

DARE TO BE | 2020 ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES (AFNR) EDUCATION REPORT

















Illinois Leadership Council for Agricultural Education (ILCAE) is a volunteer, grassroots agricultural BICULTURA industry group focused on the expansion and improvement of Agricultural Education programs at all levels. ILCAE is primarily an advocacy group focused on strengthening Illinois Agricultural Education and the agricultural industry through such accomplishments like the legislation that established the Illinois Committee for Agricultural Education (ICAE) and the Agricultural Education line item within the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) budget. Chair, Allyn Buhrow

Illinois Committee for Agricultural Education (ICAE) is a 13-member committee established by legislation and appointed by the Governor to advise both the governor and state education agency concerning Agricultural Education K-adult. Chair, Dr. Amy Leman

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is the state agency responsible for preK-12 education, including career and technical education. The principal consultant serves in a supervisory, administrative capacity related to program approval, funding and regulatory requirements. AFNR Consultant, Andrew Klein

Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE) is supported with funds from the Agricultural Education line item within the ISBE budget. Project staff includes a coordinator and five district professional staff charged with improving education in and about agriculture and related agricultural industries, pre-kindergarten through adult levels. **Coordinator, Dean Dittmar;** Program Advisors, John Heiser, Luke Allen, Jennifer Waters, Megan Coy, **Casey Bolin**

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) program combines the efforts of the Illinois Farm Bureau, Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE), University of Illinois Extension, Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Illinois Agricultural Commodity organizations, various agribusinesses, and others in providing agricultural literacy for students at levels preK-8. Education Director, Kevin Daugherty

MOTING LOCAL University Council consists of the Agricultural Teacher Education faculty from the five state universities offering teacher education programs in agriculture, ISBE, FCAE Coordinator and Program Advisors, FFA, and IAVAT. The primary focus of this group is to maintain consistent, high quality preservice agricultural education programs and to identify research priorities. Dr. Lucas Maxwell, Dr. Jay Solomonson (ISU); Dr. Seb Pense, Dr. Howard Heavner, Dr. Steven Still (SIUC); Dr. Amy Leman, Gary Ochs (UIUC); Dr. Andrew Baker (WIU); Dr. Penny Haase Wittler (IC)

Illinois Foundation FFA is a foundation established to receive and disburse funds to support quality Agricultural Education/FFA programs. Chair, Joe Webel; Director, Mindy Bunselmeyer; Treasurer, John Edgar

LEDUCA

Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers (IAVAT) is a professional organization for agricultural education teachers at all levels. President, Ann Piotrowski; Director, John Edgar; Associate Director, Mindy Bunselmeyer

> Illinois Association of Community College Agriculture Instructors (IACCAI) is a professional organization for postsecondary agricultural education teachers at all levels. President, Brian Clement; Director, John Edgar

Illinois FFA Alumni Association supports and promotes the FFA organization and its activities and agricultural education at every level. The focus of the association is the local chapter affiliate. **President**, Steve Yandell; **Director, Mindy Bunselmeyer**

Illinois Association FFA is a career and technical student organization for students enrolled in Agricultural Education programs at the junior high, senior high, and collegiate levels. This organization promotes premier leadership, personal growth, and career success for all agricultural education student members. President, Alexis Mueller; Executive Secretary, Mindy Bunselmeyer; Associate Executive Secretary, John Edgar

Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) advocates for Illinois' agricultural industry and provides the necessary regulatory functions to benefit consumers, the agriculture industry and our natural resources. The agency also promotes agribusiness in Illinois and throughout the world. Director, Jerry Costello II

PROGRAM SUCCES Illinois Professional Agricultural Student (PAS) organization is a career and technical student organization for students enrolled in agricultural programs at the postsecondary level. PAS provides students with professional development opportunities, helping students get an edge in today's job market. President, Gwen Heimerdinger; Director, John Edgar; **Assistant Director, Mindy Bunselmeyer**

> **Illinois Farm Bureau** is a grassroots, statewide organization dedicated to enhancing the people, progress and pride of Illinois and its farming community. President, Richard Guebert Jr.

















ILLINOIS COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Amy Leman, Chair (Adult Education) University of Illinois

Brad Pilcher, Vice-Chair (FFA) Bayer Crop Science

Kevin Daugherty (Ag Literacy) Illinois Farm Bureau, Ag in the Classroom

Kaizad Irani (College Agriculture Instructor) Parkland College

Doug Hanson (ILCAE) ProHarvest Seeds

Allyn Buhrow (ILCAE) Farmer, Pioneer Seed

Aimee Shasteen (ILCAE) Farm Credit Illinois Kim Haywood, Jr. (ILCAE) Lovejoy Academy

Erika Allen (ILCAE) Urban Growers Collective

Jody Heavner (Secondary Agriculture Teacher) Pittsfield High School

Suzanne Schafer (Secondary Agriculture Teacher) Taylorville High School

Gary Ochs (University Agriculture Instructor) University of Illinois

(Required representation by state statute)

Allyn Buhrow, Chair Farmer, Pioneer Seed

Greg Webb, vice-Chair Archer Daniels Midland (ADM)

Michael Zecher, Secretary Zecher Farms

Erika Allen Urban Growers Collective

Dave Cattron Educator (retired)

Chad Colby Colby AgTech

Allen Dietz Educator (retired), Dietz Farms

Jeff Galle Global Pork Production Enterprises Warren Graeff Midland State Bank

Doug Hanson ProHarvest Seeds

Jay Harris J.O. Harris Sales

Kenny Hartman Glendell Farm

Kim Haywood, Jr. Lovejoy Academy

Russel Higgins University of Illinois Extension

Chris Kendall Peoria Educational Region for Employment and Career Training

Mindy McDermott
The Climate Corporation

Don Moffitt State Representative (retired)

