

# The Sound School Regional Aquaculture Center

## “Terms Regarding SOE”

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2008-2009

**Supervised Occupational Experience:** The Supervised Occupational Experience is a requirement that all Sound School students must complete. Each student must earn 150 SOE hours per year. To use an example: students cannot earn 300 SOE hours in their junior year and say that they have done their senior hours, they must complete SOE hours each and every year. A VoAg instructor or an employer must supervise this experience. It must also be occupational in that it relates to either aquaculture or agriculture depending on the program that your son/daughter is enrolled in.

**FFA Directed Laboratory:** This occurs after school, summer and sometimes on weekends usually on campus and is under the supervision of a VoAg teacher. The directed labs are industry driven and are imbedded with work readiness skills. Students are given SOE hours for their participation provided they have completed and filed their “FFA Directed Laboratory Form”. Students that participate in a FFA Directed Laboratory are required to join the FFA in order to receive SOE hours.

**FFA Subchapters:** This occurs after school and sometimes on weekends usually on campus and is under the supervision of a VoAg teacher. The main difference between a FFA Directed Laboratory and an FFA Subchapter is that the FFA Subchapter has elected officers, has scheduled meetings with minutes and hosts or attends a “CDE” (Career Development Event) that includes other VoAg Centers. Work readiness is also a big part of the FFA. Students do not have to complete any paperwork; the VoAg teacher will submit student hours. Students that participate in an FFA Subchapter are required to join the FFA in order to receive SOE hours.

**Cooperative Placement:** This is very similar to an internship and most of the time it occurs after school and sometimes the student is released during the school day. The student has the opportunity to get out into the aquaculture/marine trades or the agriculture field to do course related fieldwork. SOE hours are awarded at the end of the Cooperative Placement. A Cooperative Placement Form must be completed and filed before any student is released.

**FFA:** (Future Farmers of America) The VoAg backbone is FFA. FFA is a student organization that instills leadership in young people. Leadership that is linked to work readiness a quality that is much needed with young people. Students are urged to join FFA; the cost is \$20.00 per year. Students that are FFA members are able to apply for FFA scholarships in their senior year. FFA gives out more scholarship money than any other source. FFA also helps fund school trips and activities. Students that are not members cannot participate in any trip or activity that is funded by the FFA.