



# ENVISION

## THE FUTURE

2019 ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION REPORT



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FFA Bayer Crop Science

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Illinois Farm Bureau Ag In The Classroom

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Parkland College

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ILCAE, Farmer, Pioneer Seed

**Aimee Poskin**  
ILCAE, Farm Credit Illinois

**Kim Haywood, Jr.**  
ILCAE, Lovejoy Academy

**Erika Allen**  
ILCAE, Urban Growers Collective

**Becky Ropp**  
ILCAE, GROWMARK

**Jody Heavner**  
Secondary Agriculture Teacher,  
Pittsfield High School

**Suzanne Schafer**  
Secondary Agriculture Teacher,  
Taylorville High School

**Gary Ochs**  
University Agriculture Instructor,  
University of Illinois

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Educator (retired)

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Colby AgTech

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Global Pork Production Enterprises

**Warren Graeff**  
PNC Bank

**Jay Harris**  
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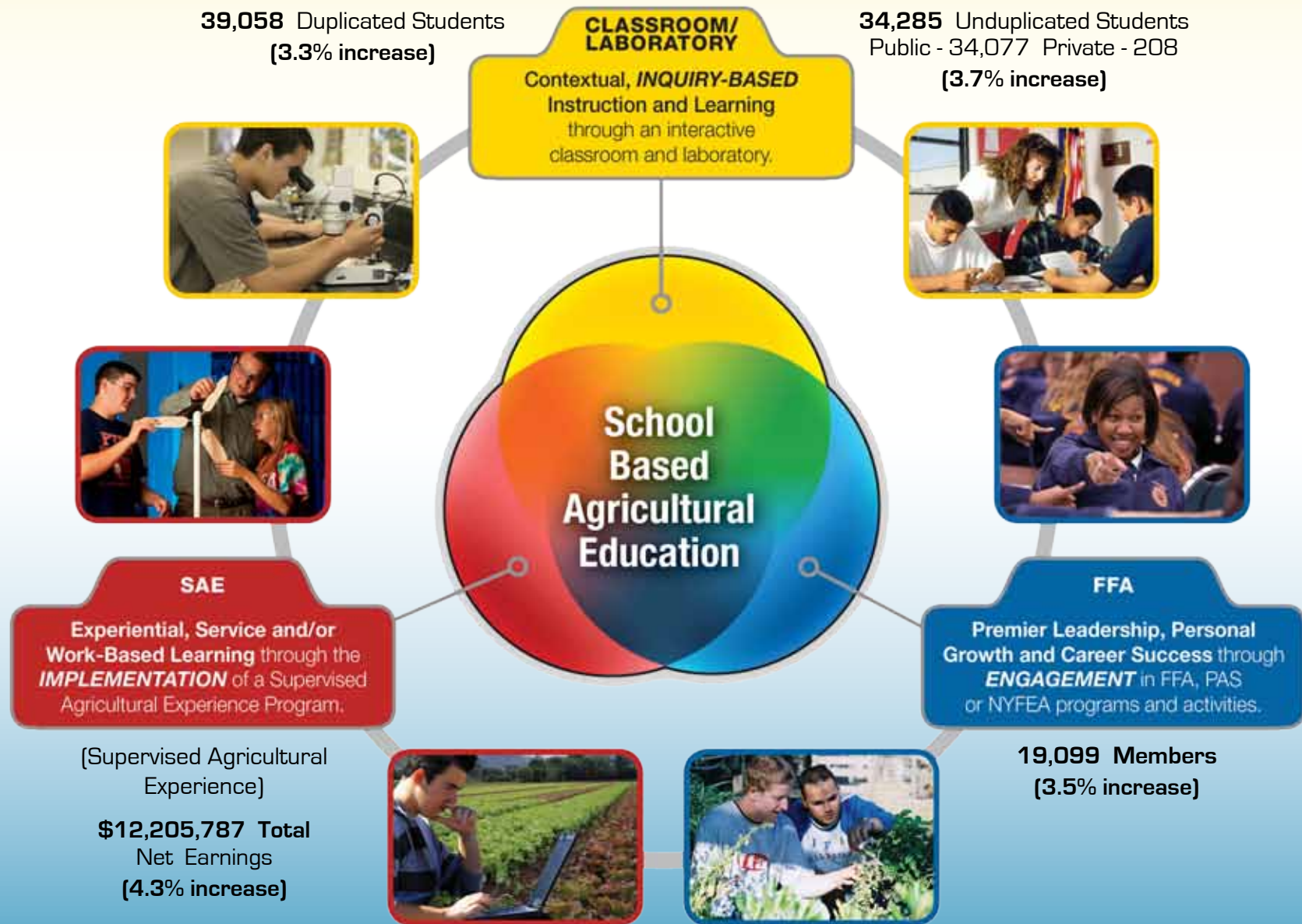
## Foundation of Agricultural Education as Part of the Illinois Educational System

**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 qualified 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.

**The seven major branches of the Illinois Agricultural Education Plan are:** PreK-8 Agricultural Literacy, 6-12 Agricultural Education Programs, Community College Agricultural Education Programs, University Education in Agriculture, Teacher Education Programs in Agriculture, Agricultural Workforce Knowledge, Skill, and Talent Development, and Public and Consumer Agricultural Awareness and Advocacy.