ILLINOIS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL FOR

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Rod Riech

Brandt Consolidated, Inc. Karen Schieler Compeer Financial

Aimee Shasteen Farm Credit Illinois

Kay Shipman FarmWeek

Haley Siergiej Nutrients for Life

Holly Spangler Prairie Farmer/Farm Progress

Tyler Strom Illinois Agri-Food Alliance Dan Swanson Illinois State Legislature

Cynthia Tucker PepsiCo

Kaitlin Weitekamp John Deere



FOUNDATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AS PART OF THE ILLINOIS EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Senate Bill 255 passed and signed into law on September 19, 1986, creating Public Act 84-1452 and Chapter 122, Section 2-3.80 of the Illinois School Code stating: The General Assembly recognizes that agriculture is the most basic and singularly important industry in the State, that agriculture is of central importance to the welfare and economic stability of the State, and that the maintenance of this vital industry requires a continued source of trained and gualified individuals for employment in agriculture and agribusiness. The General Assembly hereby declares that it is in the best interests of the people of the State of Illinois that a comprehensive education program in agriculture be created and maintained by the State's public school system in order to ensure an adequate supply of trained and skilled individuals and to ensure appropriate representation of racial and ethnic groups in all phases of the industry. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a State program for agricultural education shall be a part of the curriculum of the public school system preK through adult, and made readily available to all school districts which may, at their option, include programs in education in agriculture as a part of the curriculum of that district.

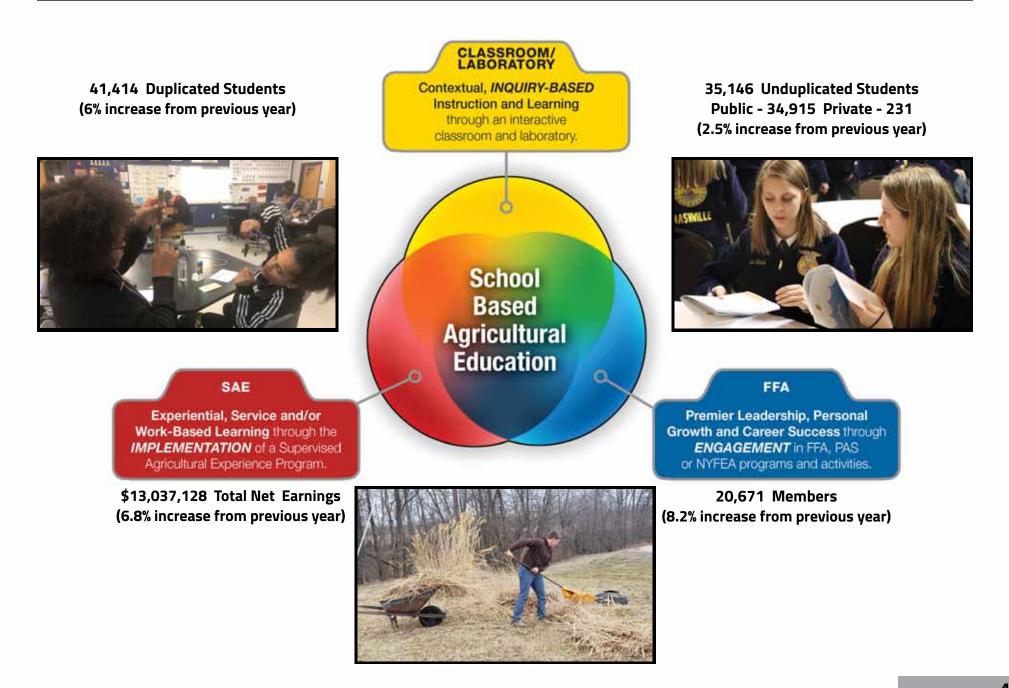
House Bill 4986 passed amending Public Act 84-1452 and the Illinois School Code on January 20, 2006, stating:

Provides that a school district that offers a secondary agricultural education program that is eligible for state and federal funding must ensure that, at a minimum, the following are available to its secondary agricultural education students: (1) an instructional sequence of courses approved by the State Board of Education; (2) a State and nationally affiliated FFA chapter that is integral to instruction and is not treated as an extracurricular activity; and (3) a mechanism for ensuring the involvement of all secondary agricultural education students in formal, supervised agricultural-experience activities and programs.

Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

The federal reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act named Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act also known as Perkins V was signed into law by the President on July 31, 2018. This act includes Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources as a recognized career cluster, and AFNR programs are supported through these funds by their local Education for Employment (EFE) System.

SCHOOL BASED AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IS DELIVERED THROUGH THREE INTERCONNECTED COMPONENTS KNOWN AS THE THREE CIRCLE MODEL



1987	\$48,500
1988	\$48,500
1989	\$1,000,000
1990	\$1,040,000
1991	\$1,040,000
1992	\$1,040,000
1993	\$1,040,000
1994	\$1,081,600
1995	\$1,081,600
1996	\$1,181,600
1997	\$1,299,000
1998	\$1,429,700
1999	\$1,500,000
2000	\$2,000,000
2001	\$2,000,000
2002	\$1,950,000
2003	\$1,881,200
2004	\$1,881,200
2005	\$1,881,200
2006	\$2,381,200
2007	\$2,881,200
2008	\$2,881,200
2009	\$3,381,200
2010	\$3,043,100
2011	\$1,947,600
2012	\$1,800,000
2013	\$1,800,000
2014	\$1,800,000
2015	\$1,759,900
2016	\$1,800,000
2017	\$1,800,000
2018	\$5,000,000
2019	\$5,000,000
2020	\$5,000,000
2021	\$5,000,000

FUNDING FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET

\$3,580,000 - Funding for Secondary Agriculture Programs at the Middle and High School Levels (4.6% Decrease from previous year)

\$2,378,221	Three Circle FFA and SAE Grant for agricultural teacher extended contract salaries for work beyond the official school day, weekends, and summer months.

\$1,201,779 Incentive Funding Grant based on quality indicators for program resources, equipment, supplies, \$4279 average per school.

\$340,000 - Funding for Postsecondary Teacher Preparation Programs at the College and University Levels (104% Increase from previous year)

- **\$300,000** Growing Agricultural Science Teachers Grant for universities(4) and colleges(4) to recruit and retain agricultural teachers.
- **\$40,000** Incentive Funding Grant based on quality indicators for program resources, equipment, supplies, \$10,000 average per university.

