



**Louise ISD**  
**FFA Handbook**  
**2020 – 2021**

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Revised August 2020

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Dear FFA Members & Supporters,



Welcome to a new year! Whether you are a new or returning member, we are thrilled to have you and welcome you with open arms (6 feet apart, of course). While this is not the way we expected this year to begin, we are excited and ready to tackle these challenges and make our activities safe and accessible to everyone. In-person or online, the Louise FFA goal remains the same: to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. We, the officer team, will give it our all to make the best of these unprecedented times to accommodate everyone. To do so, we are going to implement new and virtual-friendly opportunities for our members to grow and develop into the best version of themselves. FFA will open a whole new world of unique opportunities, lifelong friendships, and unforgettable memories for you.

Again, new and returning members, we are so excited to have you, and we hope that this will be a great year for all of us! Never forget, we are all in this together, and we are here for you if you need help, or if you just want to talk. We can't wait to see you all!

Stay strong!!

Sincerely,

Andrea Dunlap  
Louise FFA President

**2018-2019 Louise FFA Officers:**

**President:** Andrea Dunlap

**Vice President:** Erica George

**Secretary:** Kelly Lemus

**Treasurer:** Olivia Salazar

**Reporter:** Madison Bartlett

**Sentinel:** Sidney Vitera

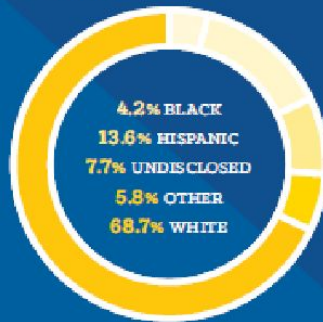
**Junior Advisor:** Reagan Skow

**WCYF Jr. Fair Board:** TBD

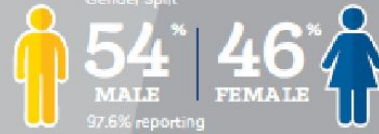
**FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for Premier Leadership, Personal Growth and Career Success through Agricultural Education.**



Race Demographics



Gender Split



**OURS IS A DIVERSE, FUTURE-ORIENTED AND GROWING MEMBERSHIP.**

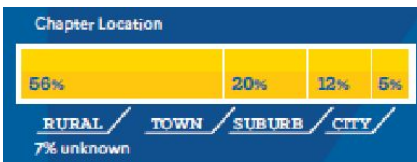


**DID YOU KNOW?**

The majority of U.S. agriculture companies employ FFA Alumni today.



Since 2008, FFA has seen a near 32 percent increase in membership, averaging 15,000 new members annually. This growth impacts agriculture and our future.



**THE HEART OF FFA CAN BE FOUND IN EVERY MEMBER, EVERY CHAPTER, EVERY DAY.**



You'll find chapters in

\*based on major metropolitan areas

**ALL 50 STATES,**

Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands and in

**24 of the 25**

largest U.S. cities.\*



**87%** of chapters are in publicly funded schools.

**92%** of chapters are at the high school level. 94.2% reporting

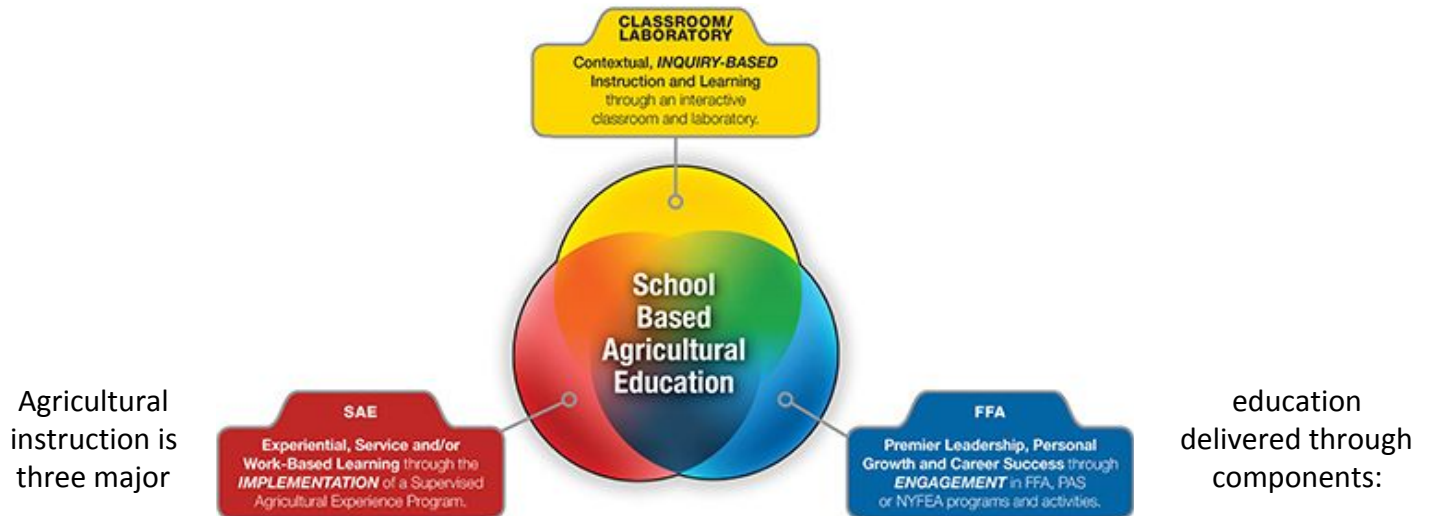


# Louise FFA

As a member of the Louise ISD, you have the opportunity to join the largest youth led organization in the World, The National FFA! Your opportunity for success is wide open! And we have a lot of fun doing it!