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





**Illinois Leadership Council for Agricultural Education (ILCAE)** is a voluntary, grassroots agricultural industry group focused on the expansion and improvement of Agricultural Education programs at all levels. ILCAE is primarily an advocacy group focused on legislation that established the Illinois Committee for Agricultural Education (ICAE) and the Agricultural Education line item in the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) budget. **Chair: Doug Hanson**



**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: 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. **Ag Consultant: Dr. Erica Thieman**



**Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE)** is supported with funds from an identified 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, prekindergarten through adult levels. **Coordinator: Dean Dittmar | Program Advisors: Jay Solomonson, 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 K-8. **Education Director: Kevin Daugherty**



**University Council** consists of the Agricultural Teacher Education faculty from the four 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 pre-service agricultural education programs and to identify research priorities. **Dr. Lucas Maxwell (ISU), Dr. Seb Pense, Dr. Howard Heavner, Dr. Steven Still (SIUC), Dr. Debra Korte, Gary Ochs (UIUC), Dr. Andrew Baker (WIU)**





**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 and Treasurer: John Edgar**

**Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers (IAVAT)** is a professional organization for agricultural education teachers at all levels. **President: Jessica Collins, Director: John Edgar and 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: Jeff Landers and Director: John Edgar**

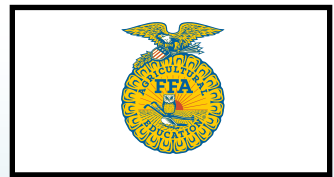
**Illinois FFA Alumni Association** supports and promotes the FFA organization and its activities and agricultural education at every level. The focus of the association is the local chapter affiliate. **President: Steve Yandell and Director: Mindy Bunselmeyer**

**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: Gage Miller, Executive Secretary: Mindy Bunselmeyer and 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: John Sullivan**

**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 and 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.**



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

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

## \$3,753,337 - Funding for Secondary Agriculture Programs at the Middle and High School Levels

**\$1,914,014** Three Circle FFA and SAE Grant for agricultural teacher extended contract salaries for work beyond the official school day, weekends, and summer months.

**\$1,377,998** Incentive Funding Grant based on quality indicators for program resources, equipment, supplies, \$4279 average per school.

**\$461,325** Improving facility grants for constructing greenhouses, enhancing mechanics labs, and technology upgrades with computers, laptops, and tablets were awarded to 53 schools and averaged \$8,704 per school.

## \$166,663 - Funding for Postsecondary Teacher Preparation Programs at the College and University Levels

**\$113,696** Growing Agricultural Science Teachers Grant for universities(4) and colleges(3) to recruit and retain agricultural teachers.

**\$52,967** Incentive Funding Grant based on quality indicators for program resources, equipment, supplies, \$13,242 average per university.

## \$1,080,000 - Funding for Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE)

**\$768,819** On-site technical assistance and mentoring to teachers, administrators, school staff, students, parents, AITC coordinators, FFA alumni members, and agribusiness partners.

**\$70,730** Development and maintenance of a new all-in-one website for agricultural education partners - [www.ILAgEd.org](http://www.ILAgEd.org)

**\$60,000** FFA Center professional staff services, facility use, and technology improvements.

**\$51,200** Agriculture In The Classroom g (AITC) rants for county partnerships to educate K-8 students, teachers, and the public about agriculture.

**\$28,080** Indirect cost to the project fiscal agent, Parkland College, 2.6%.

**\$27,666** Pre-service and teacher professional development including presenter fees, stipends, meals, registration, mileage reimbursement, and substitute teacher fees.

**\$22,500** Early career graduate level courses for teachers during their first and second year of teaching.

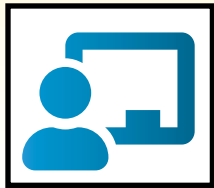
**\$18,750** Student Teacher Grants for 25 agricultural education students student teaching, \$750 per student.

**\$16,422** Agriscience and curriculum resources provided at teacher professional development workshops.

**\$8,223** Agriculture stakeholder meetings, meals, exhibit registration, and Professional Agriculture Student Organization national conference grants.

**\$7,610** Development, design and printing of the annual agricultural education report.

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS



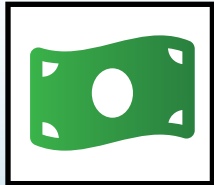
**79** Ag In The Classroom (AITC) county coalitions (91 counties) with community, industry, and agency representation reached **664,534** preK-12 grade students about the food and agricultural industry in providing a school based coordinator, student and teacher resources, teacher presentations and professional development, and field trips. **\$2,489,067** 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.



**34,285** (*Public-34,077 Private-208*) 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.



**\$12,205,787** in total net earnings was generated by agricultural education students through work-based learning activities known as Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects.



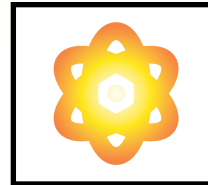
**80%** of school districts approved an agricultural course to fulfill academic course graduation requirements in science, consumer economics, math, social studies, and language arts. Agriculture courses are viewed as beyond elective courses.



**222** 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 **40% to 54%**.



**53** schools were awarded a competitive grant (\$8,623 average) to improve agriscience and mechanics laboratories, to construct greenhouses and to upgrade technology resources (computers, tablets, whiteboards).



Professional development and graduate level courses were provided for preK-12 grade teachers on advanced technology, agriscience, economics, communication, leadership, record keeping, and accountability.



**5** field-based staff facilitated the implementation of agricultural education grants, resources, professional development, and initiatives. **523** on-site school assistance sessions were conducted with presentations to **4536** students.



University agricultural education programs purchased resources to graduate and license **28** new agricultural education teachers.

