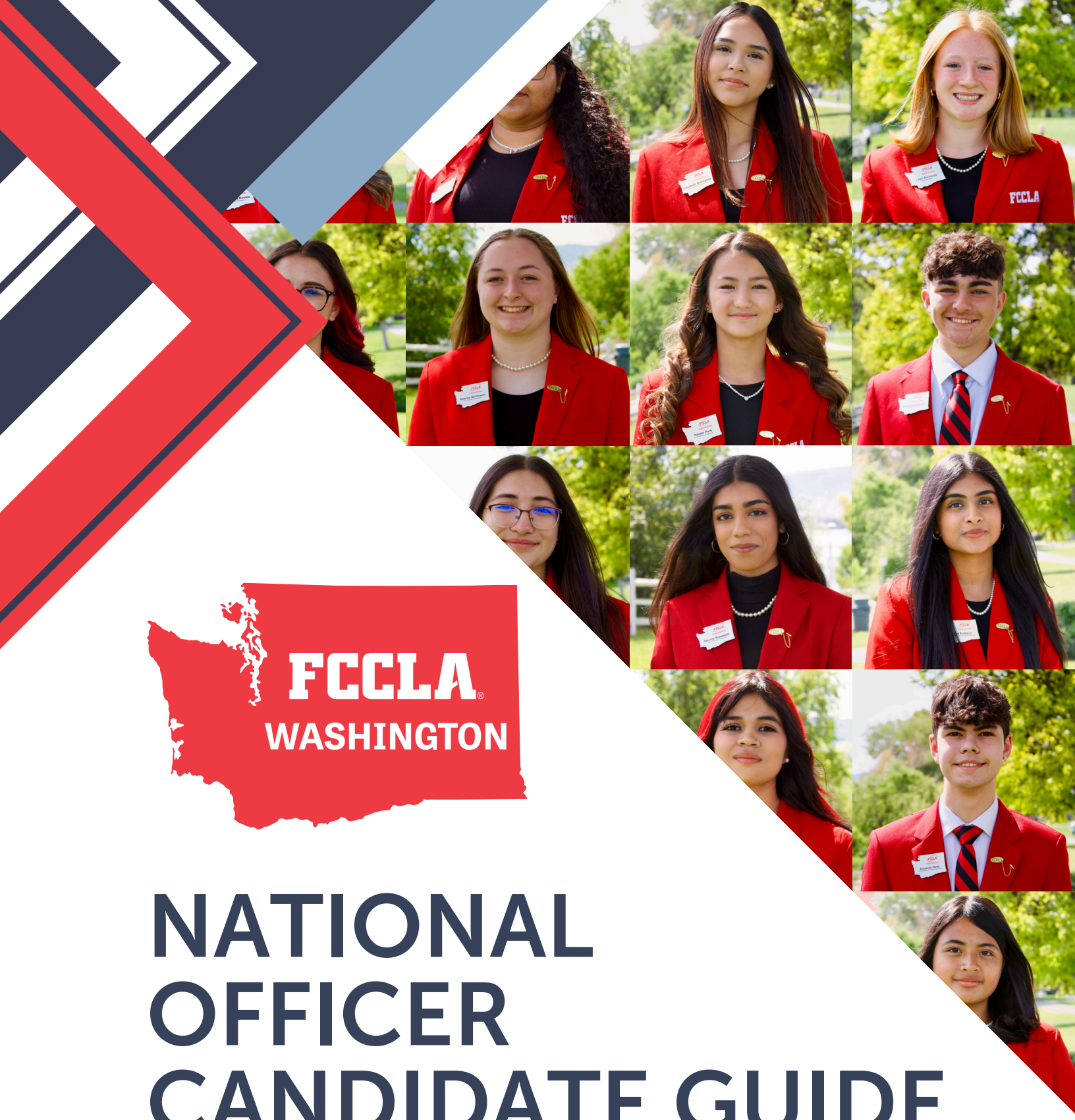

FCCLA WASHINGTON

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE GUIDE

2027 ELECTIONS

WASHINGTON FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA

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ELECTIONS STAFF CONTACT

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ALL OFFICER CANDIDATE APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY:

JANUARY 20, 2027, BY 11:59 PM PST

LETTER TO ADVISERS

Washington FCCLA Chapter Advisers,

Serving as Washington's National Officer Candidate (NOC) is one of the most prestigious leadership opportunities available to our members. This experience allows students to refine their leadership, communication, and professional skills while representing Washington FCCLA on the national stage. We are excited that your student is considering this distinguished opportunity!