## The Agricultural Education Mission

Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.



- Classroom/Laboratory instruction (Contextual learning)
- Supervised Agricultural Experience programs (work-based learning)
- Student Leadership Organizations (FFA)

**Our programs are considered INTRA-CURRICULAR not extracurricular**

## Membership Requirements

- Attend Louise ISD in the 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Pay Chapter dues
  - o \$35/year for high school
    - Includes 8<sup>th</sup> graders enrolled in high school ag
  - o \$25/year for 3<sup>rd</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grade
    - Includes 8<sup>th</sup> graders **NOT** enrolled in high school ag
- Participate in RiverStar Farms Fundraising (Meat, Desserts and Fruit)
  - o 7 items sold total or \$50 fee
- Attend at least 4 meetings throughout the school year (banquet included)
  - o Wharton County Youth Fair Exhibitors will be required to attend an additional meeting specifically relating to fair. Date TBD.

## Social Media/Calendar

Follow us on our social media pages



Facebook: @louisetxffa



Instagram: @louise\_ffa



For up-to-date event information, please refer to the Louise ISD calendar.



## Louise FFA Travel Eligibility Requirements

In order to make sure that students are not missing out on a quality academic education, the Louise FFA Chapter has set forth minimum requirements for any member to be able to attend an activity. Please note that these requirements meet and exceed the District minimum requirements.

- Adhere to the “No-Pass, No-Play” policy of the Texas Education Agency. This is required by state law.
  - This policy states that all students participating in extracurricular activities must be passing all courses. **Students who fail any subject for the six weeks will be ineligible for a period of three (3) weeks.** Students may not participate in competition (livestock shows included) during the three week period following the failing grade. If the student is passing after the third week then the student becomes eligible for participation in competition after the fourth week (there is a one week grace period). If the student is still failing at the end of the three weeks, the student will remain ineligible until the end of the next three weeks or the next grading period.
- Passing ALL subjects at the time of any FFA event that requires a student to miss school. This is regardless of the “No-Pass, No-Play” policy

Anyone participating in FFA Travel must meet eligibility requirements both at the time the application is due, and remain eligible until the date of the travel. Students that are no longer eligible on the date of the travel will not be allowed to attend the activity and will not be entitled to a refund of any monies paid for the trip.

## FFA Code of Ethics

We will properly conduct ourselves at all times by:

1. Dressing neatly and appropriately for the occasion.
2. Showing respect for the rights of others and being courteous at all times.
3. Being honest and not taking unfair advantage of others
4. Respecting the property of others.
5. Refraining from loud, boisterous talk, swearing and other unbecoming conduct.
6. Demonstrating sportsmanship in the show ring, judging contests and meetings, and being modest in winning and generous in defeat.
7. Attending meetings promptly and respecting the opinion of others in discussion.
8. Taking pride in our organization, activities, supervised experience programs, exhibits and the occupation of agriculture.
9. Sharing with others experiences and knowledge gained by attending national and state meetings.
10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.
11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization.

## **Opportunities through the FFA**

The FFA provides many opportunities for students to develop their premier leadership skills. As the largest high school youth leadership organization in the world, your membership in the FFA is specially designed to allow you many opportunities to develop “those qualities of leadership which an FFA member should possess.” Some of those opportunities include:

### **Leadership Workshops**

The FFA has many opportunities for members to focus on their own leadership development. Leadership trainings can be found at National Convention, State Convention, Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., State Leadership Conferences, and Chapter Officer Leadership Training. All workshops and conferences are interactive and designed specifically to enhance your personal leadership skills. (*Scholarships may be available to attend various leadership workshops.*)

### **Chapter Leadership**

The FFA is a student organization, completely run and managed by students for more than 75 years. As a member of this organization, you have the chance to take on a leadership role and plan activities for the chapter. There are three levels of chapter leadership available for you to participate in:

- As a committee member, you have the opportunity to help decide the specific details of a chapter activity or event. All members are part of a committee.
- As a committee co-chair, you will have the chance to run a committee and develop the chapter activities throughout the year. Complete the committee preference part of your membership application and indicate an interest in being a co-chair.
- As a chapter officer, you have the chance to plan and conduct the entire chapter program of activities for an entire year. Applications and interviews are completed before the annual FFA Recognition Banquet.
- Hands-on leadership provided through the FFA can truly be a stepping stone to a successful life. Successful chapter leadership can also open more doors in the FFA for you as well. Upon completing a chapter officer position, you may choose to set your sites on becoming a Regional, State, or National FFA Officer.

## Leadership Development Events (LDE's)

Leadership Development Events focus on creating situations for members to demonstrate their abilities in public speaking, decision making, communication and their knowledge of agriculture and the FFA organization. Louise FFA members have the opportunity to join the following LDE teams.

