



Washington FCS Annual Conference
October 18 to 20, 2026
Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington

2026 Theme: Cheers to FCS!

Conference Rates

AAFCS/WA-FACSE Members	\$575.00	Non-Member	\$875.00
Retired member	\$350.00	Retired Non-members	\$400.00
Student Member	\$150.00		

*Includes all sessions, events, 2 lunches and 2 breakfasts

After October 4, 2026, Registration Fees will be increased to LATE registration fees.
 Online registration will close after the conference ends on October 20, 2026.

REGISTER HERE

Conference Hotel: Great Wolf Lodge, 20500 Old Hwy 99 SW, Ground Mound, WA

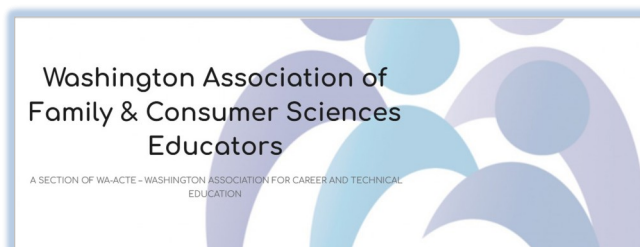
Booking Information: www.greatwolf.com

Reference Block Code: 2610FACSE

Rates: \$169.99/night + 19.99 resort fee + taxes

Hotel Booking Deadline: Friday, September 25, 2026

Presented by



WAFCS Scholarship Fund Seeking Donation

...for the annual fundraiser at the
Washington FCS Annual Conference
October 18-20, 2026

*The 2026 Scholarship Fundraiser is going to be a
combination of the Dollar Dash and Silent Auction
Help us meet our goal of \$2000!*



Dollar Dash, Monday Luncheon: Students will dash around the room for two minutes and collect cash donations from attendees.

Silent Auction, Monday in the Vendor Room: Donated items from FCS professionals will be available for competitive bidding.

Cash, Checks, and Credit Cards will be accepted!



Do you have something to donate?

We are accepting *new* personal items, handcrafted items, things of interest for students and young professionals on a budget. We love gift cards from Amazon, coffee stands, restaurants, and department stores.

**Bring your “table-ready” donations with you to registration.
We’ll take it from there.**

All proceeds from the fundraiser will be added to the WAFCS Scholarship Fund. The 2027 Scholarship will be awarded to a student from Central Washington University.

2026 Affiliate Program of Work

1. Deepen engagement through digital connection

- Build strong online presence to keep members connected and active year-round

2. Strengthen retention through personal outreach

- Foster a sense of belonging and connection among all members

3. Elevate visibility & collaboration across FCS

- Increase awareness of AAFCS' impact and partnerships

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION



2026 Executive Board Officers

President: Jordy Larsen

President Elect: Bilen Yitbarek

Secretary: Jacky Warnock

Treasurer: Margaret Viebrock

Nominations: René Ketchum

Membership: Leah Song & Cori Schmidt

Awards: Karen Bergh & LynDee Lombardo

Executive Director: Diane Grossenbacher

Communications Director: Donna Graham

AAFCS Resources & Current Programs

As members of AAFCS, you are entitled to access to several online resources. Links are provided below.



FCS Specialist Recruitment

The **AAFCS Community on Public Policy** has launched an effort to establish a database of AAFCS members with specific subject matter expertise. The database will serve as an internal AAFCS membership resource, providing access to professionals who can offer guidance and clarification on issues affecting individuals and groups across the profession.



AAFCS Grantmaking Program

Purpose: Support scientific inquiry, validate and advance the FCS Body of Knowledge, and address important societal challenges in Family and Consumer Sciences.

The AAFCS Grantmaking Program will fund projects focused on:

- Research
- Innovation
- Effectiveness
- FCS Recruitment

<https://www.aafcs.org/resources/fcsforward>



[Join Fellow Family and Consumer Sciences Professionals](https://www.aafcs.org/advocacy/home)

Join us as we work with legislators, regulators, industry, their communities and others to bring visibility to emerging challenges and the critical role that Family and Consumer Sciences plays in supporting individuals, building strong communities, and establishing frameworks for success in communities around the United States.

