style to offer.

Each year the President of the United States of America is asked to speak at the convention. In the event this occurs, the following optional information is needed to permit the National FFA Band to perform.

Birthdate _____ Social Security Number _____

Month/Date/Year

County/City of Birth Place _____

National FFA Chorus Program Sponsored by the
FORD DIVISION—FORD MOTOR COMPANY

MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

1. Have you participated in the State FFA Chorus? Yes No If yes, how many years? _____

Have you participated in the National FFA Band? Yes No If yes, how many years? _____

Have you participated in the National FFA Talent? Yes No If yes, how many years? _____

2. Have you participated in high school chorus? Yes No If yes, how many years? _____

Describe the group(s), size and your voice part.

3. Are you a member of the ALL STATE Chorus from your state? Yes No

4. Have you had other group vocal experience? (church choir, college choir, bands, solos, etc.)

Yes No

If yes, describe:

5. Number of years: Private Lessons _____ # years Class (school) lessons _____ # years

6. Do you consider yourself a soloist? Yes No

What kind (style) of music do you perform most comfortably?

Names of solos, ratings, awards, etc.

7. How do you describe your ability to read a choral music score? (check one)

- Don't read Limited Average Good

Excellent

8. When singing choral music, I prefer to: (check one)

- Sing the melody Hear and sing the harmony Read and sing
the harmony

9. List any musical instruments you play:

Signature	(FFA Advisor)	Signature	(School Administrator)
From The State Association:			
The _____ State FFA Association approves this			
application			
for consideration in the National FFA Chorus.			
_____		Signature	(State FFA Supervisor)