- **Junior & Senior Quiz Team:** Students will take an exam testing knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure FFA knowledge including history, facts, business structure, leadership and programs is given to individuals. Quiz teams can be made of 3 or 4 members.  
*Contact Mr. Wilson*
- **Junior & Senior Creed Speaking:** A member presents the FFA Creed from memory and answers questions about its meaning and purpose. This event is just one way to boost self-confidence, earn recognition, and develop powerful, organized and professional communication skills.  
*Contact Mr. Wilson*
- **Junior and Senior Agricultural Skills Demonstration:** A team of 3-5 members performs an actual demonstration of an agricultural skill including anything in the Agricultural Science and Technology curriculum using effective public speaking and communication methods.  
*Contact Mr. Wilson*
- **FFA Broadcasting:** A team of 3 members presents an informative radio program covering one or more agricultural subjects that is current in nature and local in content. The contest assumes that the chapter has a regularly scheduled radio program once each month over a local station.  
*Contact Mrs. Ross*
- **Agricultural Advocacy:** This contest will be designed to inform the general public and consumers about the importance and value of the agriculture industry and how agriculture impacts human lives. Agricultural Advocacy teams will be made up of 3-5 members from the same chapter.  
*Contact Miss. O'Brien*
- **Agricultural Issue Forums:** A team of 3 to 7 students research and analyze a current agricultural issue, create a portfolio and develop and deliver a presentation that stresses both pros and cons of their selected agricultural issue. Members defend their findings and answer judges' questions.  
*Contact Miss. O'Brien*
- **Job Interview:** At the competition, each member submits their resume, completes a job application for an agricultural position on site and participates in an interview via telephone, in person one-on-one and with a panel of possible employers.  
*Contact Miss. O'Brien*
- **Public Relations:** A team of 2 to 4 members develops and presents a 5-8 minute program informing a specified target audience regarding the Texas FFA and what it represents. The presentation is developed assuming the target audience has no knowledge of the FFA. Members are asked questions in response to their program following the presentation.  
*Contact Miss. O'Brien*



## Career Development Events (CDE's)

Career Development Events build on what is learned in agricultural classes and encourage members to put their knowledge into practice. These events are designed to help a member prepare for a career in agriculture by testing and challenging the student's technical, leadership, interpersonal and teamwork skills as well as their knowledge of the subject matter. Louise FFA members have the opportunity to join the following CDE teams.

- **Wildlife and Recreation Management:** A team of 3 to 4 students demonstrate and identify plant species, proper habitat management practices, safety procedures, game laws, management techniques as well as compass and pacing skills.

*Contact Mr. Wilson*

- **Floriculture:** This event requires students to identify plant materials, tools, and pests common to the industry, demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific principles and management practices applied in the industry via a written exam, make observations, draw conclusions, and utilize higher order thinking skills in problem solving situations. Floriculture teams are made up of 3 to 4 members.

*Contact Mrs. Ross*

- **Entomology:** A team of 3 to 4 members apply the fundamentals of entomology and develop skills in identifying common insects and their significance to people and agriculture.

*Contact Miss. O'Brien*

- **Veterinary Science:** At the competition, students will take a written exam, identify breeds, equipment and parasites as well as demonstrate practicum skills. Veterinary science teams will consist of 3 to 4 members.

*Contact Miss. O'Brien*

- **Poultry:** This CDE tests members knowledge on poultry basics, carcass grading, poultry processed products, egg grading and live bird evaluation. Team consists of 3 to 4 members.

*Contact Miss. O'Brien*

## Public Speaking Events

Speaking Development Events are designed to develop the ability of all FFA members to express themselves on a given subject. Students are encouraged to develop their communication skills and learn to formulate their remarks for presentation in a variety of situations. From writing an agricultural speech in the prepared speaking event, to thinking on your feet with the extemporaneous speaking event, FFA speaking events can truly develop your confidence and ability to lead through your words.

*Contact Mrs. Ross*

## Agricultural Mechanics

FFA and Jr. FFA Members may participate in Ag Mechanics Shows. Projects to be built in the shop will be approved by the Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor at their sole discretion. All approved projects built in the shop under the direction of the Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor will be entered at Ag Mechanics shows through the Louise FFA Chapter only.

Quality of workmanship, type of project, and student participation and attitude will be considered when approving projects for major show entries. Even though a project was preapproved for construction, it can be denied Ag Mechanics show entry if any of the above factors are found to be deficient.

Students to be selected for Ag Mechanics show participation should maintain good behavior and not exhibit persistent disciplinary problems. Any student that has displayed behavior problems will have a meeting with the advisors to discuss behavioral concerns. Inappropriate behavior will constitute removal for future Ag Shows. Removal of a student from the list of show participants will be at the sole discretion of the Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor with administrative approval. Such removal can occur at any time during the construction of projects.

Students exhibiting projects must be present at their assigned projects for the entire duration of time as outlined by the Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor. Any departure from this schedule may result in removal from the project for further shows. Any behavior at the show deemed inappropriate may result in immediate removal from the project exhibition at the current show. Such removal will be at the sole discretion of the Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor.