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF ILLINOIS

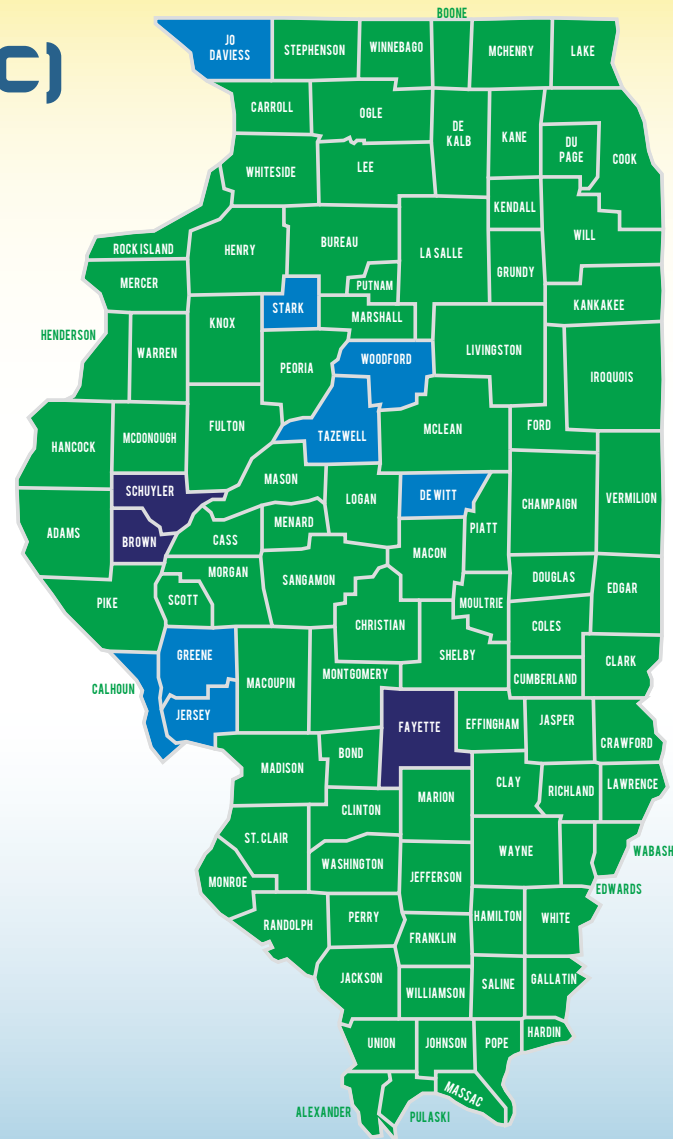
Funding for agricultural education is an investment in the future of Illinois' most important and vital industry resulting in increased enrollment in agricultural education, giving more students the opportunity for leadership development, personal growth, and career success. Funding supported the continued expansion of secondary agricultural programs, especially in urban areas, and the ongoing initiative of retaining and recruiting quality agriculture teachers. Increased agricultural education enrollment at all levels of education will provide increased talent to meet the 39% shortage of college agricultural graduates to meet the demands of agribusiness and industry.

# AG IN THE CLASSROOM (AITC)

The Agriculture In The Classroom (AITC) program provides accurate, standards based agricultural classroom materials and resources to teachers across the state.



Using our network of county agricultural literacy coordinators, Illinois AITC continues to be the powerhouse of agricultural literacy programming. Partners supporting these efforts include: county Farm Bureaus, UIUC Extension, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Illinois Beef Association, Illinois Corn Growers Association, Illinois Department of Agriculture, Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Pork Producers, Illinois Soybean Association, and Midwest Dairy Association. Financial support for IAITC is provided by industry partners and individuals who contribute through the IAA Foundation.

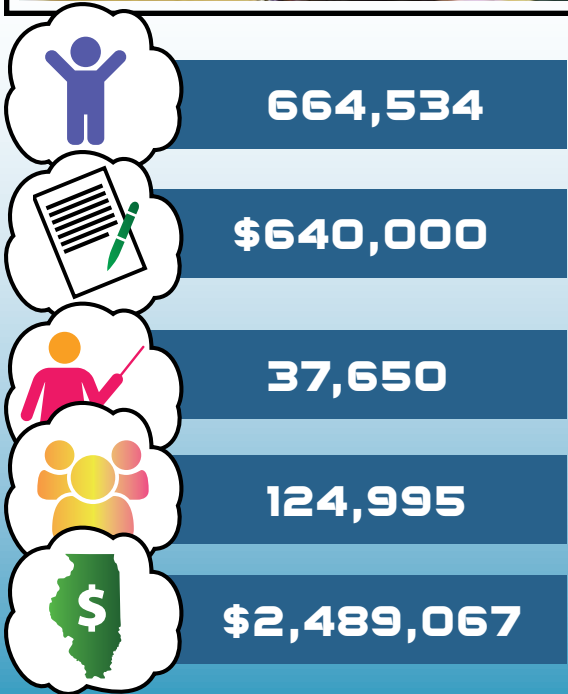


- Counties awarded an AITC grant and hire a paid coordinator
- Counties did not apply for an AITC grant and hire a paid coordinator
- Counties did not apply for an AITC grant and provide programs by volunteers



# AG IN THE CLASSROOM

79 coalitions covering 89 counties were funded in part through generous support of the IAA Foundation and the IAITC county coalition grant program. All counties in Illinois received teacher resources, student resources and related materials from the IAITC program.



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

In grants were awarded to **79** county ag literacy programs serving **89** counties. Average grant per coalition was **\$8,101**.

