

Alamo District FFA Constitution

ARTICLE I - Name, Mission and Strategies

Section A. The name of this organization shall be The Alamo District FFA of the National FFA Organization.

Section B. The mission and strategies for this district are as follows:

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**.

1. Develops competent and assertive agricultural leadership.
2. Increases awareness of the global and technological importance of agriculture and its contribution to our well-being.
3. Strengthens the confidence of agriculture students in themselves and their work.
4. Promotes the intelligent choice and establishment of an agricultural career.
5. Encourages achievement in supervised agricultural experience programs.
6. Encourages wise management of economic, environmental and human resources of the community.
7. Develops interpersonal skills in teamwork, communications, human relations and social interaction.
8. Builds character and promotes citizenship, volunteerism and patriotism.
9. Promotes cooperation and cooperative attitudes among all people.
10. Promotes healthy lifestyles.
11. Encourages excellence in scholarship.

ARTICLE II - Organization

Section A. The Alamo District FFA is a chartered district unit of the Texas Association of FFA, which is chartered by the National FFA Organization.

Section B. This district accepts in full the provisions in the constitution and bylaws of the Texas Association of FFA as well as those of the National FFA Organization.

Section C. The advisors from the chapters in good standing, from the Alamo District, shall elect each year (at the Texas Agricultural Science Teacher's Conference) an executive committee. The Alamo Executive Committee shall consist of, but shall not be limited to, a president, secretary, and treasurer. The Alamo District Advisors' President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by the advisors of the Alamo District FFA chapters. The Alamo FFA District Executive Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Collection of District dues for the Alamo District
Treasurer's Responsibility
2. Ordering of the District Awards
Treasurer's Responsibility
3. Running the Alamo District Advisor's Meeting
President's Responsibility
4. Keeping the minutes from the Advisors' Meetings
Secretary's Meeting
5. Official correspondence of the Alamo District
Secretary's Responsibility
6. Validating district winning teams
President's responsibility

7. Handling grievances
8. Informing the Chapter's within the Alamo district of information
9. The Alamo District Executive Committee shall not be paid for their service, but shall be reimbursed for any expenses made on the behalf the operation of the Alamo District, provide reasonable documentation is provided.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Schools within the Alamo District

The regular activities of this district shall be carried on by the active membership from the following schools: Burbank FFA, East Central FFA, Highlands FFA, Jefferson FFA, Judson FFA, La Vernia FFA, James Madison FFA, Somerset FFA, Southside FFA, and Southwest FFA.

Section B. Active Membership

An active member in good standing may vote on all business brought before the district through their chapter's voting delegate. An active member shall be considered in good standing when:

1. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study. Either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career.
2. Show an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership, and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.
3. Pay all current chapter, district, area, state and national dues by the date determined by each organization.
4. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

Section C. Names of applicants for membership shall be filed with the Alamo District Treasurer each year by the chapters within the Alamo District by the designated date in order to be in good standing. All chapters not in good standing will have letters filed with the area, state and national association by the Executive Board.

Section D.

Each Chapter will have voting rights through a voting delegate system as established by the Texas FFA and National Organization, provided they are in good standing with the Alamo District. Each local chapter shall be entitled to send one delegate from its active members to serve on the voting delegation at the district meetings, camps, banquets, and checks; plus one additional delegate for every 50 members (or any fraction thereof, above the 50 members. Chapter will be allowed to participate in district activities if they have not paid their dues for their membership and have not submitted their membership roster to the Alamo District (teacher) Treasurer by the designated time.

ARTICLE IV - EMBLEMS

Section A. The emblem of the National FFA Organization shall be the emblem for the district.

Section B. Emblems used by the members shall be designated by the National FFA Organization.

ARTICLE V - Degrees and Privileges of Active Membership

Section A. There shall be five degrees of active membership based on individual achievement. These degrees are: (1) Discovery FFA Degree, (2) Greenhand FFA Degree, (3) Chapter FFA Degree, (4) State FFA Degree and (5) American FFA Degree. All Discovery FFA members are entitled to wear the regulation bronze and blue emblem pin. All "Greenhands" are entitled to wear the regulation bronze emblem pin. All members holding the Chapter FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation silver emblem pin. All members holding the State FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation gold emblem charm. All members holding the American FFA Degree are entitled to wear the regulation gold emblem key.

Section B. Junior FFA, Alumni, Collegiate and Honorary Members do not have the same privileges as active members (i.e. No voting or speaking privileges) and do not count in their membership count for voting delegation.

ARTICLE VI – State, Area, District Officers

Section A. The offices of the Alamo District FFA shall be: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel. The teacher(s) of agricultural education from the school in the Alamo District FFA officers shall be the FFA advisor(s). The advisor(s) from the school from which the district president is a member shall be the lead advisor of the student organization. District officers shall be elected annually by the members present at the spring meeting of the district that is designated for such business.

Section B. The district officers shall be elected by the district using a simple majority vote of the delegation; when there are more than three candidates for office, each school will cast 2 votes, per delegate (for two different candidates on a single ballot). Delegates are required to sign their school's name on the back of the ballot for verification. Any school not following this protocol will lose their 'casted votes' (i.e. if they vote twice in one round for their own candidate/delegate or do not sign their ballot – the votes will not count). The following Campaign Guidelines will be used in the district election process:

Candidates will draw for a random candidate number and presentation order.