With time constraints and shop space some projects will have a higher priority than other projects. Students with prior experience will precede those that are new to the program. It will be left to the discretion of the Ag Teach/FFA Advisor to determine priority. Depending on the amount of participation, some students and projects may not be completed for all shows.

***\*\*\*All students exhibiting an agricultural mechanics project of any sort must complete the Quality Counts Program. The advisor in charge of your project will be your contact for information regarding this program.\*\*\****

## Livestock Shows

FFA and Jr. FFA Members may purchase, own and show animals under Louise FFA. Members should understand it is their responsibility to purchase, house, and care for their animals. The Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor will sign entry cards and check projects. The Ag Teacher/FFA Advisor will assist students in finding animals, but will not be responsible for purchasing animals. Members may use Ag Facilities to house animal project as long as they sign and agree to rules set by the teacher/advisor.

***\*\*\*All students exhibiting a livestock project of any sort must complete the Quality Counts Program. The advisor in charge of your specific species will be your contact for information regarding this program.\*\*\****

**Ms. O'Brien:** Poultry and goats

**Mrs. Ross:** Swine and cattle

**Mr. Wilson:** Rabbits, lambs and agricultural mechanics

## Agriscience Fair

Students use the scientific process as they reinforce skills and principles they have learned in agriscience courses. They conduct research projects and prepare a scientific report and display for judging at the state level.

State winners in each category in divisions 3-6 are awarded \$1,000 scholarship. State winners in each category in divisions 1-2 are awarded \$250 scholarship. All state winners will advance to the National FFA Summer Judging Process and are eligible to compete at the National FFA Agriscience Fair held in conjunction with National FFA Convention.

### Agriscience Fair Divisions

- Division 1 – individual member in grades 7 and 8
- Division 2 – team of two members in grades 7 and 8
- Division 3 – individual member in grades 9 and 10
- Division 4 – team of two members in grades 9 and 10
- Division 5 – individual member in grades 11 and 12
- Division 6 – team of two members in grades 11 and 12

### Agriscience Fair Categories

- Animal Systems
- Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems
- Food Products and Processing Systems
- Plant Systems
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems
- Social Systems

*Contact Miss. O'Brien*

## **Supervised Agricultural Experiences**

The Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) is a required component of a total agricultural education program and intended for every student. Through their involvement in the SAE program, students are able to consider multiple careers and occupations, learn expected workplace behavior, develop specific skills within an industry, and are given opportunities to apply academic and occupational skills in the workplace or a simulated workplace environment. Through these strategies, students learn how to apply what they are learning in the classroom as they prepare to transition into the world of college and career opportunities.

**To further define the types of SAE programs available to and appropriate for students of school-based agricultural education, refer to the following examples:**

### **Foundational**

Foundational SAEs are appropriate for all agriculture students. This SAE activity is usually beginner level, short term and designed primarily to help students become literate in agriculture and/or become aware of possible careers in the AFNR career cluster. Foundational SAEs should help students create a larger more focused SAE.

### **School-Based Enterprise**

This type of SAE is student managed, can be entrepreneurial or placement and takes place in a school setting outside of regularly scheduled class time. The project needs to provide goods and services that meet the needs of an identified market and should replicate the workplace environment as closely as possible. Examples of school based enterprises may include, but are not limited to, cooperative livestock raising in a school facility; managing or working in a school garden, a land lab or a greenhouse; agricultural research done at the school; agricultural equipment fabrication or equipment maintenance services done using school facilities; or managing or working in a school store.

### **Ownership/Entrepreneurship**

Students with an ownership/entrepreneurship type SAE own the enterprise, equipment and supplies, make the management decisions and assume the financial risks to produce a product or provide a service. All products or services must be agriculturally related. A few examples would include raising and selling animals or crops, building and selling agricultural equipment, buying and reselling feed, seed or fertilizer, owning a pet care business or a business that programs and installs computer equipment in tractors.

### **Placement/Internship**

Placement/Internship programs involve the placement of students in agriculture, food or natural resources-related businesses to provide a "learning by doing" environment. These experiences may be paid or unpaid. Examples would include working on a farm or a ranch, in a farm supply store or a food testing laboratory or in an agriculturally related non-profit organization.

### **Research**

In a research SAE students plan and conduct major agricultural experiments using the scientific process and discover new knowledge. As part of the research, students verify and demonstrate or learn about

scientific principles in agriculture. Research SAEs can be entrepreneurial or placement. Research SAEs can be conducted alone or cooperatively with other students or mentors/employers. Examples would include conducting research on the most efficient feed supplements for livestock or the best fertilization methods in plants. Research could also be done to study consumer reactions to agricultural products or to determine the best method of welding to hold together a plow.

### **Service-Learning**

A student-managed service activity where students are involved in the development of a needs assessment, planning the goals, objectives and budget, implementation of the activity, promotion and evaluation of a chosen project. It may be for a school or community organization. The student(s) are responsible for raising funds for the project (if funds are needed). A project must not part of an ongoing chapter project, or community fundraiser. Service-learning SAEs may be individual or a small group effort

## Official Dress

The FFA Jacket is the most recognizable symbol of the organization. As a member, one of your responsibilities is to ensure its proper use. Specific guidelines are outlined below.