<https://www.aafcs.org/advocacy/home>



A longstanding campaign by the AAFCS to encourage all FCS professionals, students, affiliates, communities, programs, related organizations, and supporters to ELEVATE Family and Consumer Sciences! We celebrate and highlight the value and impact of the FCS profession!

Join AAFCS as we celebrate the value and impact of the FCS profession! Learn more about our different campaigns and find out how to participate!

<https://www.aafcs.org/news-and-events/elevate>



Recruit Prepare Support

There is a documented shortage of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) educators across the nation! To address the shortage, an innovative and collaborative approach to recruit, prepare, and support FCS educators is critically important!

<https://www.fcsed.net/home>

AAFCS Annual Conference in Louisville, Kentucky
June 18 - 21
Four days of speakers, stimulating sessions, and fun with friends!

The conference began with something new and different - a cruise on a paddle-wheeler.
 It was a relaxing evening to visit with friends and our Washington FCS Family!



Connecting with FCS Colleagues in Louisville



Washington's 2026 Award Winners!



Jacky Warnock
New Achiever

The New Achiever Award identifies and honors emerging family and consumer sciences professionals who have exhibited the potential to make significant contributions to the field through their involvement with AAFCS.



Dr. Debbie Handy
Distinguished Service Award

The DSA was established by the American Home Economics Association (AHEA) Foundation in 1979 as a living tribute to members of AHEA (now AAFCS) to recognize superior achievements in FCS, outstanding contributions to the FCS profession, and sustained association leadership at both state and national levels.



Margaret Viebrock, CFCS, CNWE
Lifetime Legacy Award

The AAFCS Lifetime Legacy Award, introduced in 2026, is designed to recognize and celebrate AAFCS members whose sustained involvement has shaped AAFCS and the profession.

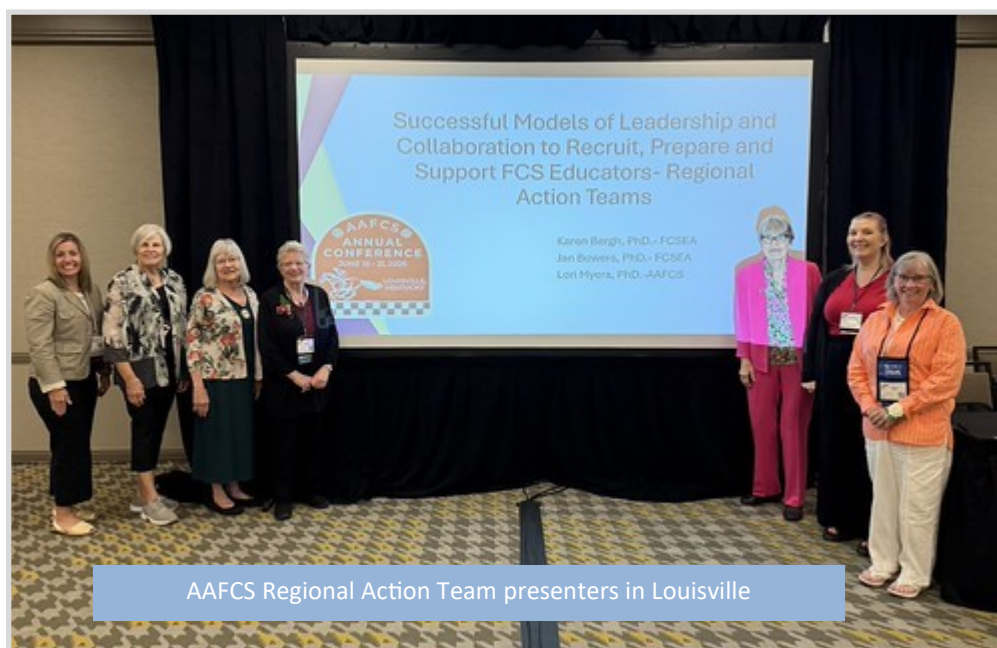
Successful Models of Leadership and Collaboration to Recruit, Prepare, and Support FCS Educators: Regional Action Teams

The National Partnership for Recruiting, Preparing, and Supporting FCS Educators: the work continues!