\$1,080,000 - Funding for Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE) (0% Increase from previous year)

- **\$769,605** On-site and virtual technical assistance and mentoring to teachers, administrators, school staff, students, parents, AITC coordinators, FFA alumni members, and agribusiness partners.
 - **\$60,000** Agriculture in the Classroom grants for county partnerships to educate preK-8 students, teachers, and the public about agriculture.
 - **\$60,000** FFA Center professional staff services, facility use, and technology improvements.
 - **\$43,973** Curriculum revision of the Agribusiness Library and mAGic Illinois Kit.
- \$40,900 Development and maintenance of an all-in-one website for agricultural education partners www.ILAgEd.org
 - **\$22,500** Early career graduate level courses for beginning teachers and after their first year of teaching.
 - **\$24,750** Student teacher grants to support students majoring in agricultural education, teaching agriculture in Illinois, and completing the beginning teacher course.
 - **\$19,679** Indirect cost to the project fiscal agent, Parkland College, 1.8%.
 - **\$12,510** Pre-service and teacher professional development including presenter fees, stipends, meals, registration, mileage reimbursement, and substitute teacher fees.
 - **\$11,204** Agriculture stakeholder meetings, meals, exhibit registation, and Professional Agriculture Student Organization national conference grants.
 - **\$8,765** Development, design and printing of 3,000 copies of the annual agricultural education report.
 - **\$6,114** Curriculum and supply resources for new schools(6) starting agriculture programs.

Dollar amounts are accurate as of January 22, 2021. Fiscal year 2020 grants have been extended to June 30, 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. For an up-to-date breakdown of Agricultural Education Line Item expenditures, please refer to the FRIS Inquiry System publicly accessible on http://webprod1.isbe.net/FRISInquiry/.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



78 Ag In The Classroom (AITC) county coalitions (87 counties) with community, industry, and agency representation reached **463,642** preK-12 grade students about the food and agricultural industry in providing a school based coordinator, student and teacher resources, teacher presentations and professional development, and field trips. **\$1,771,047** in state and local funds were invested to support local efforts.



354 school agricultural education programs purchased lab supplies, teacher resources, equipment, facility improvements, greenhouses, computers/tablets, registration for teacher professional development, and mileage for workplace visits.



35,146 (*Public-34,915 Private-231*) 6-12 grade students enrolled in at least one agricultural education course. Students learn about agriculture, food and natural resources gaining skills in science, math, communications, leadership, management and technology.



\$13,037,128 in total net earnings was generated by agricultural education students through work-based learning activities known as Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects.



82% of school districts approved an agricultural course to fulfill academic course graduation requirements in science, consumer economics, math, social studies, and language arts. Agriculture courses are viewed as beyond elective courses.











258 high school agricultural teachers received
400 hour extended contracts to work with students, parents, and community members beyond the school day. Agricultural teachers with a 12 month contract increased from
54% to 60%.

50+ online resources and best practices for remote learning were found and categorized on an all inclusive webpage for easy and quick access to educators by FCAE staff.

69 professional development hours and 2 graduate level courses were provided for preK-12 grade teachers on advanced technology, agriscience, economics, communication, leadership, record keeping, and accountability by FCAE staff.

5 field-based FCAE staff facilitated the implementation of agricultural education grants, resources, professional development, and initiatives. **597** on-site school assistance sessions were conducted with presentations to **2,843** students.

University agricultural education programs purchased resources to graduate and license **22** new agricultural education teachers.

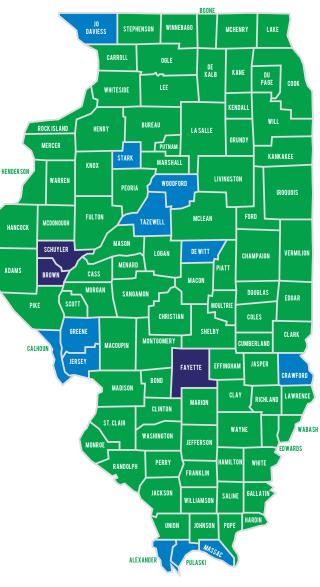
Focus groups of agribusiness representatives and educators reviewed the Agribusiness Core Curriculum Library and suggested updates and revisions. Agricultural literacy Illinois kit curriculum lessons were revised and improved by AITC coordinators.

AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM



The Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) program provided accurate, standards based agricultural classroom materials and resources to pre-K - 12 grade teachers across the state. Using the network of county agricultural literacy coordinators, Illinois AITC continued to be the powerhouse of agricultural literacy programming. Matching grants were provided to county coalitions to develop an advisory council and hire an AITC coordinator. Financial support for AITC was provided by agricultural organizations and foundations, business and industry partners, commodity groups, farm bureaus, extension, soil and water conservation districts, and private individuals.





Counties awarded an AITC grant and hire a paid coordinator

Counties did not apply for an AITC grant and hire a paid coordinator

Counties did not apply for an AITC grant and provide programs by volunteers



AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

463,642

PreK - 8 grade students grew in knowledge about food and farms through classroom lessons.



\$

\$667,000

Grants were awarded to 78 coalitions in 87 counties. The average grant per coalition was **\$8,551**.

25,642

Teachers and **2,713** (64%) school centers utilized agricultural lessons to teach academic concepts.

94,923

Community members were engaged in learning about agriculture through AITC.



In state and local funds were invested to support local efforts.

PROGRAMS & STUDENTS (GRADES 5-12)

TOTAL PROGRAMS

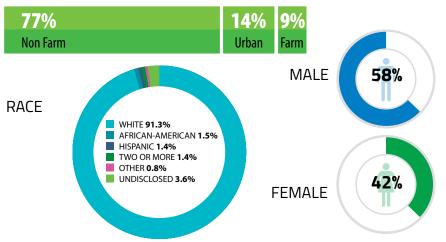
334	345	354
2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FULFILLED BY AGRICULTURAL COURSES

Science	72%
Consumer Education	37%
Math	2%
Social Studies	1%
Language Arts	1%

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

RESIDENCE TYPE



The Agricultural Education Joint Board of Directors (IAVAT and FFA) formed a statewide diversity and inclusion taskforce to develop initiatives to increase access to agricultural education among diverse students. FCAE initiated a program for school districts to start a local Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) organization.