1. The jacket is to be worn only by members.
2. The jacket should be kept clean and neat.
3. The jacket should have only a large emblem on the back and a small emblem on the front. It should carry the name of the State Association and the name of the local chapter, district or area on the back and the name of the individual and one office or honor on the front.
4. The jacket should be worn on official occasions with the zipper fastened to the top. The collar should be turned down the the cuffs buttoned.
5. The jacket should be worn by members and officers on all official FFA occasions where the chapter or state association is represented. It may be worn to school and other appropriate places.
6. The jacket should only be worn to places that are appropriate for members to visit.
7. School letters and insignia of other organizations should not be attached to or worn on the jacket.
8. When the jacket becomes faded and worn, it should be discarded or the emblems and lettering removed.
9. The emblems and lettering should be removed if the jacket is given or sold to a non-member.
10. A member always acts like a lady or gentleman when wearing the jacket.
11. Members should refrain from the use of tobacco and alcohol while wearing the FFA jacket or officially representing the organization.

All chapter degree, officer and award medals should be worn beneath the name on the right side of the jacket, with the exception that a single State FFA Degree charm or American FFA Degree key should be worn above the name or attached to a standard key chain. No more than three medals should be worn on the jacket. These should represent the highest degree earned, the highest office held and the highest award earned by the member.

## Louise FFA

### SAE Agricultural Livestock Facilities Contract

The use of this facility is a privilege for members of the Louise FFA chapter in good standing. The purpose of the farm is to maximize learning and allow FFA members to utilize the facility for an educational agricultural experience. The Louise FFA Ag Barn is provided for FFA members raising an animal project that do not have a place of their own to keep livestock.

In order for all parties to best utilize the facility, rules and guidelines will be enforced. These rules and guidelines will be monitored by the FFA advisors. In addition, security cameras may be used. Compliance with the rules ensures a safe, educational, and fun atmosphere that is conducive to learning.

Failure to abide by the following rules will result in:

- 1st Offense** - Verbal warning **\*(Excluding Rule number 3 & 4 listed below-1st offense is EVICTION)**
- 2nd Offense** - Written warning
- 3rd Offense** - Eviction of project

\*\*\* Louise ISD reserves the right to evict or remove any animal from the facility immediately if situation is severe enough. Any evicted project must be removed within three days of notification or the animal will become the property of the FFA chapter and sold at auction. The evicted student may not be allowed access for future projects.\*\*\*

1. **Eligibility-** Only FFA and junior FFA members in good standing may utilize the FFA farm facility. All projects kept in the school facility must be entered as FFA projects at all shows. These facilities are for Louise FFA students that do not have facilities to maintain livestock.
2. **LISD Expectations-** All LISD policies will be followed at all times. Parents and volunteers must adhere to all LISD guidelines while attending or supervising students. Failure to do so may result in the individual being banned from LISD/FFA activities.
3. **Animal Welfare-** Cruelty or endangerment to the animals/people will not be tolerated **and is cause for immediate eviction of the offender's animal by the AST (Agriculture Science Teacher)**. This includes but is not limited to: neglect, abusive training, malicious actions, using electronic devices without permission or unapproved drugs to your own animal, another student or another animal. Animals must be fed every day, twice a day. **Details can be found in the Animal Welfare Agreement.**
4. **Prohibited Items-** No alcoholic beverages, tobacco product, or controlled substance will be allowed on any LISD facilities. No persons under the influence of alcohol, tobacco or other controlled substances will be allowed on the school grounds at any time. Guns of any kind are strictly prohibited. **Failure to abide by these rules can result in immediate eviction of the student's animal on the 1st offense – NO WARNINGS.**
5. **Banned-** Students with prior in school suspension (ISS) for destruction of school property/vandalism, drugs or alcohol may not be allowed access to the facility for the safety and security of livestock and facilities. The FFA Advisory committee may review an applicant for admittance.