Teachers and **2,972** (70%) school centers utilized agricultural lessons to teach academic

Community members engaged in learning about agriculture through AITC.

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

# PROGRAMS & STUDENTS

[GRADES 6-12]

## TOTAL AG PROGRAMS

**327**

2016-2017

**334**

2017-2018

**345**

2018-2019



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FULFILLED BY AGRICULTURAL COURSES

<b>75%</b>	Science
<b>29%</b>	Consumer Education
<b>1%</b>	Math
<b>1%</b>	Social Studies
<b>1%</b>	Language Arts

## STUDENTS

<b>60%</b>	Male
<b>40%</b>	Female
<b>7%</b>	Minority
<b>9%</b>	Living on a family farm
<b>17%</b>	Urban Students (living in a city of 20,000+)

## LAB FACILITIES PROVIDED BY SCHOOL

<b>79%</b>	Mechanics
<b>76%</b>	Computers/Laptops (+10)
<b>72%</b>	Greenhouse
<b>57%</b>	Land/Plant
<b>49%</b>	Landscaping
<b>35%</b>	Garden
<b>27%</b>	AgriScience
<b>23%</b>	Aquaculture
<b>19%</b>	Small Animal
<b>5%</b>	Nursery
<b>3%</b>	Large Animal

## AG PROGRAM

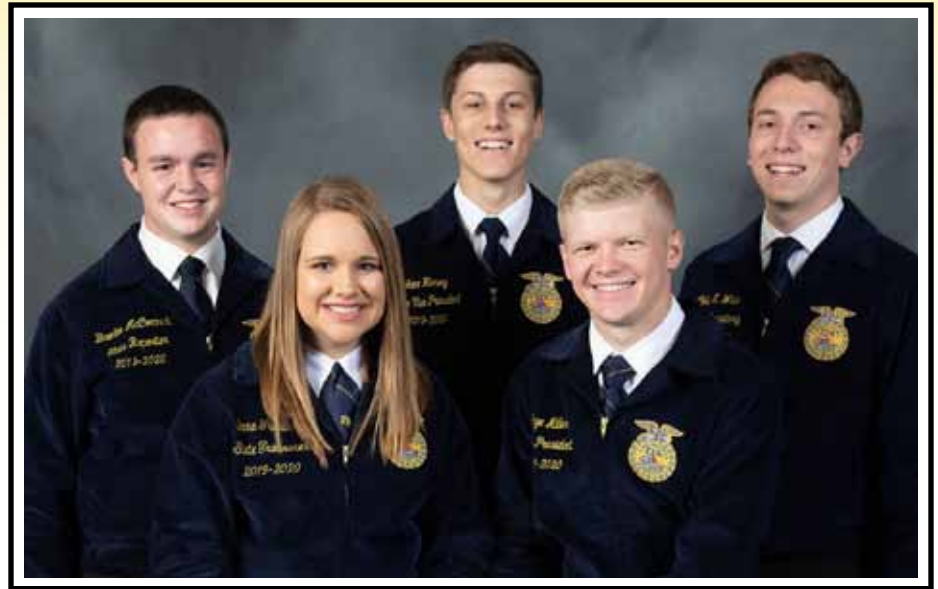
Average Students Per Class	<b>18</b>	-
Employ 2 or more teachers	<b>67</b>	<b>19%</b>
Agriculture articulation agreement with colleges	<b>101</b>	<b>29%</b>
Dual credit agricultural courses	<b>86</b>	<b>25%</b>
State Agricultural Education Curriculum used by teacher	<b>334</b>	<b>97%</b>
Schools with an Advisory Council	<b>184</b>	<b>53%</b>
Schools with a FFA Alumni Chapter	<b>225</b>	<b>65%</b>
Average Incentive Funding Grant allocation per school	<b>\$4,279</b>	-
Programs with a Jr. High Ag Course	<b>105</b>	<b>30%</b>

## NATIONAL CHAPTER AWARD: GROWING LEADERS



Waterloo FFA was honored as the Top Chapter in the nation! FFA members recognized the importance of being involved with younger students in their school district and provided a great outlet for students to learn about healthy lifestyles while interacting with the high school FFA members. “We knew it was important to start growing tomorrow’s leaders, today,” member Alexis Mudd recalled after the Fun Fitness in Ag video was released and presented at the National Convention Convention.

- **Tim McDermott & Marissa Moglin, Waterloo FFA Advisors**



## ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FFA OFFICERS

*(From left to right)*

Reporter - Brodee McCormick, Athens

Treasurer - Emma Freebairn, Serena

Vice President - Lane Harvey, Fairfield

President - Gage Miller, Cambridge

Secretary - Collin White, Midwest Central

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT & FFA MEMBERSHIP AT AN ALL TIME HIGH!