LAB FACILITIES PROVIDED BY SCHOOLS

Mechanics	77%
Computers/Laptops (+10)	57%
Greenhouse	74%
Land/Plant	53%
1:1 School Technology	47%
Landscaping	42%
Garden	30%
AgriScience	29%
Aquaculture	25%
Small Animal/Veterinary	16%
Food Science	14%
Nursery	10%
Large Animal	6%

PROGRAMS

Average Students Per Class	19	-
Employ 2 or More Teachers	73	21%
Agriculture Articulation Agreement with Colleges	102	29%
Dual Credit Agricultural Courses	80	23%
State Agricultural Education Curriculum Used by Teacher	354	100%
Schools with an Advisory Council	144	42%
Schools with a FFA Alumni Chapter	222	65%
Average Incentive Funding Grant Allocation per School	\$3,450	-
Programs with a 5-8 Grade Ag Course	107	31%

FCAE will continue to offer professional learning, curricular resources, and on-site assistance support for AFNR teachers and school staff in these areas to increase participation.

NATIONAL FFA CHAPTER AWARD WINNERS

National Chapter Award Champion in Building Communities - Normal FFA



FFA members recognized the importance of environmental responsibility and hosted a do-it-yourself flower planter workshop using recycled materials. Planters were then gifted to mother figures on Mother's Day. "It was exciting to be able to see our planning come together in order to bring awareness to reusing and recycling in a fun way, and our moms loved their gifts!" member Kelsey Kern recalled after the "Beauty in Reusing" event was selected as the nation's top activity.

- Liz Harris, Normal FFA Advisor

National Chapter Award Champion in Strengthening Agriculture - Streator FFA

The "Becoming Semi Aware" activity demonstrated the importance of semi safety by placing cars strategically around a semi and allowing 200+ ag and driver's education students to sit in the semi and recognize the blind spots by trying to locate the cars with the semi's mirrors. Students had the opportunity to see how far it took a fully loaded semi, traveling at 65 MPH to come to a complete stop. Providing students with emotional, hands-on, and innovative learning is an important place to start in spreading the word about semi safety.

-Riley Hintzsche, Streator FFA Advisor



TEACHERS (GRADES 5-12)

444	Total Teachers	
49%	Male	
51%	Female	
2%	African-American or Hispanic	
86%	Member of IAVAT (professional organization)	
34%	30 years of age or younger	
18%	Over age 50	
39%	5 years of experience or less	
11%	25+ years of experience	
78%	Professional Educator License (PEL) Certified	
22%	Educator License with Stipulations (ELS) Certified	

AVERAGE SALARY



The Growing Agriculture Science Teachers (GAST) Grant for universities and colleges includes annual initiatives to empower students to major in Agriscience Education. The Agricultural Education Joint Board of Directors (IAVAT and FFA) formed a statewide diversity and inclusion taskforce to develop initiatives to increase access to agricultural education among diverse students. FCAE initiated a program for school districts to start a local Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) organization. FCAE and the IAVAT Recruitment and Retention committee are developing annual initiatives to increase the number of students majoring in agriscience education.



SUPPLY & DEMAND

YEAR	NUMBER OF JOB OPENINGS	AG ED GRADUATES	ELS TEACHERS HIRED
2018-19	97	35	25
2019-20		28	23
2020-21	66	22	14

TEACHER RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

STAR Program

State Teach Ag Results Program, a project of the National Teach Ag Campaign, provides funds for states to develop sustainable programs to increase the number of agriculture teachers. High school and college students (273) were able to participate in an exploration of in becoming an agriculture teacher.

Activities at the High School Level

- Ag Education FFA State Career Development Event (17)
- Elite conference for students interested in teaching ag (105)
- Internships with experienced teachers (23)
- Presentations and individual contacts to high school students (56)

Activities at the Collegiate Level

- Student teacher recognition at state ag teachers conference (22)
- Student teacher grants (22)
- Pre-service teacher ag program bus trip (5)
- Growing Agriculture Science Teacher Internships (23)
- IAVAT Student Branch experiences

*Number of individuals shown in (parenthesis).

Activities to Retain Teachers

- Early career teacher conferences including graduate credit for first and second year teachers (61)
- Professional development trainings and workshops (873)
- IAA Foundation New Teacher Recognition Grant where (4) first year teachers are recognized annually in receiving a total of \$10,000 for staying in the profession for 6 years

Growing Agriculture Science Teachers (GAST) Grant

This grant was instituted in 2009 to assist in accomplishing long-term goals for preparing individuals for a career as an agricultural teacher. Allocations are contingent on annual funding priorities (up to \$50,000 in FY21) and provided to colleges and universities with an agricultural education teacher preparation course or degree program to provide funding for programming and activities to address Illinois' growing agriculture teacher shortage. Funding has been used for: student scholarships for aspiring agricultural educators, academic scholarships for college credit opportunities, student mentorship, and advanced technological lab resources in training quality agricultural education students.

The Growing Agriculture Science Teachers (GAST) Grant for universities and colleges includes annual initiatives to empower students of color to major in Agriscience Education. The Agricultural Education Joint Board of Directors (IAVAT and FFA) formed a statewide diversity and inclusion task force to develop initiatives to increase access to agricultural education among diverse students. FCAE initiated a program for school districts to start a local Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) organization.