In 2018, the National Partnership received a USDA/NIFA grant to facilitate recruiting, preparing, and supporting FCS educators. One goal of that grant was to meet the needs of isolated and disadvantaged northeast FCS educators, many of whom did not have FCS representation in their state education agencies nor an institution in their state providing an FCS degree. The success of that project prompted a request for targeted resources for serving isolated FCS educators in other regions. Through new funding, the National Partnership is facilitating five regional leadership teams within the field for supporting FCS educators in their professional practice settings. These regional action teams offer networking opportunities for isolated and overwhelmed FCS educators as they independently work to deliver effective FCS programs. Washington, along with Oregon, Idaho, California, Utah, Wyoming, Nevada, Colorado, Montana, Hawaii, and Alaska form the Western Region. Presently a group of representatives from each state in the region are:

- ⇒ Exploring regional needs and challenges in recruiting, preparing, and supporting
- ⇒ High-quality FCS educators.
- ⇒ Engaging attendees in identifying their needs and priorities.
- ⇒ Identifying models, resources, and opportunities to meet regional needs.

You are encouraged to join this collaborative group by emailing Theresa Golis, the Western regional facilitator at tkgolis@gmail.com or Karen Bergh, National Partnership team member at berghkm@gmail.com.



***Washington Affiliate Member LynDee Lombardo
Wins the T-Shirt Design Contest***

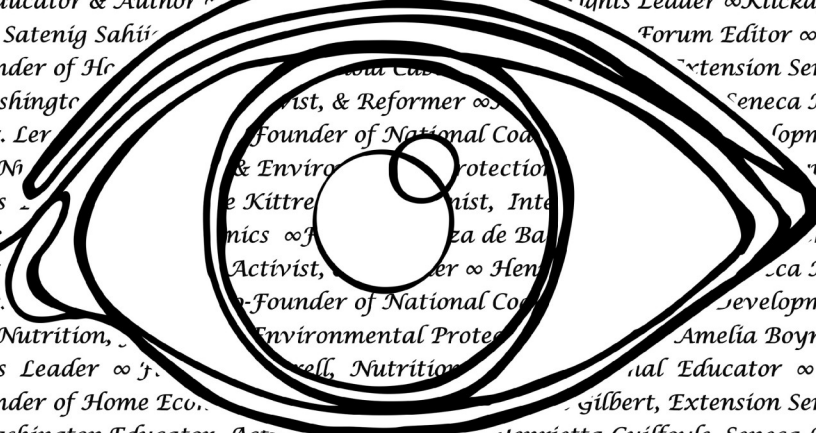


Congratulations to LynDee Lombardo for her winning T-shirt design, "FCS Visionaries." Her design won the most votes by AAFCS Members at the 2026 Annual Conference!

The design will be on the back of the shirt and the AAFCS Logo will be on the front