**19,099**  
FFA MEMBERS

**34,285**  
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION  
STUDENTS

(PUBLIC-34,077 PRIVATE-208)

# TEACHERS

(GRADES 6-12)

TEACHERS	
<b>432</b>	Total Teachers
<b>52%</b>	Male
<b>48%</b>	Female
<b>85%</b>	Member of IAVAT (professional organization)
<b>30%</b>	Provisionally/Alternatively certified
<b>33%</b>	30 years of age or younger
<b>21%</b>	Over age 50
<b>38%</b>	5 years of experience or less
<b>14%</b>	25+ years of experience



## AVERAGE SALARY ON THE RISE

**\$54,646**  
4% INCREASE

**\$45,252**  
2018-19 FIRST YEAR  
TEACHER SALARY

## AGRICULTURAL TEACHERS SUPPLY & DEMAND

YEAR	NUMBER OF JOB OPENINGS	AG ED GRADUATES
2017-18	<b>78</b>	<b>20</b>
2018-19	<b>97</b>	<b>35</b>
2019-20	<b>81</b>	<b>28</b>

# EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD WINNERS



**DISTRICT 1**  
**RODNEY MAIN**  
 ROWVA at Oneida

**DISTRICT 2**  
**JEFF MAIERHOFER**  
 Seneca

**DISTRICT 3**  
**MARY BARNES**  
 Pleasant Hill

**DISTRICT 4**  
**CASSIE CROUCH**  
 Maroa-Forsyth

**DISTRICT 5**  
**JASON HUSEMAN**  
 Trico at Campbell Hill



## STATE WINNER: JEFF MAIERHOFER

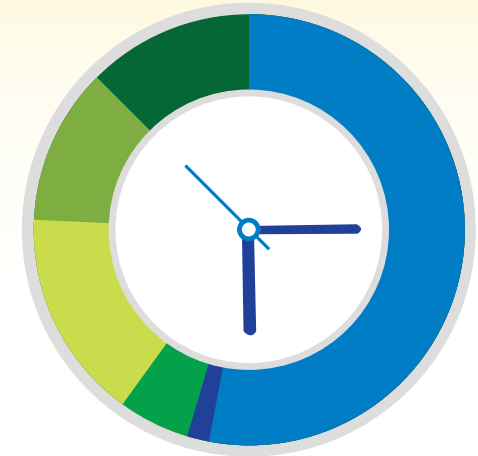
The 2019 Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers Excellence in Teaching Award winner is Jeff Maierhofer from Seneca High School. For 30 years Maierhofer has been a part of the agricultural education program at SHS where they believe in the three-circle model of agricultural education. Jeff considers himself a facilitator who provides real-life and memorable experiences in the classroom, with FFA activities, and in individualized Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs. Although he believes that adequate and up-to-date facilities are essential for a successful Ag Ed program, he feels that the whole world can be used as a classroom. Maierhofer believes that the long term success of the SHS Ag Ed program and the Seneca FFA is because of the respect that the staff has shown to each and every student and the individual treatment that each student receives as they are led towards personal growth and career success.

# THREE CIRCLE FFA AND SAE GRANT

Established by Public Act 099-0826 and funded by the ISBE Budget, funding has been allocated in the Agricultural Education line to support the Three Circle Grant. This grant supports agricultural educators' extended salary beyond the regularly assigned teaching duties daily. School districts that employ full-time middle or secondary school teachers are eligible with an approvable agricultural education program. The grant partners with the school district to pay for 50% of 400 additional hours outside of the regularly assigned teaching duties. The grant pays a greater amount for new agricultural programs in the first four years. The district or community partners pay the remaining cost. **Average teacher contract length is 11 months..**

## CONTRACT LENGTHS

- 12 MONTHS (54%)
- 11 MONTHS (2%)
- 10 ½ MONTHS (6%)
- 10 MONTHS (14%)
- 9 ½ MONTHS (12%)
- 9 MONTHS (12%)



<p><b>\$8,309</b> AVERAGE GRANT PER TEACHER</p>		<p><b>\$16,618</b> AVERAGE SALARY INCREASE PER TEACHER</p>	
<p><b>222</b> TEACHERS PARTICIPATED</p>	<p><b>51%</b> OF AG TEACHERS PARTICIPATED</p>	<p><b>74,476</b> TOTAL HOURS WITH FFA ACTIVITIES (66% INCREASE)</p>	<p><b>335</b> AVERAGE HOURS PER TEACHER WITH FFA ACTIVITIES</p>
<p><b>113,059</b> TOTAL HOURS WORKED OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL</p>	<p><b>582</b> AVERAGE HOURS WORKED OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL DAY PER TEACHER</p>	<p><b>10,415</b> TOTAL HOURS WITH SAE (WORK-BASED) ACTIVITIES (9% INCREASE)</p>	<p><b>47</b> AVERAGE HOURS PER TEACHER WITH SAE</p>
<p><b>227,099</b> TOTAL STUDENTS IMPACTED</p>	<p><b>1,023</b> AVERAGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IMPACTED PER TEACHER</p>	<p><b>28,168</b> TOTAL HOURS WITH CURRICULUM &amp; PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (25% INCREASE)</p>	<p><b>127</b> AVERAGE HOURS PER TEACHER WITH CURRICULUM &amp; PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</p>

# 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. 281 High school and college students participated in an exploration of becoming an agriculture teacher.