Before a member can represent Washington as our National Officer Candidate, they must first be elected by the state membership during the State Leadership Conference. With this honor comes a significant level of responsibility, dedication, and commitment—both for the candidate and for their adviser.

We depend on advisers to help ensure that students understand these expectations and are prepared for the responsibilities that come with seeking and, if elected, serving as Washington's National Officer Candidate. Your support and partnership are essential throughout this process—from preparation and campaigning to training and national involvement.

By signing and submitting the forms in this packet, you are committing to support your student and Washington FCCLA through the election and candidacy process. Serving as an adviser to a candidate is a collaborative effort between you, your student, and the Washington FCCLA State Staff—and your engagement plays a vital role in their success.

Thank you for encouraging your student to step forward and seek election as Washington's National Officer Candidate. Your guidance helps empower members to lead, serve, and make an impact beyond our state.

Sincerely,

Austin Dedmon
Executive Council Coordinator
Washington FCCLA State Staff

IS RUNNING FOR NATIONAL OFFICE RIGHT FOR ME?

We are so excited that you are considering running to represent Washington FCCLA as our 2027 National Officer Candidate (NOC)! Serving as a National Officer is one of the most impactful and rewarding leadership experiences available in FCCLA. Many past national candidates and officers describe their journey as a defining moment that shaped their confidence, leadership, and future success.

Along with the incredible opportunities and benefits that come with seeking national office also come important responsibilities. Washington FCCLA State Staff will be by your side throughout the entire process—helping you prepare, balance school and leadership commitments, and develop the skills needed to represent our state with excellence. However, it's important that you carefully consider your decision to run and understand the level of time, focus, and dedication required.

The time commitment for National Officer Candidates can vary throughout the year. In the months leading up to the State Leadership Conference, you'll spend time preparing your application materials, practicing interviews, and developing your platform. If you are elected by the state membership as Washington's National Officer Candidate, additional preparation and training will continue through the national conference and beyond. Your academics should always remain your top priority, but you'll also be expected to stay on top of your FCCLA commitments and deadlines.

As Washington's National Officer Candidate, you'll be expected to attend all required meetings, trainings, and conferences related to your role. You'll represent Washington at the National Leadership Conference and may be called on to assist at state events or meetings throughout the year. These responsibilities are an exciting opportunity to grow as a leader, but they also require maturity, reliability, and communication. While we hope elected National Officer Candidates' outcome is election to the National Executive Council, selected National Officer Candidates who are not elected will maintain a position on the State Executive Council as Executive Vice President.

To help you prepare, Washington FCCLA State Staff are available to meet upon request to answer any questions you may have about the application process, requirements, time commitments, or expectations.

If you're ready to take on a new challenge and represent Washington FCCLA on the national stage, we encourage you to step forward! It's normal to feel a little nervous, but this opportunity will provide you with unmatched experiences, connections, and leadership growth that will serve you far beyond high school.

We are thrilled that you're considering this next step and can't wait to see where your leadership journey takes you!

National Officer Candidate Interest Meeting:

- **Available upon request:** Please contact Austin Dedmon at coach@officer.wa-fccla.org.

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY & POLICIES

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Active membership in an affiliated chapter for one school year prior to assuming official duties.
2. Completion of one family and consumer sciences education course prior to assuming official duties.
3. Completion of two (2) Power of One projects.
4. Completion of STEP one.
5. Cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (4.00 scale) or higher at the time of application.
6. Complete and submit all forms by the published deadline and submit with their completed application.

POLICIES:

- Each chapter may submit up to one (1) National Officer Candidate Nomination Packet.

