



# Adviser Networking

## Questions about New Adviser Success

Use the below questions to start conversation and gain valuable information about what your peers are doing in their chapters.

- 1) Has there been an FCCLA program in your school in the past?
  - a. What made it a success or failure?
  - b. What can you do to integrate FCCLA into your classroom activities?
  
- 2) Does your school have restrictions on student organizations?
  - a. Are there certain times students are allowed to work on FCCLA activities?
  - b. Will you need to meet with administrators on a regular basis, or only to receive permission for large activities or field trips?
  
- 3) How will you attract students to your chapter?
  - a. Can you collaborate with other in school organizations to gain awareness of your activities?
  - b. Will you collaborate with established CTSOs and other organizations in your school?
  
- 4) How will you finance your chapter and chapter activities?
  - a. Does your school have any restrictions on the amount or way you fundraise?
  - b. How will you decide how funds are spent in your chapter?
  
- 5) How will you facilitate leadership development for your students?
  - a. Will you be able to attend state or national FCCLA meetings?
  - b. What steps can you take to invite a state or national officer to come visit your chapter?



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## Tips for New Advisers

Use the below tips to enhance your chapter's activities and boost leadership development.

### 1) Contact your state adviser.

Your FCCLA state adviser will be your greatest ally in creating a successful FCCLA chapter. The state adviser from your state can provide you with information and materials needed to start a chapter. Your state adviser will also help you throughout the year with any questions or concerns you may have. Visit the national FCCLA Web site at [www.fcclainc.org](http://www.fcclainc.org) for the name and contact information of your state adviser.

### 2) Meet with school administrators.

Discuss with your administrators the advantages of starting an FCCLA chapter and explain the relationship between FCCLA and the Family and Consumer Sciences program in your school. It is important to establish a good relationship with administrators so that you have a support system in place for your FCCLA projects and activities.

### 3) Connect with a mentor.

There is no better way to learn how to manage an FCCLA chapter than to speak with someone who has done it before. Connect with another adviser in your area to help you better understand the organization. Several states already have a mentoring program in place and your state adviser can help you find the right fit. You can also contact your state adviser to find an FCCLA Adviser Mentor in your state. These mentors know a great deal about starting a chapter and can help you throughout your new adventure in FCCLA.

### 4) Meet with prospective chapter members.

Discuss the possibility of starting a chapter with prospective members. Explain the mission and purposes of FCCLA and how they relate to your school's Family and Consumer Sciences curriculum. Review state and national publications to become familiar with the organization's structure and programs. Discuss possible chapter activities or projects and encourage students to talk to other prospective members in your school.

### 5) Let your students take the lead.

Often, new advisers feel the need to be in control of everything that goes on in their chapter—with good reason! But student members, with guidance and support, can plan successful FCCLA projects and activities. Students know what interests other students, and especially when starting a chapter, it is vital that students become interested in your program and activities. Student leadership is a central component of FCCLA and the Ultimate Leadership Experience. It may be frightening to loosen the reins and let your students take on some responsibility, but it will be rewarding for you as the adviser to see students take ownership of their projects.