## Activities to Increase Student Interest at the High School Level

- Ag education FFA state career development event (18)
- Teach Ag workshops at FFA Convention (93)
- Elite conference for students interested in teaching ag (106)
- Internships with experienced teachers (39)
- College signing day at FFA convention (13)

## Activities to Sustain Interest at the Collegiate Level

- Student teacher recognition at state ag teachers conference (25)
- Student teacher grants (25)
- Pre-service teacher ag program bus trip (24)
- Internships with experienced teachers (14)
- TeachAg student presentations and workshops (501)



## Activities to Retain Teachers

- Early career teacher conferences including graduate credit for first and second year teachers (67)
- Professional development trainings and workshops (441)
- Agriculture education identified as an area of teacher critical need allowing teachers eligibility for College Federal Loan Forgiveness
- 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

\*Number of individuals shown in (parenthesis)

# FFA CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

AWARD AREA	CHAPTER	% OF SCHOOLS ATTENDED
Agricultural Business Management	<b>Prairie Central</b>	<b>28%</b>
Agricultural Communications	<b>Normal</b>	<b>3%</b>
Agricultural Education	<b>Clayton Thomas, Normal West</b>	<b>5%</b>
Agricultural Issues	<b>Midland</b>	<b>3%</b>
Agricultural Mechanics	<b>Prairie Central</b>	<b>47%</b>
Agricultural Sales	<b>Prairie Central (National Champions)</b>	<b>34%</b>
Agronomy	<b>Iroquois West</b>	<b>59%</b>
Conduct of Chapter Meetings	<b>Villa Grove</b>	<b>1%</b>
Creed Speaking	<b>Lizzie Schafer, Taylorville</b>	<b>62%</b>
Dairy Cattle Evaluation - Non-Reasons	<b>Carlyle</b>	<b>31%</b>
Dairy Cattle Evaluation - Reasons	<b>Prairie Central</b>	<b>2%</b>
Dairy Cattle Handlers	<b>Zach Paul, Edwardsville</b>	<b>7%</b>
Environmental & Natural Resources(Envirothon)	<b>Liberty</b>	<b>17%</b>
Extemporaneous Public Speaking	<b>Cavit Schempp, Olympia</b>	<b>62%</b>
Floriculture	<b>Glenbrook South</b>	<b>34%</b>
Food Science Technology	<b>Streator</b>	<b>18%</b>
Forestry	<b>Olney</b>	<b>32%</b>
Horse Evaluation - Non-Reasons	<b>Geneseo</b>	<b>47%</b>
Horse Evaluation - Reasons	<b>Tri-City</b>	<b>4%</b>
Job Interview(Employment Skills)	<b>Sheridan Hank, Mercer County</b>	<b>43%</b>
Land Use	<b>Orion</b>	<b>59%</b>
Livestock Evaluation - Non-Reasons	<b>Triopia</b>	<b>67%</b>
Livestock Evaluation - Reasons	<b>Taylorville</b>	<b>5%</b>
Meats Evaluation & Technology	<b>Prairie Central</b>	<b>30%</b>
Milk Quality & Products	<b>Prairie Central</b>	<b>49%</b>
Nursery & Landscape	<b>Seneca</b>	<b>34%</b>
Parliamentary Procedure	<b>Olney</b>	<b>32%</b>
Parliamentary Procedure - Novice	<b>Paxton-Buckley-Loda</b>	<b>65%</b>
Poultry Evaluation	<b>Paxton-Buckley-Loda</b>	<b>34%</b>
Prepared Public Speaking	<b>Mark Mehochko, Seneca</b>	<b>62%</b>
Quizbowl	<b>Pittsfield</b>	<b>36%</b>
Veterinary Science	<b>Prairie Central</b>	<b>7%</b>



(From left to right) Becky Freed, Cassidy Edelman, Alexandria Brown, Kirra Gehring, Sydney Rothert, Kade Hill



National Agriscience Fair Animal Systems Champion Eric Schafer and Lizzie Schafer, Taylorville





# NATIONAL FFA CHAPTER AWARD PROGRAM

## Top Chapter - Cambridge FFA

Being recognized as the top Illinois chapter in the National Chapter Award program, is an honor that came from many hours of hard work and dedication from the members of the Cambridge FFA. Our success stems from fully implementing the three-circle model of agricultural education, insuring that all students enrolled in agricultural education classes have active participation in the FFA and opportunities in Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs). Throughout the year, chapter officers focus on developing activities that allow students to grow as leaders, build our community, and strengthen agriculture. It is their mission to set high goals for members to become involved in activities that showcase the values and traditions of our organization.

Some of the most important activities within the Cambridge FFA chapter include:

- Greenhand Orientation Day - A day long program for freshman FFA members organized to encourage them to become involved in the FFA.
- Used Oil Drive - A community waste oil collection that helps protect the environment and keep the community clean.
- Farm to Fork Dinner - A partnership program with the Farm Bureau designed to bring awareness to locally grown agricultural products.
- Ag in the AM - A local news segment that broadcasts the Blue and Gold jacket on thousands of TV screens in our community.
- Other events included in the application include chapter officer training, a school greenhouse business, homeless night fundraiser, ice cream social recruitment event, and elementary ag literacy day.

**-Trent Taber, Cambridge FFA Advisor**



## PREMIER CHAPTERS BY SECTION

Section	Chapter	Section	Chapter
1	Scales Mound	14	Athens
2	Rochelle	15	Lincolnwood
3	Cambridge	16	Decatur-MacArthur Andreas Ag Academy
4	Knoxville	17	Paxton-Buckley-Loda
5	Midland	18	Oakwood
6	Central Burlington	19	Greenville
7	Seneca	20	Altamont
8	Chicago Ag Sciences	21	Carlyle
9	Normal Community	22	Waterloo
10	Tri-Point	23	Olney
11	Liberty	24	Goreville
12	Midwest Central	25	Harrisburg
13	Pittsfield		