- Each candidate must:
  a. Be a registered attendee for the State Leadership Conference by the published registration deadline.
  b. Attend State Leadership Conference.
  c. Maintain a GPA of 2.5 (4.00 scale) or greater throughout their term of office if elected.
  d. Follow all election guidelines.

- Chapter adviser should assist with the upload of all forms to Washington FCCLA.

- Election of National Officer Candidates will be held during the state leadership conference in the spring. Each chapter shall be entitled to one vote for the purpose of electing National Officer Candidates.

- **CAMPAIGNING:** A cover letter and resume will be sent by State Staff to the chapters in the state before the State Leadership Conference, and distribution of your candidate flyer by State Staff, are the **ONLY** campaign advertisements permitted. **The use of social media to advance your candidacy and ask chapters for their vote is prohibited**. Candidates **are permitted** to announce they are seeking office via social media. Buttons, banners, flyers, gifts and similar items will be considered violations of the campaign policies. Individuals found to be in violation of campaign advertisement policies will be disqualified.

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ELECTION PROCESS

There are three phases leading to the election of a Washington FCCLA National Officer Candidate: **(I) Nomination, (II) Examination and Interview, and (III) Election.**

(I) NOMINATION:

- **Review this packet in its entirety and comply with the state guidelines and requirements.**

- **Review all information provided by the national office regarding running for national office.**
  - https://fcclainc.org/lead/national-officers/national-officer-election-information

- **Print and Complete or obtain the following forms (including necessary signatures):**
  - National Officer Candidate Nomination Form
  - Current Transcript
  - Cover Letter
  - A Complete Resume
  - Recommendation Letter from Chapter Adviser

- **Complete and Submit:**
  - **Washington FCCLA's** National Officer Candidate Application
  - Submit all completed forms as outlined above.

(II) EXAMINATION & INTERVIEW:

- **All national officer candidates will take part in a panel interview and complete a FCCLA Knowledge Test prior to the 2027 State Leadership Conference.**
- Panel interviews will be conducted on Zoom with all confirmed candidates after the nomination period has closed.
  - All candidates will receive further instructions from State Staff on how to schedule their panel interview.
- The Washington FCCLA Knowledge Test will be completed and proctored utilizing the ClassMarker platform.
  - All candidates will receive further instructions from State Staff on how to access ClassMarker.
  - The testing window will be 1 week and will be communicated by State Staff following the close of the application window. A study guide is publicly available on our website.

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ELECTION PROCESS

(III) ELECTION:

- **PRIOR TO STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:**
  - The supplied cover letter and resume will be provided to all chapters prior to State Leadership Conference.
  - Prepare a flyer illustrating candidate qualifications for the Opening Session at the State Leadership Conference.
    - No larger than 8.5" x 11"
    - The flyer may include experience in and outside of FCCLA, pictures, information about past projects, etc.
    - An example flyer can be found on the Run for Office page of the state website.
    - **A copy of the flyer must be submitted with your application.**
  - Prepare a two (2) minute speech addressing the following speech topic:
    - Our theme this year is ConneCTEd: Pieced Together For 80 Years. Describe how you will continue to build connections among members and help piece together a stronger future for our organization.
  - Prepare a response to each of the following questions. You will be asked one (1) fact and one (1) opinion during the Opening Session:
    - **Fact:** What is the purpose of FCCLA@theTable?
    - **Fact:** Whare are the six FCCLA Career Clusters?
    - **Opinion:** How can FCCLA remain relevant to the next generation of student leaders while staying true to its mission and values?
    - **Opinion:** If you could change one misconception people have about FCCLA, what would it be, and how would you address it?

- **AT STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:**
  - Opening General Session:
    - Candidates will be introduce themselves on stage (Name, Chapter, Region).
    - Present two (2) minute speech based on specified speech topic.
    - Each chapter will receive a copy of your candidate flyer.
    - Respond to a fact and opinion question.
    - Respond to an impromptu question. **Impromptu questions and designed to test your ability to respond spontaneously and will further demonstrate your knowledge of FCCLA and your thoughts about leadership.**

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE ELECTION PROCESS

- **ADDITIONAL STATE CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES**
  - Participate in rehearsal for Opening Session.
  - If approved by Washington FCCLA Voting Delegates:
    - Participate in the incoming and retiring officer social.
    - Participate in installation practice. **Installation will be on Thursday evening at the Recognition session.**

*** A detailed schedule with times and locations for all of the items above will be sent to candidates before the State Leadership Conference.**

UNIFORM & CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

Officers and officer candidates are expected to follow a standard dress code at all official activities.