GOLDEN OWL AG EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR ED CURRY, RIVER RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



Edwin (Ed) Curry, FFA Advisor and Agriculture Education Teacher of the River Ridge FFA Chapter in Hanover, was named the top agricultural educator of the year. Mr. Curry unexpectedly passed away on July 29, 2019. He spent his career teaching agriculture initially at Pearl City for three years from 1984 to 1987. He then went on to teach at River Ridge for nineteen years starting in 2000, and ending in 2019 when he passed. Ed Curry taught agriculture for a total of twenty-two years and was loved by not only the entire teaching community in Illinois, but also hundreds of FFA members from across the state. "Ed Curry is a game changer, he changed lives. Because if you have met Ed, your life was forever changed for the better," stated Mindy Bunselmeyer, FFA Executive Director. His active role as a FFA Leadership Camp staff member allowed him to impact hundreds of members every summer for the entirety of his 15 years spent on camp staff. Two campers that were a part of Mr. Curry's camp groups in 2016 and 2017 later became Section Presidents together and had powerful comments regarding the kind of person Mr. Curry was to so many. Margaret Vaessen, State FFA Reporter, explains her first interaction with Mr. Curry: "Mr. Curry had a way of putting people at ease. I remember nervously walking up to my camp group my freshman year and being thrown a volleyball with guestions to get to know me on it. Not only did he get me to say the FFA Creed to a group of strangers after learning I loved the creed speaking contest, but he made me feel like I could do anything in that moment." Similarly, Sophia Reavely described Mr. Curry as someone who "...was always cracking jokes and making fun of us, but I think that's why so many people loved him. He was always making people smile and getting even the shyest of students to spread their wings and take risks." Mr. Curry opened his heart to FFA campers and everyone that he met.

DISTRICT 1DISTRICT 2DISTRICT 3DISTRICT 4DISTRICT 5Ed Curry
River RidgeDiana Loschen
Tri-PointJody Heavner
PittsfieldDon Lockwood
SullivanJennifer Timm
Cisne

THREE CIRCLE FFA AND SAE GRANT

This grant supports agricultural educators' extended salary beyond the regularly assigned teaching duties. School districts that employ full-time agricultural teachers are eligible with an approvable agricultural education program. The grant partners with the school district and community partners to pay for 50% of 400 additional hours beyond the regularly assigned teaching duties. The grant pays a greater amount for new agricultural programs in the first four years.

Average teacher contract length is 11 months.

TEACHER CONTRACT LENGTHS

- 46-60 DAYS BEYOND 185/LEGAL SCHOOL YEAR (12 MONTHS) 60%
- 31-45 DAYS BEYOND 185/LEGAL SCHOOL YEAR (11 MONTHS) 5%
 - 16-30 DAYS BEYOND 185/LEGAL SCHOOL YEAR (10 MONTHS) 15%
 - 1-15 DAYS BEYOND 185/LEGAL SCHOOL YEAR (9.5 MONTHS) 8%
- 0 DAYS BEYOND 185/LEGAL SCHOOL YEAR (9 MONTH) 12%



\$8,950 AVERAGE GRANT PER TEACHER	\$17,900 Average salary increase per teacher	117,652 Total hours worked outside of school	456 Average hours worked outside of school day per teacher
258 TEACHERS PARTICPATED	59% of teachers participated	70,474 Total hours with ffa activities	273 Average hours per teacher with ffa activities
202,021 TOTAL STUDENTS IMPACTED	783 Average number of students impacted per teacher	12,354 TOTAL HOURS WITH SAE (WORK-BASED) ACTIVITIES	48 AVERAGE HOURS PER TEACHER WITH SAE (WORK-BASED) ACTIVITIES
		34,824 Total hours with curriculum & professional development	135 AVERAGE HOURS PER TEACHER WITH CURRICULUM & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FFA CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

EVENT	CHAPTER/STUDENT STATE WINNER	% OF SCHOOLS ATTENDED AT STATE & LOCAL LEVEL
Agricultural Business Management	Olney	48%
Agricultural Communications	Midland	5%
Agricultural Education	Madelyn Hubble, Normal	7%
Agricultural Issues	*	3%
Agricultural Mechanics	*	7%
Agricultural Sales	Prairie Central	33%
Agronomy	Olney	63%
Conduct of Chapter Meetings	*	12%
Creed Speaking	Morgan Mouser, Tri-Valley	61%
Dairy Cattle Evaluation - Reasons	*	0%
Dairy Cattle Evaluation - Non-Reasons	Carlyle	12%
Dairy Cattle Evaluation - Reasons (Middle School)	Carlyle	1%
Dairy Cattle Handlers	*	1%
Environmental & Natural Resources(Envirothon)	*	13%
Extemporaneous Public Speaking	Eric Schafer, Taylorville	61%
Food Science Technology	Prairie Central	22%
Forestry	Olney	32%
Forestry (Middle School)	Liberty	1%

EVENT	CHAPTER/STUDENT STATE WINNER	% OF SCHOOLS ATTENDED AT STATE & LOCAL LEVEL
Horticulture	Glenbrook South	16%
Horse Evaluation - Reasons	Rochelle	2%
Horse Evaluation - Non-Reasons	Pinckneyville	55%
Horse Evaluation - Non-Reasons (Middle School)	West Prairie	1%
Job Interview(Employment Skills)	Bradleigh Schafer, Cambridge	45%
Land Use	Cambridge	52%
Land Use (Middle School)	Liberty	1%
Livestock Evaluation - Non-Reasons	United	28%
Livestock Evaluation - Reasons	Taylorville	3%
Meats Evaluation & Technology	Iroquois West	26%
Milk Quality & Products	Prairie Central	47%
Milk Quality & Products (Middle School)	Prairie Central	1%
Parliamentary Procedure	*	25%
Poultry Evaluation	Midland	28%
Prepared Public Speaking	Olivia Shike, Unity-Tolono	61%
Quizbowl	*	36%
Veterinary Science	Naperville Central	27%

*State CDE not held due to the pandemic



NATIONAL FFA CHAPTER AWARD PROGRAM

PREMIER CHAPTERS BY SECTION

Section	Chapter	Sec
1	Scales Mound	1
2	Rochelle	1
3	Cambridge	1
4	Knoxville	1
5	Midland	1
6	Central Burlington	1
7	Streator	2
8	Chicago Ag Sciences	2
9	Pontiac	2
10	Tri-Point	2
11	West Prairie	2
12	Midwest Central	2
13	Pittsfield	

Section	Chapter
14	Athens
15	Lincolnwood
16	Decatur-MacArthur Andreas Ag Academy
17	Paxton-Buckley-Loda
18	Hoopeston Area
19	Greenville
20	Altamont
21	Mt. Vernon
22	Waterloo
23	Grayville
24	Goreville
25	Harrisburg

State Premier Chapter - Cambridge FFA

This award is given to the FFA chapter with the highest overall score on the National Chapter Award application and is the highest state honor that a chapter can receive. It is a direct result of the students' hard work and dedication along with the leadership of a quality agriculture teacher. The Cambridge FFA conducted fifteen different activities that showcase the FFA chapter's dedication to Growing Leaders, Building Communities, and Strengthening Agriculture. The officer team is responsible for planning and implementing the events highlighting nine of them on the application. Some of the events are: Greenhand Orientation Day - a day-long program for freshman FFA members organized to encourage them to become involved in the FFA, Pollinator Plot Program - a conservation program that showcases their dedication to restoring habitat for bees and other insects, Farm to Fork Dinner - a partnership program with the county farm bureau designed to bring awareness to locally grown agricultural products, and Ag in the AM - a local news segment that broadcasts a variety of agriculture in the classroom activities to showcase the many fields in the industry. Energetic chapter members, involved community stakeholders, and supportive school leaders are keys to this successful FFA chapter.

