

Support the ISBE Agricultural Education Line Item - \$5,000,000

Based on 2018-19 School Year Agricultural Education Line Item Programs and Projects

Funding for Secondary Agriculture Programs - \$3,753,337 – 75%

o Secondary Agriculture Incentive Funding Grant - \$1,377,998

- Allocations based on achievement of quality indicators in previous year. 322 school districts with approved agricultural programs receive an average of \$4279.

o Improving Agricultural Education Programs Mini-Grant - \$461,325

- Competitive mini-grants with an equal matching requirement to school districts for improvements to agriscience and mechanics laboratories, to construct greenhouses, or to upgrade technology resources (computers, tablets, whiteboards). 53 school districts awarded with an average allocation per school of \$8,704.

o 3-Circles FFA and SAE Grant - \$1,914,014

- 220 agriculture teachers in 187 school districts received a grant to fund 50% of the costs associated with 60 days of extended contract for agricultural education activities outside of their regular teaching duties. The district matched the grant amount to pay for 30 days of personnel costs with teachers documenting 400 hours of work before/after school, on weekends, and over the summer. The average grant per district was \$10,235.

Teacher Preparation Funding for Postsecondary Programs - \$166,663 - 3%

o Growing Agricultural Science Teachers (GAST) Grant - \$113,696

o University Incentive Funding Grant - \$52,967

- Grants to post-secondary agricultural educator training programs for the recruitment and development of agricultural science teachers.
- Four-year universities offering agricultural education teacher licensure (4) expended an average of \$30,000 and community colleges (3) expended an average of \$17,333 each.

Funding for Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE) Project - \$1,080,000 – 22%

o Coordinator, Program Advisors, Administrative Assistants - \$768,819

- Salary, benefits, office expenditures, travel, and related expenditures for the FCAE staff including: 1 state coordinator, 4 regional program advisors(5 normally), and 2 administrative assistants. FCAE staff provide on-site technical assistance to junior high, high school, college, and university agriculture instructors. Staff coordinate the development of curriculum and instructional resources and facilitate and deliver agriculture teacher professional development opportunities. Administrative staff provide fiscal management, website maintenance, and data entry.

o Curriculum, Instructional Resources and Website - \$87,152

- Development and maintenance of an all in one website for Illinois partners of agricultural education. Curriculum resources related to the new animal science, plant science, and horticultural science lesson plans. Curriculum development of junior high and high school agriculture curriculum and instructional resources standards-aligned lesson plans, E-units(student electronic textbook), and an online assessment tool at MyCAERT.com has been an ongoing use of funds. The FY18 budget included a higher amount than in previous years for curriculum development(\$370,000) which was the reason for a lower amount for curriculum in FY19.

o Teacher and Pre-Service Teacher Professional Development, Recruitment, and Retention - \$77,139

- Professional development workshops and training for agriculture teachers and pre-service teachers which improve their technical knowledge and teaching effectiveness. Contracted graduate courses specific to beginning and experienced agriculture teachers. Professional development provided at IAVAT conference, 212 and BUILD conferences, district summer workshops, and in partnership with industry. Grants for student teachers to offset their costs while student teaching and testing requirements.

o Agricultural Literacy County Coalition Grants - \$51,200

- Grants for county Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) partnerships to conduct classroom presentations and resources for preK students and teachers. Grants are matched by county agencies, organizations, and agribusiness. County partnerships employ a coordinator to work with schools and teachers.

o FFA Center Professional Staff Services, Facility Use, Technology Improvements - \$60,000

o Agricultural Education Annual Report - \$7,610

o Indirect Cost to Fiscal Agent - \$28,080