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATES: During the election process, candidates are expected to be in FCCLA official attire including the FCCLA blazer.

- FCCLA red blazer*
- Professional shirt
- Neckwear options can include neckwear from the official emblematic supplier, black or red tie, black or red bow tie, a single strand of pearls, red black, and/or white scarf, or no neckwear
- Black bottoms (slacks, skirt, sheath dress)
- Plain black dress shoes or pumps (no patent leather, suede, buckles, or bows)
- Installation: Official Dress

*Some previous officers may be willing to sell their blazers at a reduced price, or you may be able to borrow one from a neighboring chapter.

Upon election, each officer will be expected to obtain the appropriate full uniform.

- FCCLA red blazer
- Black sheath dress with skin-tone nylons
- Black dress slacks with black socks
- Professional long sleeve white shirt with a pointed collar (oxford-style, with a button at the collar, suitable for a tie)
- FCCLA tie or FCCLA ascot
- Plain black dress shoes or pumps (no patent leather, suede, buckles, or bows)

UNIFORM RESOURCE LINKS:

- Blazer: https://fccla.mybrightsites.com/pages/7985
- Necktie: https://fccla.mybrightsites.com/products/Necktie
- Ascot: https://fccla.mybrightsites.com/products/Ascot
- Button Up, Sheath Dress, Dress Shirt, Skirt options from Uniforms Today**:
- https://fccla.uniformstoday.com/
- Amazon options for dress, pants, button ups, shoes, and pearls**: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1XGT0WXEEGNOH?ref_=wl_share

**Candidates are not required to purchase these exact items; this is just a link to acceptable and affordable options.

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE FORMS

The forms on the following pages must be submitted for a candidate's application to be complete. Incomplete packets will result in the disqualification of the candidate. Please ensure that all requested information is provided and that each form is complete and contains all requested signatures.

Submission Deadline: January 20, 2027, by 11:59 PM PST
Upload forms through the State/National Officer Candidate Application Form on the Washington FCCLA website. Navigate to "Lead and "Run for Office".
https://wa-fccla.org/run-for-state-office/

Required Items:

- National Officer Candidate Application (Online Form)
- National Officer Candidate Nomination Form
- Current Transcript
- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Recommendation Letter from Chapter Adviser
- Officer Candidate Flyer

NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE NOMINATION

Chapter:

Please list the name of the candidate being nominated from your chapter. Note that each chapter is allowed to have one (1) national officer.

CANDIDATE NAME	NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE

Chapter Adviser Signature

Date

RESUME INFORMATION

The candidate will submit a resume listing the information below. Candidates must keep the resume to no more than two (2) pages. This resume along with a cover letter may be sent to chapters in the region prior to State Leadership Conference.

Information needed for the resume:

- Candidate's picture
- Candidate's school and grade
- Family and Consumer Sciences and related courses and grade levels when taken.
- FCCLA Projects
- National Programs Completed (with a brief description)
  - Power of One Units (A Better You, Family Ties, Take the Lead, Working on Working, Speak Out for FCCLA)
  - Career Connection
  - Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety (FACTS)
  - Families First
  - Financial Fitness
  - Community Service
  - Stand Up
  - Student Body
- State Projects
- Competitions
  - STAR Events
  - STATE Events
- FCCLA Leadership
  - Committees
  - Local Office(s)
  - Region Office
  - State Office
- FCCLA Events/Conferences
  - Region Fall Leadership Conference
  - National Fall Leadership Institute / Virtual Leadership Experience
  - Region/Culinary STAR Events
  - State Leadership Conference
  - National Leadership Conference

WASHINGTON FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA

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