

Blaine Allen King

Preferred First Name

Blaine

High School

Crest High School

Chapter Name

Crest FFA Chapter

Chapter Number

KS0090

Semesters of Agricultural Education Completed

11

Years in FFA

5

In what level of education are you currently enrolled?

High School

If you will be enrolled in post-secondary education following election to state office, where will you be attending?

Kansas State University

Anticipated College Major

Agricultural and Natural Resources Communications

Career Objective

Broadcast Journalist with agricultural/rural story focus

FFA and Agriculture Education Experience

Supervised Agriculture Experience Program and Scope

I began my Agricultural Communications SAE in the eighth grade, redesigning and running my chapter's website. My SAE has since outgrown the website. I now serve as an FFA in the USA Reporter for National FFA, writing stories about local agricultural/FFA events and sharing them at the national level, and with local media such as newspapers and TV stations. The goal of my SAE is to promote FFA and agriculture among the general public in order to create a more agriculturally literate public.

FFA Leadership Experience: (Office/Committee Assignment, Organization/Group, Year Held) - List up to 5

East Central District Treasurer, 2025-2026 (1 year), FFA in the USA Reporter, 2024-2026 (2 years), Crest FFA Chapter President, 2024-2026 (2 years), Crest FFA Chapter Secretary, 2022-2024 (2 years), Member, Kansas FFA State Officer Residence Committee, 2025-2026 (1 year)

FFA Activities: (Chapter, District or National Events; CDEs; LDEs; Leadership Programs; and other FFA sponsored activities) - List up to 10

Agricultural Communications CDE, 2022-2026 (4 years), District Officers Conference, 2025 (1 year), Ritual Demonstration LDE, 2022 & 2025 (2 years), State Convention, 2022-2026 (4 years), National Convention, 2022-2026 (4 years), Prepared Public Speaking LDE 2023-2025 (2 years), KSU Ag Ed Speech Day 2025-2026 (2 years), Kansas FFA Leader Lab, 2026 (1 year), East Central District Banquet, 2025-2026 (2 years), Fort Scott Aggie Day Prepared Public Speaking, 2024-2025 (2 years)

Other Leadership and Service Activities: (Community, School, 4-H, Church, Sports, Clubs, etc.) - List up to 10

Crest FBLA, Member (4 years), Treasurer (1 year), President (1 year), Anderson County 4-H Council, Member (2 years), Vice-President (2 years), Seekers-Not-Slackers 4-H Club, Member (11 years), Reporter (3 years), Vice-President (1 year), President (1 year), Parliamentarian (1 year), CIA Attendee (1 year), National Honor Society, Member (2 years), Student Council, Member (4 years), Colony Methodist Church, Attendee (18 years), Acolyte & Usher (15 years), Full Member (6 years), Witness Committee Member (6 years), Vacation Bible School Volunteer (1 year), Blessing Box Volunteer (4 years), Facilities Volunteer (7 years), and 150th Anniversary Celebration Volunteer (1 year), PTK Honor Society (1 year)

Essay Questions

What is your biggest accomplishment up until now? How has it shaped you and your leadership style?

My biggest accomplishment so far has been being able to serve on the FFA in the USA Reporter team, not only for being selected to serve on such a team, but also for the opportunities that have followed the program. Through this program, I was able to further explore my interest in agricultural communications far beyond what could be offered to me at the local, district, or state level. Before beginning this program, I was unsure whether my SAE truly fit into any criteria set forth by the organization. This opportunity allowed me to connect with members nationwide with shared interests and similar SAEs, which solidified my SAE as well as my passion. Without this experience, I would not have the same outlook on personal and professional life as I do today. This program not only inspired me to pursue a degree in agricultural communications but also connected me with valuable resources and individuals at the university level. Outside of educational pursuits, I learned more about the career field of broadcast journalism and how agriculture can be incorporated in multiple forms of journalism. Personally, this opportunity forced me to step outside my comfort zone. Although initially nervous about the quality of my writing, interviewing people I had just met, and recording a news story in a busy area and in public, I was molded into a stronger writer and interviewer, and I gained confidence when recording. Furthermore, I was forced to be outgoing, interact with not only other FFA members, but the public as well. Moreover, this role, although intimidating at times, has molded me into a better leader, provided me with a passion, and better prepared me for my service as a District Officer and now as a State Officer Candidate.

If elected, how would you positively influence the Kansas FFA Association?

"We need you, and the country needs strong leadership." I vividly remember our Chapter President stating these words from the Official FFA Manual during the ceremony in which I received my greenhand degree. Although simple to some, this statement caused me to pause and reflect on my impact and purpose in this organization and industry. I later passed these words along to our most recent group of greenhands as President of my chapter. Only then did I realize the magnitude and purpose of these words. I believe these words instill a feeling of belonging, need, and demand for each individual member, not only within our organization, but within our country. As a Kansas FFA State Officer, I would positively influence the association by reinforcing ideals laid out in this line. I would work to instill a feeling of belonging in each member of our organization by my unwavering commitment and support of our members, our programs, and our association. I believe that, just as this line is only included for greenhands, our future as an organization begins at the greenhand level. By supporting greenhands through support of greenhand programming, I intend to nurture our emerging leaders. This line is included to start a leadership journey and foster a desire, which is not exclusive to greenhands. Leadership is a lifelong journey. By ensuring that members of all age levels have the encouragement, resources, and support they need to succeed and reach new heights within our organization, we will push the association forward into a new generation of leadership, involvement, opportunity, and growth. Moreover, by our lifelong-leadership-oriented approach to leading this organization, we can grow leaders eager to apply for chapter officer positions, proficiencies, STAR awards, participate in agriscience fairs, and ultimately feel called to serve at the district or state level. But more than any position, a feeling of worth, direction, and purpose is something that each Kansas FFA member can achieve if they pursue opportunities within FFA. Moreover, in the ceremony, the Advisor states, "Just as there are metals more precious than bronze, there are rarer and more precious laurels to be won within our organization." I end with this line because it adds that our leadership journey is not one and done; it is a constant cycle of self-improvement and development, which is an essential mindset that must be imprinted upon each member of our organization.