6. **Liability-** Safety for self and the project is the sole responsibility of the student. Any damage to the facility should be reported to an Ag teacher immediately. At no time can Louise ISD, nor any other school employee or administrator be held liable for injury, loss, or theft to a project, any individual or individual's property entering the facility. ***\*Any injuries or hazards should be reported to an FFA advisor immediately.***
7. **Facility Use-** This facility is intended for the use of Louise FFA students only. All animal projects must be approved by a Louise High School FFA advisor, and assigned a stall BEFORE being brought to the farm. This includes heifers previously housed at the farm and moved away for breeding or other purposes. The assignments will not be changed without teacher approval. Animal ownership may not change without teacher approval.
8. **Behavior Expectations-** Students are expected to act in a professional manner at all times while at the facility. Any activities which endanger the health or physical well-being of students, animals, parents, administrators, or advisors is strictly prohibited. While at the FFA farm facility, keep your body language "quiet". This means no screaming, yelling, sudden moves, running, throwing things in the barn, etc. The projects are not "rodeo" animals. Absolutely no riding, tackling, roping, etc to any of the animals will be tolerated. This behavior is detrimental to halter breaking and the health of the animal.
9. **Fees-** A yearly stall fee of \$50 for swine and \$100 for cattle will be accessed for electrical and miscellaneous expenses. Bedding material will be the responsibility of the student. Shavings will not be provided with this barn fee. In addition, a \$50 refundable deposit will be required. Once a student has fulfilled all responsibilities of the show year, the deposit will be returned.
10. **Move-In Requirements-** Before moving a project into a facility a student a student must complete the following:
  - a. Obtain permission from the Louise High School agriculture teachers.
  - b. Facilities contract signed and returned.
  - c. All fees paid in full.
  - d. In the case of heifers, the registration papers must be provided to the agriculture teacher.
  - e. Students and parents must sign the member handbook stating that both have read and understand the rules and consequences of the FFA farm facility.
  - f. Animals must be in sound health before entering the facility. Any sick or questionable animals will be required to have a veterinary inspection.
  - g. If the animal is a market animal that will be shown at the Wharton County Youth Fair, the exhibitor must comply with all of the requirements for the show.
11. **Contact Information-** All exhibitors must have up to date emergency contact information and veterinarian preference posted on the bulletin board at all times. In the event of an emergency, please call your veterinarian. If it is not your animal, all exhibitors should have emergency contact numbers listed on the bulletin board to call. Do not administer medication/feed or water to another person's animal.

12. **Theft-** Stealing will not be tolerated. Anyone caught stealing is subject to immediate eviction and possibly criminal charges. **\*\*Stealing is feeding your animal feed or hay that you did not purchase and without permission.** It is your responsibility to purchase your own feed and hay- not anyone else's. "Borrowing" does not produce responsibility.
13. **Surveillance-** The facility may be monitored by video surveillance at any time and viewed by AST.
14. **Facility Hours-** The project center will open at 5:30 am until 10:00 pm each day. After driving thru the gate entrance it is your responsibility to look back at the gate to make sure it closed. These hours will be enforced. Any exceptions must be granted by the Louise High School agriculture teachers. If students are given permission to enter the facility any other times than listed above, they must have a parent with them at all times. Violations of curfew could result in immediate eviction.
15. **Facility Modifications-** NO additions, subtractions, modifications, or construction relating to electricity, carpentry, plumbing or location may be made without the assigned teacher's approval. This includes the barn structure as well as the pens. The student is responsible for safe use of electricity on the Project Center. The use of electrical devices or extension cords must meet NEC and UL electrical codes. No cords shall lie in the aisle, across the pens or on the ground. Animals can chew on the cord and be electrocuted. Fans and/or outside panels must be pre-approved by AST.
16. **Facility Care-** Using the agricultural facility is a PRIVILEGE. The student is expected to respect the value of the project center. Ag facility should not be damaged in anyway; this includes but is not limited to sitting on gates or panels, throwing rocks, and damages caused by automobiles. Any defacing of property of equipment will mean dismissal from the facility IMMEDIATELY. Students will be held financially accountable for willful vandalism or destruction of any property on the part of the student(s) who commits the act.
17. **Cleanliness-** Cleanliness is a necessity. It is your responsibility to keep your pen area along with other areas you may use neat, clean, and orderly on a DAILY basis. This includes but is not limited to manure, trash, can drinks, water bottles, bags and old bedding material. Up to \$50.00 deposit will be kept for pen cleanup fee for students who have not cleaned their project area. This student will have to be approved for re-entry by the Principal and Advisors. In the event of a stall flooding: you are responsible for cleaning out the wet shavings and laying new shavings down for your animal. Whether it is your stall or a neighbor that has flooded your stall. You are responsible. It is suggested that if your stall is the stall that has caused the flooding, regardless of cause (broken water line, stuck float or turned on by animal or person) that person should offer to help clean up the mess out of common courtesy. But regardless, each stall is the responsibility of the leaser for any problems. It should be cleaned up within 3 days of problem.
18. **Waste Removal-** All waste must be removed by the end of day each Monday. Waste must be placed inside the dumpsters located at the bus barn. Bus barn gates are open all day during the school week until approximately 7p in the evening. Make arrangements to ensure that you take advantage of the time the gates are open. Students are responsible for providing their own rakes, shovels, etc.
19. **Feeding and Storage-** Feed must be kept in a closed container for pest control measures. Feed /hay/water troughs will be provided by the student. Hay bags are not permitted in stalls. In the event, you have to go out of town or have someone other than your parents or siblings (brother/sister) feed your animal please

notify the Ag teachers in charge of your species.