# FFA PROFICIENCY AWARD WINNERS

AWARD AREA	STUDENT	CHAPTER
Ag Communications	Alex Johannes	Nashville
Ag Education	Alayna Scranton	Pittsfield
Ag Mechanics - Design & Fabrication	Coy Crull	Mt. Carmel
Ag Mechanics - Repair & Maintenance (Entrepreneur)	Wyatt Potter	River Ridge
Ag Mechanics - Repair & Maintenance (Placement)	Michael Wendle	Jerseyville
Agricultural Processing	Ruby Miller	Marshall
Agricultural Sales (Entrepreneur) *NF	Braylee Finck	Maroa-Forsyth
Agricultural Sales (Placement)	Andrew Strieker	Central at Breese
Agricultural Services	Ely Boulds	Eldorado
Agriscience Research - Animal Systems	Jadrien Miles	Paxton-Buckley-Loda
Agriscience Research - Integrated Systems	Melanie Jordan	Cisne
Agriscience Research - Plant Systems	Prescott Jeckel	Delavan
Beef Production (Entrepreneur)	Kira Sayre	Triopia
Beef Production (Placement)	William Gebhart	Newark
Dairy Production (Entrepreneur)	Payton Erbsen	Eastland
Dairy Production (Placement)	Allison Diekemper	Carlyle
Diversified Ag Production	Eric Schafer	Taylorville
Diversified Crop Production (Entrepreneur) *NF	Tanner Mickey	Taylorville
Diversified Crop Production (Placement)	Brady Carpenter	Cuba
Diversified Horticulture	Lance Moritz	Streator
Diversified Livestock Production	Sara Timm	Cisne
Electrical Technology	John Speeks	Lincolnwood
Environmental Science & Natural Resource Mgmt	Dalton Potter	Neoga
Equine Science (Entrepreneur)	Amanda Headon	Rochelle
Equine Science (Placement)	Monique Garrett	Edwardsville

AWARD AREA	STUDENT	CHAPTER
Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production	Makenna Green	Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond
Food Science & Technology *NF	Lindsey Averbeck	Okawville
Food Service	Cody Collins	Pittsfield
Forage Production	Riley Smith	Macomb
Forest Management & Products	Jeremy Whisenton	Chicago High School for Ag-Science
Fruit Production	Hannah Tappendorf	Altamont
Goat Production	Tara Hummel	Tri-Point
Grain Production (Entrepreneur) *NF	Kade Portz	Marissa
Grain Production (Placement)	Jacob Black	Streator
Home &/or Community Development	Jacob Mayes	Cumberland
Landscape Management	Sam Townsend	Scales Mound
Nursery Operations	MacKenzie Adams	Nokomis FFA
Outdoor Recreation	Konrad Powell	Williamsville
Poultry Production	Luke Bergschneider	Franklin
Safety	Ashlyn Quinn	Monmouth-Roseville
Sheep Production	Beau Mumm	Monticello
Small Animal Production & Care *National Winner	Olivia Charles	West Carroll
Specialty Animal Production *National Winner	Jacob Meyer	Central at Breese
Specialty Crop Production	Ellie Marlow	Bluford
Swine Production (Entrepreneur)	Mallory Burgener	Central A & M
Swine Production (Placement)	Brian Fehr	Cissna Park
Turf Grass Management	Joey Allison	Cisne
Vegetable Production	Korey Bunselmeyer	Trico
Veterinary Science	Sophia Reavley	Havana
Wildlife Production & Management *NF	Amanda Voss	Carlyle

\*NF = National Finalist

# SUPERVISED AG EXPERIENCE (SAE)

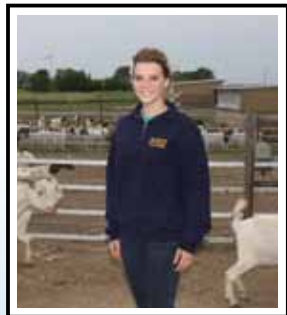
WORK-BASED LEARNING

## NATIONAL PROFICIENCY AWARD WINNERS



### Agricultural Sales Entrepreneurship, Braylee Finck, Maroa-Forsyth

Braylee focuses on her floral business, Petals and Blooms. She has been able to utilize different colors, shapes and sizes of flowers that allow her to design unique arrangements for weddings, funerals, and high school events such as prom and homecoming. Braylee accredits her SAE for influencing her to pursue a degree that will allow her to work in an agribusiness.



### Goat Production Entrepreneurship/Placement, Tara Hummel, Tri-Point

Tara shows goats and works at Hummel Livestock. She purchased, raised and cared for two wethers, prepping them for showing at area fairs. Tara's responsibilities include feeding, exercising, and getting the goats show ready. At Hummel Livestock, Tara assists with embryo transfer work, marketing livestock, and oversees the daily operation.

## AMERICAN STAR FARMER FINALIST



### Nick Torrance, Macomb

Nick produces, shows, and markets registered Hereford genetics in the Midwest and across the United States. He owns 22 head of beef cattle and exchanges feed, machinery, paid labor and other expenses for 50% of the cash sales. His Grain Production and Oil Seed Production operation includes a 50/50 crop share lease arrangement producing 100 acres of corn and 100 acres of soybeans.

## AMERICAN STAR IN AGRISCIENCE FINALIST



### Kacie Haag, Tri-Point

Kacie's agriscience program is comprised of: soil testing, manure management, a nitrogen trial plot, water nitrate testing, and N-Watch. She takes field soil samples from four fields to analyze nitrogen movement from manure and commercial fertilizer. Her SAE has increased her passion for agriculture and Kacie now understands how research can help reduce environmental footprints.

