



About Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT)

COLT focuses on chapter officer leadership development.

Members who aspire to be local leaders—regardless of their assigned or elected position within the local program—are encouraged to attend. It is important to note that unlike Greenhand Fire-Up (GFU), the curriculum for COLT occurs in a two-year rotation. This is done by design, recognizing that while nearly 100% of the audience for GFU changes every year, the COLT audience does not experience this extreme changeover. After six years of program delivery and revisions, we are confident in the programming offered. The details of this programming are outlined below.

Officer Specific Duties Breakouts. Workshops are delivered for each of the six constitutional officer positions. It is up to the local chapter to determine which members participate in which breakout. The intention of the breakout is not to “cover” all duties of a respective office. Rather, the focus is to help the officers with what we believe are the most common responsibilities officers have across all FFA Chapters. Our hope is that if we help them become comfortable with one or two of their duties, they will have the confidence to seek out resources to develop their skill set in performing other officer duties that are introduced at COLT, but not developed at COLT.

Rotational Workshops. As previously mentioned, COLT programming is delivered in a two-year rotation. Even-year rotational workshops are identified as follows:

- Teamwork & networking
- Agriculture literacy & knowledge
- Servant leadership
- Professionalism

Odd-year rotational workshops are identified as follows:

- Advocating for agriculture
- Connecting with stakeholders
- Recruiting for the local chapter
- Working as a cohesive team

Chapter Officer Team Collaboration Time. The absence of chapter officer team collaboration time is a common critique of COLT. Please know that the variance of officer attendance from chapters involved and variance of host site facilities across all six districts create logistical challenges to offer this dimension of training. In the current format, timing, and locations of COLT, there is little to no capacity for the Iowa FFA Association to deliver chapter officer team collaboration time that is customized for each of the 20+ chapters that are in attendance at a typical COLT. Chapters who desire to have this are encouraged to schedule their own team retreats and/or leadership programming immediately following their respective COLT conference.