- Trent Tabor, Cambridge FFA Advisor



FFA PROFICIENCY AWARD WINNERS

AWARD AREA	STUDENT	CHAPTER
Ag Communications	Bradleigh Schaefer	Cambridge
Ag Education	Ashley Althaus	Amboy
Ag Mechanics - Design & Fabrication	William Ornduff	United
Ag Mechanics - Repair & Maintenance (Entrepreneur)	Alec Thompson	United
Ag Mechanics - Repair & Maintenance (Placement)	Kip Hoerr	Princeville
Agricultural Processing	Alea Ogle	Streator
Agricultural Sales (Entrepreneur)	Korey Bunselmeyer	Trico
Agricultural Sales (Placement)	Karli Franklin	Manteno
Agricultural Services	Kayla White	Stillman Valley
Agriscience Research - Animal Systems	Sara Timm	Cisne
Agriscience Research - Integrated Systems	Delana Erbsen	Eastland
Agriscience Research - Plant Systems	Jessie Lewis	Massac County
Beef Production (Entrepreneur)	Sawyer Willrett	DeKalb
Beef Production (Placement)	Kelsey Ray	Goreville
Dairy Production (Entrepreneur)	Rosalee Zehr	Flanagan-Cornell
Dairy Production (Placement)	Jacob Raber	Prairie Central
Diversified Agriculture Production	Tanner Mickey	Taylorville
Diversified Crop Production (Entrepreneur)	Owen Jenks	United
Diversified Crop Production (Placement)	Lance Moritz	Streator
Diversified Horticulture	Madison Huebner	Waterloo
Diversified Livestock Production	Eric Schafer	Taylorville
Environmental Science & Natural Resource Manage- ment	Cody Bradshaw	Pittsfield
Equine Science (Entrepreneur)	Elsie Nord	Clinton

AWARD AREA	STUDENT	CHAPTER
Equine Science (Placement)	Chelsea Ochs	Olney
Fiber &/or Oil Crop Production	Spencer Meenen	Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley
Food Service	Hannah Callahan	Cisne
Forage Production	Cole Neubauer	Tri-Valley
Forest Management & Products	Megan Buttens	Oregon
Fruit Production	Griffin Range	Freeburg
Goat Production	Jessica Carlson	Somonauk-Leland-Sandwich
Grain Production	Kendall Knodle	Nokomis
Landscape Management	Jenna Korte	Scales Mound
Nursery Operations	Garrett Granby	Seneca
Outdoor Recreation	Kurtis Johnson	Pittsfield
Poultry Production	Taylor Main	ROWVA
Safety	Madison Wells	Oakwood
Service Learning	Elizabeth Weidner	Teutopolis
Sheep Production	Lauren Mohr	Normal West
Small Animal Production & Care	Anna Wagner	Mercer County
Specialty Animal Production	Will Shook	Fisher
Specialty Crop Production	Lexi Mueller	Valmeyer
Swine Production (Entrepreneur)	Kate Bond	Galatia
Swine Production (Placement)	Emma Kuhns	Altamont
Turf Grass Management	Logan Nodine	Cambridge
Vegetable Production	Julian Ortiz	West Carroll
Veterinary Science	Madison Schuette	Nashville
Wildlife Production & Management	Lucas Althaus	AlWood

SUPERVISED AG EXPERIENCE (SAE) WORK-BASED LEARNING

Turf Grass Management FFA Proficiency Award National Champion Logan Nodine - Cambridge FFA



Logan's SAE, Nodine Lawn Care servicing residential and commercial lawns in his community, is an extensive project that focuses on all aspects of turf grass management to beautify his clients' lawns. As an entrepreneur, his day-to-day tasks include maintaining grass species by operating both riding and push mowers, string trimmers, and leaf blowers. Additionally, Logan takes part in establishing a management plan for customers that includes the application of pesticides and fertilizers as well as initiating a recommended cutting height.

American FFA Star in Agriscience Finalist Maddie Fugate - Mahomet-Seymour FFA

After a childhood of raising and showing swine, Maddie was introduced to porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV) when she was a teen. The only preventative measure that different farms can take to ensure that they do not get the PDV virus is biosecurity. Her first project out of six involved studying PEDV transmission on truck tires. With her research, she determined how animals are vectors and can carry this disease onto farms. Her research on swine biosecurity circles around risk mitigation.



American FFA Star in Ag Placement Finalist Ely Boulds - Eldorado FFA



When Ely decided to start working in agriculture while he was in high school, he ran into one major issue that his family doesn't farm. He always wanted to be in production agriculture, but these days it is tough to start out farming from the first generation without already being in it. Ely persisted by getting in touch with local farmers and researching what they needed so he could fill a niche in his community's local market. He now owns and operates Dewey Lime Spreading in southern Illinois and parts of Indiana.

FFA STAR AMERICAN, STATE AND DISCOVERY DEGREE WINNERS

AMERICAN DEGREE

153 students were recognized with an American FFA Degree at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. **4,136** degrees were awarded nationally. These members demonstrated the highest levels of achievement in the organization.

