

Officer Installation Ceremony

Arrangements

To use the following ceremony, place eight white candles, representing the purposes of the organization, on a table covered in white. One red candle is placed in the center of the table. This represents the light of Family and Consumer Sciences Education.

The president presides and stands at the center back of the table. All other installing or outgoing officers form a semicircle around the table. Incoming officers form a second semicircle one step back and to the left of their counterparts. Following acceptance of responsibilities, each incoming officer moves to the front semicircle with the outgoing officer moving to the back.

If outgoing officers are not participating in the ceremony, have incoming officers fill all parts, adapting words to match the situation. The adviser, an experienced chapter leader, or an alumni member might lead the pledge of office and officer acceptance of duties.

President: *Lights red candle as other lights are dimmed, and says:* “This candlelight represents the light of Family and Consumer Sciences Education as it radiates throughout the world. It is the light of our ideals, our purposes—for we know as FCCLA members, we have an opportunity to strengthen individual, family, and community life.”

The remaining outgoing officers each take a turn lighting a white candle and reciting one of the eight FCCLA purposes.

Officer: *Lights the first candle from the red candle.* “This candle symbolizes our first purpose—to provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.”

Officer: *Lights alternating candle from the red candle, as do each of the following officers in turn.* “This candle symbolizes our second purpose—to strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society.”

Officer: “This candle symbolizes our third purpose—to encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community.”

Officer: “This candle symbolizes our fourth purpose—to encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony.”

Officer: “This candle symbolizes our fifth purpose—to promote greater understanding between youth and adults.”

Officer: “This candle symbolizes our sixth purpose—to provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities.”

Officer: “This candle symbolizes our seventh purpose—to prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today’s society.”

Officer: “This candle symbolizes our eighth purpose—to promote Family and Consumer Sciences and related occupations.”

President: “At this time we would like to focus our attention on leadership. Good leaders are special people; they view the situation, recognize the need, and encourage the necessary action. They understand the importance of teamwork and cooperation and the fulfillment of responsibilities.”

Vice-President: “Each year symbolizes one more step in the process of individual growth. The installation of newly elected officers is both a joyful and solemn occasion. We congratulate them and look forward to their new vision.”

President: “The following officers have been elected to serve this chapter for the coming year.”

(Reads officers’ names and their respective offices.)

“As incoming officers, the highest honors of the organization are being bestowed on you. Our chapter has faith and confidence in your ability to lead the organization forward. The pledge of your office signifies your willingness to do this. Please repeat after me.”

All repeat pledge: “I will, to the best of my ability ...
faithfully perform all the duties ...
of the office to which I have been elected.”

President: “You have heard the pledge your officers have made. It is important that you support them in the performance of their duties.

“Will each officer-elect please step forward as I call your office and name.

“President [name]. The office of president is one of great responsibility. You will want to be firm, impartial, considerate, and a friend to all members. As this chapter’s incoming president, are you familiar with your duties?”

President-elect: “Yes I am.”

As officers-elect are called, they step forward and accept their offices. If time permits, they may also tell what FCCLA means to them personally and what they hope to accomplish in the coming year.

President: “As outgoing officers we ask you to remember that real leadership strength comes through cooperative efforts. We are confident the organization will continue to grow under the leadership these new officers will provide.”

President: *Hands gavel to president-elect.* “By giving you this gavel, I now relinquish the presidency of the [school] Chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.”

New President: *(May give a short speech or read appropriate prose or a poem.)*

“My hope is that this coming year will bring us close to the realization of our Creed in both thought and action. Will everyone please rise and join us in repeating our Creed.”