1. All Candidates for district office will follow an election procedure that includes: a test, an interview and vote. All candidates for district office will report for a designated testing and interview day (as designated by the executive committee). This day will be a separate day from the voting and district election day.
2. The election process will include a test prepared by a source outside the district (i.e. Wiegat Graphics), and an interview of a panel of three from outside the Alamo District (ex: three ag teachers from neighboring district). The top two candidates from this process will go to the delegation for a vote. The top vote getter will be president and the other candidate will be vice-president. The remaining candidates will then be ranked by the delegation for office according to their votes. The order will be: (Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter and Sentinel). If all officer positions are not filled with candidates, that have gone through the election process, then a separate election will be held the day of the election to fill the remaining positions.
3. Alamo District Officers will include: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and sentinel.
4. On election day all candidates will be given 2 minutes to present to the delegation a prepared campaign speech. Once a candidate has exceeded his/her time – the district advisor will call time.
5. Each candidate may be asked 1 question (but not required), as established by an election committee. The Alamo District Advisor's Executive Committee will establish the election committee.
6. Alamo District FFA will purchase a FFA jacket and pin for these officers and pay the

Area VII Camp Fee for the district officers to attend the camp.

7. All new officers are expected to attend all District FFA functions including, but not limited to: Area VII Camp, Alamo District FFA LDE Contest, Alamo District Banquet Alamo District Meetings, and other activities established by the Alamo District Advisors' Executive Committee.
8. Alamo District Officers are expected to provide meaningful programs/activities for the Alamo District FFA under the direction of the Alamo District FFA Advisor and the Alamo District Advisors' Executive Committee.
9. Budget request for activities must be made in writing to the Alamo District Advisors' Executive Committee 3 weeks prior to the event. The Alamo District Advisors' Executive Committee may, or may approve the request based on available funds and/or district support.
10. No campaign materials will be allowed for election. Members shall not contact not contact chapters or their members prior to Election Day for the purpose of securing their vote. State Guidelines will be enforced.
11. A District Officer Contract must have completed, signed, and filled with the Alamo District Advisor's Secretary prior to the election.

Section C. Limitations on Alamo District Officer Candidates: Only two members per FFA Chapter may hold office at the district level, during the same year providing the following:

1. That there are not enough candidates from the district chapters present during the election process to fill the established slate of officers.
2. That the second candidate from a chapter may not enter the election process until the remaining chapters (within the election process) have filled the offices with their candidates. Once each school within the election process has obtained a district office, then the second candidates may enter the election process.
3. All candidates have properly followed all election procedures and have filled the correct contracts with the Alamo District Advisor's Secretary.

Section D The Area VII, State, and National Candidates shall be elected at the spring meeting designated for such business by the Alamo District Advisor's Executive Committee. The following Campaign Guidelines will be used in the Alamo District Election for the Area VII, State, and National Office:

1. All candidates must have properly completed (i.e. computer generated application, signatures, supporting documentation, etc.) the application for the corresponding office that they seek and submit a copy to the Alamo District Advisor's Executive Committee on or before the day of the interview and test.
2. The Executive Committee will then verify the candidate is eligible to run for the office they seek.
3. Prior to elections, all candidates will complete an interview and test on the date and time set by the Alamo Executive Committee.
4. Each candidate may be asked no more than 2 questions as established by an election committee established by the Alamo District Advisor's Executive Committee on the election day in front of the delegation.
5. Candidates will be voted on in the following order: Area, State and National officer

candidates.

1. All elected candidates are expected to attend the Area VII convention, and State FFA Convention.
2. No campaign materials will be allowed. Members shall not contact chapters or their members prior to Election Day for the purpose of securing their vote.
3. The top candidate will be determined using the following scoring process. The scaled score for each category (i.e. the total possible score scaled to 100) will count as follows: test 35%, interview 35%, and vote 30%. The candidate with the highest score will proceed to represent the Alamo District FFA. Example- 1400 out of a possible 2000 interview score would be scaled to equal 70 ($1400/2000 \times 100 = 70$). 70 would then be multiplied by 35% to give the candidate 24.5 points in that category.
4. All selected candidates are expected to attend the conventions at each level that they are selected for (Area VII, Texas FFA, and National Conventions).

Section E. District Officers Not Fulfilling their Duties

All Alamo District Officers not attending those activities outlined in Article VI, Section B, #7 will be removed from office, unless otherwise approved by the Alamo District Executive Committee. Those Alamo District Officers with conflicts may request to miss a district activity. This request should be done in writing with the Alamo District Advisor's President prior to the scheduled event. Since the activities of Area VII Camp, Alamo District Leadership Workshop, and Alamo District Check/Banquet are clearly a function of the officer's position, little consideration for missing these events will be given. If an officer is removed from office, the remaining officers will be moved up in office and the Alamo Executive Committee will determine what shall be done with the open district office. Furthermore all expenses incurred by the Alamo District on the behalf of that officer may be billed to that officer's school for repayment (ie. Camp, Jacket, Pin) by the Alamo District Treasurer.

Section F. The District Talent and other elected positions shall be elected under the guidelines established by the Alamo District Advisor's Executive Committee. When possible the area and state guidelines should be considered for the election process.

ARTICLE VII - Dues

Section A. District dues in the Alamo District shall be fixed annually by a majority vote of the Advisors from the chapters in the Alamo District.

Section B. Full local, area, state and national dues shall be paid by all active members.

Section C. No member shall be considered as active and in good standing unless he/she pays full local, district, area, state and national FFA dues.

ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

Section A. This constitution may be amended or changed at any regular district meeting by a two-thirds vote of the official voting delegate present providing it is not in conflict with the state association constitution or that of the National FFA Organization.

Section B. Bylaws may be adapted to fit the needs of the district at any regular district meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present providing such bylaws do not conflict in any way with the constitution and bylaws of either the area, state or the national organization.

Written 6/27/2005(LAK-ECFFA)3 update
Adopted ___9/9/2005_____

Revised as Written 7/29/2010 (LAK-ECFFA)2 update

Adopted ____9/8/2010____

Revised as Written 9/4/2013 (LK-ECFFA & AW - JFFA) update
Adopted ____9/4/13