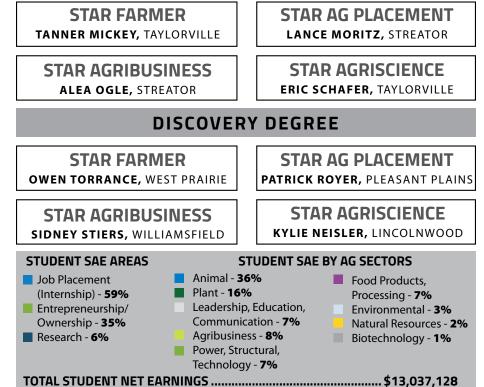
STAR FARMER CONNOR ERBSEN, EASTLAND

STAR AGRIBUSINESS NATHAN ERBSEN, EASTLAND STAR AG PLACEMENT ELY BOULDS, ELDORADO

STAR AGRISCIENCE MADDIE FUGATE, MAHOMET- SEYMOUR

STATE DEGREE

538 students received an Illinois State Degree.



AGRISCIENCE FAIR NATIONAL AWARDS

Agriscience National FFA Champion Division 3 Animal Systems Lizzie Schafer - Taylorville FFA

Lizzie's agriscience research project was titled: Do bovine in vitro fertilization (IVF) embryo egg grades indicate fetal sex? In this experiment, she examined if in vitro fertilization-embryo stage quality determines the sex of offspring. The sex of an animal can have many implications in livestock production that are both practical and economical. The impact of embryo grade on the fetal sex ratios of 50% pregnancies produced of the embryonic



content and the lower survival rate of these embryos was reserched. Results of this study indicate differences in the ratio of fetal sexes in pregnancies resulting from the implantation of differing grades of embryos.

Agriscience National FFA Champion Division 3 Plant Systems Summer Ramsey - Southeastern FFA



Summer's agriscience research project tested the effect of temperature on the secondary drift of Dicamba herbicide. She found that a change from 20°C to 32°C nearly doubled the amount of leaf cupping which would cause soybean yield to decrease. Through her agriscience project, Summer gained new skills and is better able to help agriculturalists with developing a crop management plan, identifying plant anatomy, and discussing how environmental factors play a role in chemical application.

Agriscience National FFA Champion Division 6 Plant Systems Cullen Colvin and Matthew Grab - Freeburg FFA

Cullen and Matthew's research was completed to understand stress on soybeans and how inducing stress can affect yields. The agronomic outcome is to determine if purposeful, chemical stress can lead to a positive net gain. By spraying Cobra herbicide on the soybeans to cause stress in the fourth vegetative growth stage, they found a significant yield increase of five bushels per acre. Cullen and Matthew



hope to continue finding ways to help soybean farmers increase efficiency and profit.

FFA STATE OFFICER TEAM



(From left to right) Secretary-Jordi Oliver, Vice President-Molly Schempp, Reporter-Margaret Vassen, President-Lexi Mueller, Treasurer-Emma Kuhns

NATIONAL FFA OFFICER



Miriam Hoffman, Earlville FFA, was elected the 2020-21 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President. Her SAEs are dairy production, entrepreneurship and placement. She was the 2018-19 state FFA secretary. Growing up surrounded by FFA memorabilia from when her late father was involved in FFA, Miriam was encouraged by her older sister to join the organization. During an FFA leadership camp between her sophomore and junior years, she had an incredible three days of personal growth and relationship building, allowing her to challenge the limit of her comfort zone. Hoffman says that her aim for this year is to empower students and the organization

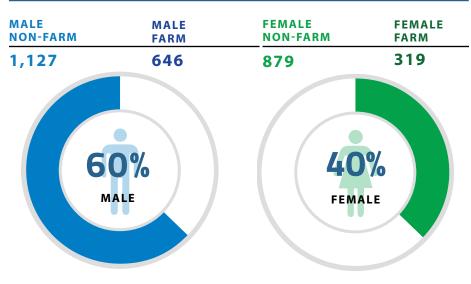
to embrace complexity." I hope to do this by embracing everything that we are as individuals and refusing to simplify ourselves to fit in a box," Hoffman said. "I want to embrace the nuance in our efforts to continue moving forward as an organization and in the beautifully diverse industry of agriculture." After her service to the FFA, Miriam will return to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale majoring in agribusiness economics.

COLLEGE PROGRAMS

Total Programs	26
College Students Completed Ag Courses in High School	46%
High School Students Offered Articulated Credit	1,192
High School Students Received Dual Credit	978

FACULTY		
Full Time	90	
Part Time	115	
Average Number of Years Teaching	11	
Average Full Time Salary	\$67,446	
Average Age	48	

STUDENTS

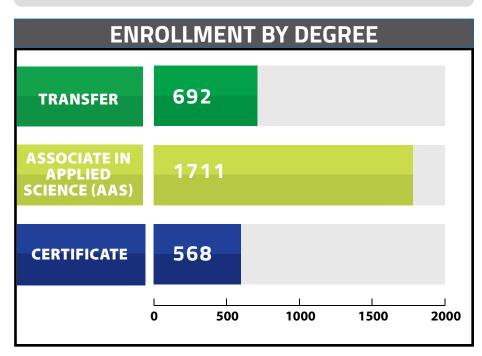


COLLEGES OFFERING DEGREES IN AGRICULTURE

Black Hawk
DuPage
Lake County
Danville
Heartland
Highland
Illinois Central
Illinois Valley
John Wood

Joliet Junior Kankakee Kaskaskia Kishwaukee Lake Land Lincoln Land McHenry County Parkland Rend Lake

Richland Sauk Valley Shawnee Southeastern Southwestern Spoon River Triton Wabash Valley



TOTAL 2,971

PAS ACHIEVEMENTS

The Professional Agricultural Student Organization (PAS) prepared students from two and four-year colleges for the workplace by building student skills through annual competitions and real-life learning applications.





