

Why should schools offer agricultural education?

Illinois

Agricultural Education

www.agriculturaleducation.org

Why should schools offer Agricultural Education?

- To teach and reinforce science, math, language arts, and social science principles – Agricultural Education is multidisciplinary.
- To prepare students for a career in the largest industry in Illinois and America.



Agricultural Education teaches and reinforces academic concepts.

- The Illinois Agricultural Education Curriculum consists of over 600 academically rigorous, standards-aligned lessons in the areas of Animal Science, Plant Science, Agribusiness, Horticulture, Agriculture Mechanics, and Environmental Science.



Agricultural Education teaches and reinforces academic concepts.

How can agricultural education help schools meet the expectations set forth by NCLB?

- The agricultural education curriculum includes performance-based, academic assessments to evaluate student progress towards meeting or exceeding the Illinois Learning Standards.



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How can agricultural education help schools meet the expectations set forth by NCLB?

- The agricultural education curriculum includes E-units, which are 4-5 pages of student content that is formatted similar to a textbook and can be used to improve students' reading comprehension.



Agricultural Education teaches and reinforces academic concepts.

Agriculture courses can fulfill high school graduation requirements for science.

- 79% of agricultural programs offer academic credit in math, science, or consumer economics.



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Agriculture courses can fulfill high school graduation requirements for science.

- Two courses, Biological Science Applications in Agriculture (BSAA) and Physical Science Applications in Agriculture (PSAA) are accepted as lab-science credit for college entrance.





Career Preparation

- 1 in 4 people in Illinois are employed in the agricultural industry.
- Agriculture is a significant segment of the U.S. economy – it is responsible for 16.3% of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP).



Career Preparation

- A majority of Illinois agricultural education graduates enter post-secondary education.
 - Students continue their education to prepare for the more than 300 careers in the science, business, and technology aspects of agriculture.





Timothy Sandles
Area IX President
2000-2001

St. Mary's Saleh
Area II
President

St. Mary's
Area IX
President
2000-2001

How do students benefit from an agricultural education program?

National FFA Organization

- FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.



National FFA Organization

One Mission: Student Success

- FFA is an intra-curricular organization that applies the concepts learned in the agricultural education courses.
- FFA is composed of 500,000 members from throughout the U.S., making it the world's largest youth organization.



How do students benefit from an agricultural education program?

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)

- SAE's are a practical application of classroom instruction that provide students with hands-on experiences that develop workplace skills.



How do students benefit from an agricultural education program?

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)

- SAE's develop students' entrepreneurial skills and allow them to earn money.
- In Illinois, agricultural education students strengthened local economies by earning over 9 million dollars through SAE's.





Funding is available.

- New programs receive a start-up grant of \$10,000, which is dispensed over a two year period.
- Funds are available every year through the incentive funding grant which is based on program quality indicators.
 - Average Statewide allocation - \$3000



Are quality teachers available?

- Over the past 10 years Illinois has averaged 30 graduates in agricultural education.
- To view teaching candidates click [here](#).



Who can help you establish an agricultural education program?

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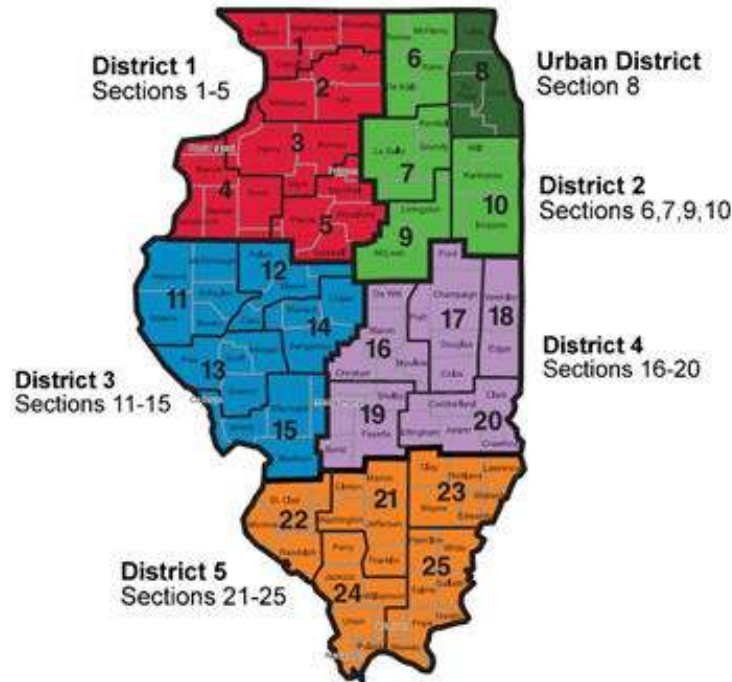
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Agriculture Awareness Efforts

- 62 counties in Illinois are served by Agriculture in the Classroom Coordinators who conduct classroom presentations and provide elementary teachers with classroom resources about agriculture.
 - Last year they reached 246,000 students.