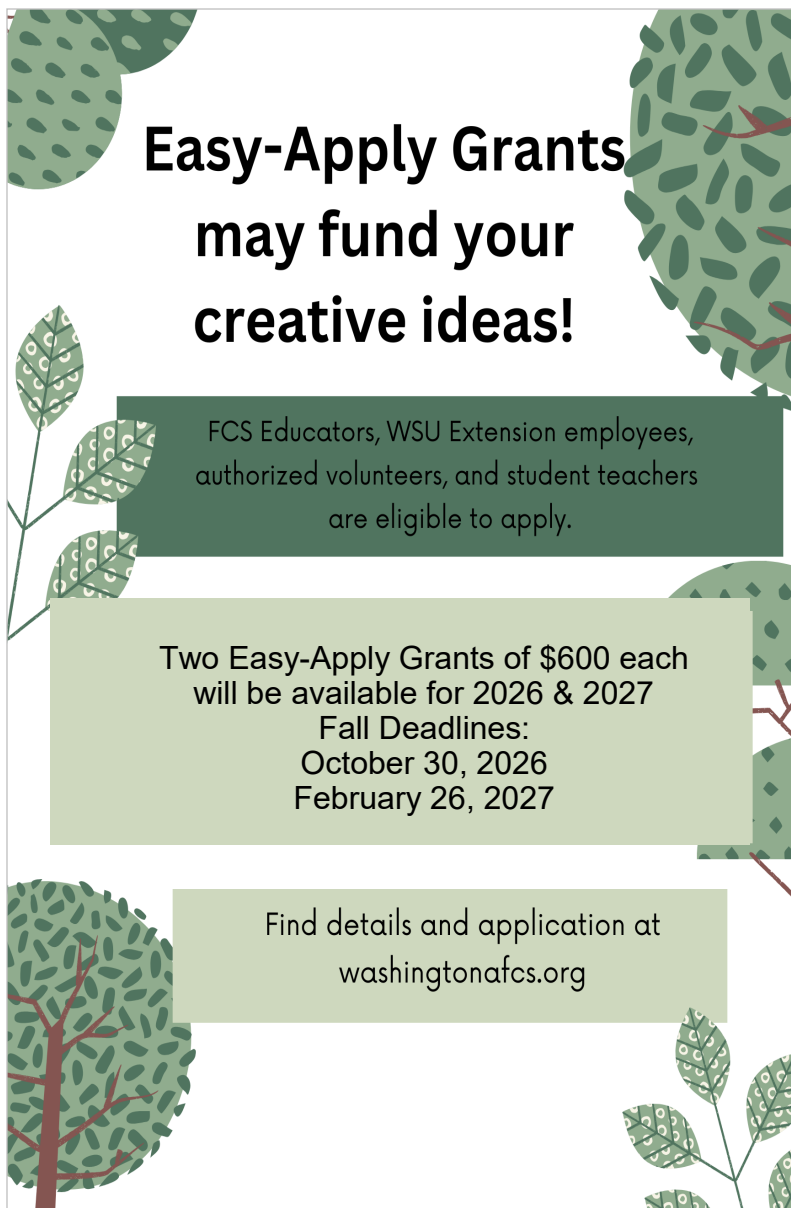
The T-shirts will be available online following the AAFCS Annual Leadership Summit.

Visionaries in FCS



Who Always Had An Eye to Our Future

WAFCS Member Opportunity: Easy Apply Grants



NEED ADDITIONAL FUNDS\$ FOR an in-class project, equipment, supplies, field trip or all-school project? Support your project goals with the...

Washington Affiliate of Family & Consumer Sciences

Easy-Apply School Grants for 2026

ALL Washington **Family and Consumer Sciences members** who are engaged in delivering Family and Consumer Sciences educational programs from WSU Extension employees, authorized volunteers, student teachers to active FCS educators, are eligible to apply.

Two Easy-Apply Grants of \$600 each will be available for Fall 2026

Deadlines:

October 30, 2026 and February 26, 2027

The goals for this grant program are to:

- Engage project participants through exposure to a wider variety of FCS topics.
- Enhance participant learning by supplementing equipment, supplies, or educational experiences.
- Encourage new and continuing membership in the Washington Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Affiliate.

Current **WAFCS membership** is required to apply for the \$600 grant. If you are not currently a member, it is easy to join at \$100 per year for **new** professional members and \$150 for **renewing** members, with \$50 for collegiate or postsecondary student members. Visit the national website at **AAFCS.org** to join or renew your membership with the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, noting Washington State as your chosen affiliate. You can select to join with the yearly membership fee paid in full or in monthly installments.

[Click here for the Easy Apply Grant application](#)