PAS Officers

(From left to right) Gwen Heimerdinger - Highland - President Rob Janssen - WIU - 2nd VP Ryan Reeverts - SIUC - 1st VP Mazi Walker - Illinois College - 3rd VP

College Bowl	Lincoln Land Community College
Discussion Meet	Rob Janssen, WIU

SPECIALIST EVENTS	5 TEAM	INDIVIDUAL
Agribusiness Sales	(none)	Rebecca Hough, Highland
Agricultural Education Career Program	(none)	Gwen Heimerdinger, Highland
Beef Cattle	SIUC	Reagan Hoskin, John Wood
Crop	Illinois Central College	Jenna Goeken, Illinois Central
Dairy Cattle	Kaskaskia College	Hannah Albert, Kaskaskia
Equine	Highland	Katie Hoffman, Highland
Floriculture	Lake Land	Penny Flood, Lake Land
Landscape Horticulture	Lake Land	Penny Flood, Lake Land
Overall Livestock	Lake Land	Chase Trainer, Lake Land
Precision Agriculture	(none)	Trevor Plenert, Parkland
Sheep	Illinois Central	Truman Maxwell, Illinois Central
Soil	SIUC	Alex Hartke, SIUC
Swine	Lakeland	Ana Zinke, Highland

EMPLOYMENT INTERVIEW WINNERS

INDIVIDUAL AND COLLEGE

INDIVIDUAL AND COLLEGE

Ag Equipment Service	Nickolas Carlson, Illinois Central
Agribusiness Administration	Ryan Reeverts, SIUC
Agribusiness Sales	Travis Cook, Illinois Central
Agricultural Communication	Skye Kretzinger, Lincoln Land
Agricultural Education	Hannah Libby, WIU
Crop Production	Jonathan Donoho, Kaskaskia
Dairy Production	Brooklynn Hollis, Highland
Feeds and Animal Health	Elli Johnson, Lincoln Land
Fertilizers and Ag Chemicals	Eston Coe, Lincoln Land
Floriculture	Hannah Carlock, Lincoln Land
Forestry and Natural Resources	Jennifer Davis, Lincoln Land
Landscaping and Nursery	Alexis Carroll, Lincoln Land
Livestock Production	Justin Huff, Kaskaskia

PUBLIC SPEAKING WINNERS

Impromptu Public Speaking	Makenna Green, Lake Land
Prepared Public Speaking	Parker Karrick, Kaskaskia

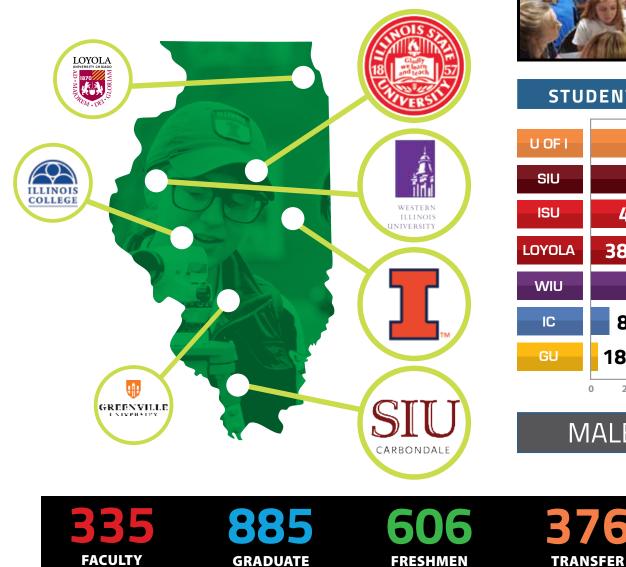
CAREER PLANNING WINNERS

Agribusiness Management and Marketing System	Rob Janssen, WIU
Agricultural Education Systems	Hannah Klingele, John Wood
Non-Rumiant Animal Systems	Carli Hoffmann, Kaskaskia
Ruminant Animal Systems	Hannah Woessner, Highland

CAREER PROGRESS WINNERS	INDIVIDUAL AND COLLEGE
Agribusiness Management and Marketing Systems	Tanner Voss, Kaskaskia
Plant Systems	Jonathon Donoho, Kaskaskia
Ruminant Animal Systems Progress	Amanda Engelken, Kaskaskia
Non-Ruminant Animal Systems Progress	Justin Huff, Kaskaskia



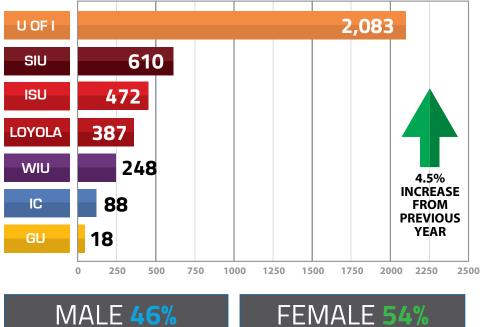
UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS



STUDENTS



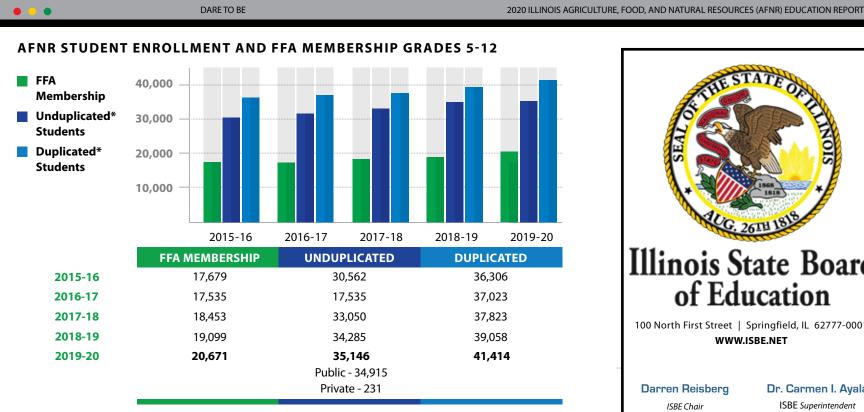
STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT



76

STUDENTS

3,906 TOTAL STUDENTS





* Unduplicated = Enrollment count only includes a student once.

* Duplicated = Enrollment count includes a student multiple times when enrolled in multiple courses.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF ILLINOIS... Funding for agricultural education is an investment in the future of Illinois' most important and vital industry: Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. Maintaining and increasing agricultural education enrollment at all grade levels will ensure talented employees in meeting the workforce demands of agribusinesses. For more information, view www.ILAgEd.org.

۠ END

DARE TO BE 2020 ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES (AFNR) EDUCATION REPORT