- 20. Animal Transportation-** Students and parents must be responsible for transportation to and from events with animals. This includes, but is not limited to veterinary visits, tag-in, jack-pot shows, county shows, etc.
- 21. Pets-** Absolutely no dogs or pets of any kind will be permitted at the FFA facility. NO EXCEPTIONS!!
- 22. Visitors-** Only students and family who house projects at the facility are allowed access to the facility. Guests must follow all project center rules and LISD rules and regulations. The Ag Farm resident student will be held responsible for any and all actions by individuals brought into the Ag Farm facility.
- 23. Noise/Loitering-** Radios shall not be played from the vehicle loudly or while feeding your animals. This facility will not be used for a loitering area or “hang out” for individuals.
- 24. Flip-flops-** Open toe shoes and flip flops are not permitted.
- 25. Health-** Students must administer medications or have the animal viewed by a veterinarian when the health of their animal seems compromised or when advised by the AST. Failure to do so could affect health of other student projects.
- 26. Student Projects-** These projects are the responsibility of the students and not the parents. We ask the parents to support the students to the fullest extent, but these are the student’s projects for them to carry out responsibilities.
- 27. Other Students’ Projects-** Students and family members may not feed, move, handle, water or provide any other care, regardless of the intent, to help other student’s projects without permission from the owner Louise agriculture teacher. If an animal needs food or water, call one of the agriculture teachers and report it. AST cannot assess the health and care of the individual animal if others are caring for it. Please do not make it your business to feed or care for another person’s animal or to complain about the care of the project. You may not be there when they are or they may come and go at different times than you. The AST will monitor the projects.
- 28. Fans-** Do not turn another student’s fan on or off. If a heifer is turned out, turn your fan off.
- 29. End of Show Season-** The exhibitor is to remove all market animals within 3 weeks from the Louise FFA farm after their respective market shows, unless consent has been given by the agricultural science teacher. Breeding projects that extend into another show season must receive permission to remain at the project center. Projects not removed will become property of FFA chapter and sold (excluding approved Breeding projects). If a student does not comply with the rules he/she may not be allowed access in the future. After the student submits a picture of the cleaned out stall, attends the mandatory barn cleaning and it is determined they fulfilled all responsibilities throughout the year (this includes ensuring that no damage was done on their part to the facilities), only then will their \$50 deposit be returned. Otherwise the deposit will be forfeited.

- 30. Barn Cleaning-** A barn cleaning date will be posted. All others must be attended or prior arrangements made with the AST. Each member will be given a weekly schedule in which they are responsible for the general areas. Everyone is busy, and there will always be something else to do, but at some point the student must make the cleaning a priority. This barn cleaning is SEPARATE from your stall cleaning. Stalls should be cleaned on personal time PRIOR to the barn cleaning and barn cleaning will be a group effort.
- 31. FFA Meetings Attendance-** Any student showing a project under Louise FFA must attend AT LEAST 4 FFA meetings held throughout the school year. If showing at the WCYF, must attend the mandatory Louise FFA fair meeting. Attendance is recorded, and this rule will be enforced.
- 32. Locks-** Locks are permitted on pens under prior approval are given by the assigned advisor. If approval is given, the lock MUST be a combination lock.
- 33. Animal Death-** If an animal dies at the facility; it is the exhibitor's responsibility to remove the carcass within two hours of being notified of death. If the carcass is not removed within two hours, this service will be provided at the expense of the owner of the animal project. If this expense is not paid, the exhibitor forfeits the privilege of using the farm facility in the future.
- 34. Issues and Chain of Command-** When a problem or concern arises, the way to resolve it is by following the established "chain-of-command." Always begin with the supervising teacher.
1. Supervising Teacher
  2. Principal
  3. Central Office

\*\*\*Remember, this facility is a privilege and if the student/parents cannot work cooperatively with Louise FFA, Louise ISD &/or staff, the student will be given one verbal warning, one written warning and the third incident will result in the eviction of the livestock project. No further stalls shall be rented.\*\*\*

## Louise FFA Animal Welfare Agreement

As a member of the Louise FFA chapter that is raising an animal project, you will know the importance of humane treatment of your livestock project.

1. I agree that my project (s) must be fed on a daily basis throughout the entire feeding period with a feed ration and schedule approved by the assigned advisor for my animal(s).
2. I agree that the animal's pen, stall or coop must be cleaned daily by removing any manure or soiled bedding every day.
3. I agree that my animal(s) should be provided with fresh water and fed daily with all watering and feeding equipment kept clean.
4. I agree that my project(s) should be dewormed regularly and provided veterinary attention when their health deems necessary.
5. I agree not to abuse or use excessive force on my project(s), especially when training and exercising my animal.
6. I agree not to use any drugs (or unnatural alternation techniques) on my animal without the approval of a veterinarian or my assigned advisor.
7. I agree to keep updated records on the feeding and care for my animal.
8. I agree to the following discipline management policy:
  - a. **1st Offense**- Verbal warning
  - b. **2nd Offense**- Written warning
  - c. **3rd Offense**- Eviction of project

At the time of a third violation, the student will have the option of removing their animal from the farm within 48 hours. If the animal is not removed within in 48 hours after receiving the third warning, the animal will be removed by Louise High School and sold for current market value at a local livestock exchange. Students who have a project removed from the farm will lose all privileges to the farm and will be unable to use it for future projects.

\*\*\*Louise ISD reserves the right to evict or remove any animal from the facility immediately if situation is severe enough.\*\*\*

**RETURN THIS PAGE WITH STALL FEE & SIGNED IF YOU WILL BE  
REQUESTING A STALL SPACE**

**Yearly Pen Rental: Swine: \$50  
Cattle: \$100**

**Deposit: \$50**

- **A 50.00 deposit check (UNDATED and made out to Louise FFA) must be attached to the signed form). Money will be refunded once all exhibitor responsibilities are fulfilled. Check will be returned after the advisor approves or deposited if responsibilities are unfulfilled.**
- The Agri-Science Department, Agriculture Science Teachers, FFA chapter, LISD, or teachers are not responsible for any loss or damage to any person, property, or livestock, which may occur on the project center. **Students and parents assume all risks, and should consider insurance policies which cover animal projects and other property.**
- In the event of an emergency/evacuation the owner is responsible for the animal’s welfare.
- The Ag teachers reserve the right to make decisions concerning the project center rules/projects , assigned stalls & barn in the best interest /residents/livestock at any time. These rules will be accessed, reviewed and amended by the FFA Advisors as needed.

**Students Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Stall #**\_\_\_\_\_

- I have read, understand, and will abide by the Facility Rules.
- I understand I am responsible for the actions of those I allow to enter the facility with me.
- I will maintain the general use areas (center aisle, dumpster area, wash rack, storage area, arena and bathroom) on a weekly rotational basis by signing up on the calendar.
- I will maintain a positive and cooperative working attitude with Ag Teachers and other barn members at all times.
- I understand that at certain times my Advisors will ask me to do a total cleaning of the tack room and stall area as well as a workday if needed around the facility.
- I will turn in a pen rental check and a \$50 deposit check, undated, made out to Louise FFA. I understand this will be deposited in the event I do not fulfill my responsibilities. I also realize that I will not be allowed access for future stalls if I am not following these rules.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date fee received: \_\_\_\_\_ AST Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Contact

During the course of the school year, it may be necessary for a sponsor/coach to contact your child via their cell phone to apprise him/her of important information and vice versa. Text messaging is an easy way to send and receive information fairly quickly, but a phone call may be necessary also. We would like to have your permission to use this form of communication during the scheduled events or activities that your child is participating in during the year.

As a rule, we have advised staff that all contact should occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. However, there may be situations that require a school employee to text outside of that time frame. For instance, if students are scheduled to leave prior to 7:00 a.m. and there is a schedule change (i.e. rain delay or cancellation), a sponsor or coach would notify the student as soon as information becomes available even if it is before 7:00 a.m.

Should you ever be concerned about the nature of any contact, please contact the campus principal immediately.

If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to call the campus principal or our office at 979-648-2202 Ext. 301

Brittany Ross, Ronny Wilson and Megan O'Brien

\*This form is available digitally using the following link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDlywrbuu-oLVjSRqf6EcbyaP7aZldivdMLUXvHWqxEUqK-w/view?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDlywrbuu-oLVjSRqf6EcbyaP7aZldivdMLUXvHWqxEUqK-w/view?usp=sf_link)

\*Link is also available on the Louise FFA website: <https://louiseffa.ffa.org/default.aspx?ID=11207>

**Students Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN THIS PAGE SIGNED**



**Louise FFA & Ag Department**  
**TRAVEL and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

The above named student has my consent to travel to and/or from events participated in by this organization during this school year including all errands and activities related to duties and assignments made to members enrolled in the Louise FFA/AGRISCIENCE CLASS. The mode of transportation will be Louise ISD provided transportation.

1. All students must abide by state, district and campus policies at all FFA/AGRISCIENCE sponsored events, whether held during normal school hours, after school hours, or on weekends and holidays.
2. I understand that students who violate said policies will be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with the STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT, including possible removal from future participation in FFA events.
3. I understand that infractions to any of these said policies which include theft, vandalism, and possession of illegal substances will result in notification of parent/guardian and my child being returned to school at the parent's expense with no reimbursement of funds.
4. I agree to, and hereby, release Louise Independent School District and its trustees, employees, sponsors and volunteers from all legal responsibility from liability resulting from any activities of this organization, including liability caused by or related to the negligence of any such party.
5. I understand that the main mode of communication for the entire FFA will be email and I will ensure that I stay up-to-date and current on events and information sent via email.
6. I **agree or do not agree** (please circle one) to allow my child's name and picture to appear on the Louise FFA web page or other social media accounts or in articles in the newspaper.

This form must be signed and returned to the sponsor before the student will be permitted to participate in any activities of this organization. This Louise FFA & Agricultural Science Department Handbook has been published to help your son/daughter gain the greatest possible benefit from his/her FFA/Agricultural Science experience. The FFA needs your cooperation. It is very important that each FFA member understands the opportunities and regulations outlined in this handbook. Parents are to encourage their son/daughter to abide by all rules or regulations set forth in this manual. Please go over all agreements outlined in this handbook and return them to your Ag Teacher.

I have read and received a copy of the Louise FFA & Ag Department Handbook. I understand that my son/daughter will abide by and will be held accountable for the information outlined in this handbook.

\*This form is available digitally using the following link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDiywrbuu-oLVjSRqf6EcbYaP7aZldivdMLUXvHWqxEUqK-w/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDiywrbuu-oLVjSRqf6EcbYaP7aZldivdMLUXvHWqxEUqK-w/viewform?usp=sf_link)

\*Link is also available on the Louise FFA website: <https://louiseffa.ffanow.org/default.aspx?ID=11207>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (printed)

Signature of Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

AST Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN THIS PAGE SIGNED**