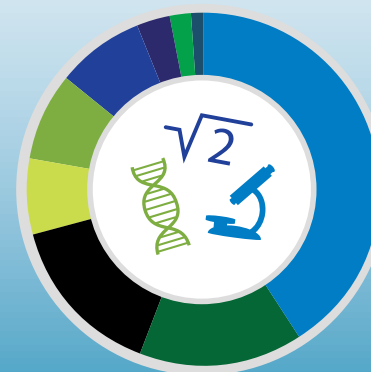
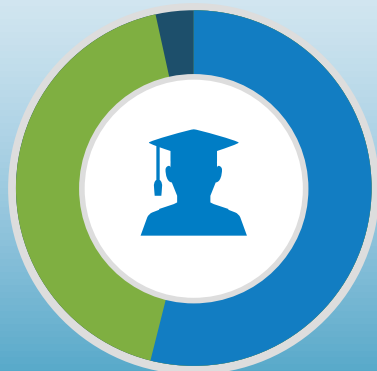
## STUDENT SAE AREAS

- Job Placement - 56%
- Entrepreneurship/Ownership - 38%
- Research - 6%

**TOTAL STUDENT NET EARNINGS**  
**\$12,205,787**

## STUDENT SAE BY AG SECTORS

- Animal - 40%
- Plant - 16%
- Leadership, Education, Communication - 13%
- Agribusiness - 8%
- Power, Structural, Technology - 8%
- Food Products, Processing - 8%
- Environmental - 3%
- Natural Resources - 2%
- Biotechnology - 1%



# FFA STAR AMERICAN, STATE AND DISCOVERY DEGREE WINNERS

**140** students were recognized with an American FFA Degree at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. **4,667** degrees were awarded nationally. These members demonstrated the highest levels of performance in the organization.

## AMERICAN DEGREE

### STAR FARMER

**NICK TORRANCE (FINALIST)**  
MACOMB

### STAR AG PLACEMENT

**BRANDON LIVINGSTON**  
BUSHNELL PRAIRIE CITY

### STAR AGRIBUSINESS

**TREVOR KAEB**  
CISSNA PARK

### STAR AGRISCIENCE

**KACIE HAAG (FINALIST)**  
TRI-POINT

**573** students received an Illinois State Degree.

## STATE DEGREE

### STAR FARMER

**MCKENNA GREEN**  
ARTHUR-LOVINGTON-ATWOOD-HAMMOND

### STAR AG PLACEMENT

**TARA HUMMELL**  
TRI-POINT

### STAR AGRIBUSINESS

**JOEY ALLISON**  
CISNE

### STAR AGRISCIENCE

**SEDONA KOLMER**  
WATERLOO

## DISCOVERY DEGREE

### STAR FARMER

**BRAYDON DEOUNTER**  
WEST PRAIRIE

### STAR AG PLACEMENT

**NEVIN ERBSEN**  
EASTLAND

### STAR AGRISCIENCE

**KRISTEN NICOLE MASCHER**  
NOKOMIS

## FFA STATE DEGREE STARS



(From left to right)

Tara Hummell, Mckenna Green, IL Director of Ag John Sullivan, Sedona Kolmer, Joey Allison

## FFA DISCOVERY DEGREE STARS



(From left to right)

Nevin Erbsen, Braydon Decounter, Kristen Nicole Mascher

# COLLEGE PROGRAMS

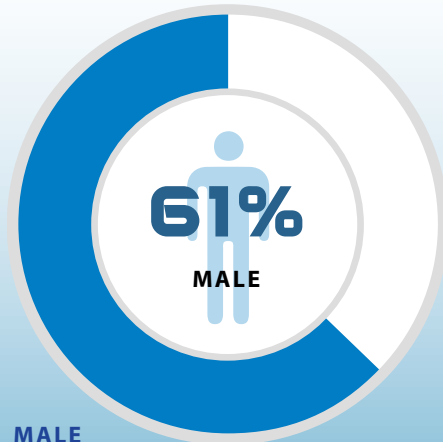
PROGRAM	
<b>27</b>	Total Programs
<b>46%</b>	College Students Taking Ag Courses in High School
<b>1,086</b>	High School Students Offered Articulated Credit
<b>563</b>	High School Students Received Dual Credit
FACULTY	
<b>11</b>	Full Time
<b>119</b>	Part Time
<b>11</b>	Average Number of Years Teaching
<b>\$67,055</b>	Average Full Time Salary
<b>49</b>	Average Age
STUDENTS	

## COLLEGES OFFERING DEGREES IN AGRICULTURE

Black Hawk	Joliet Junior	Rend Lake
DuPage	Kankakee	Richland
Lake County	Kaskaskia	Sauk Valley
Danville	Kishwaukee	Shawnee
Heartland	Lake Land	Southeastern
Highland	Lincoln Land	Southwestern
Illinois Central	Lincoln Trail	Spoon River
Illinois Valley	McHenry County	Triton
John Wood	Parkland	Wabash Valley

MALE  
NON-FARM

1,150

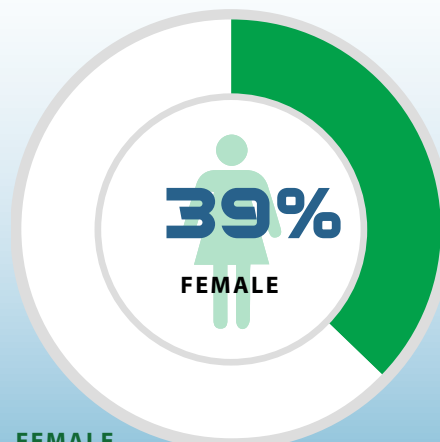


MALE  
FARM

705

FEMALE  
NON-FARM

867

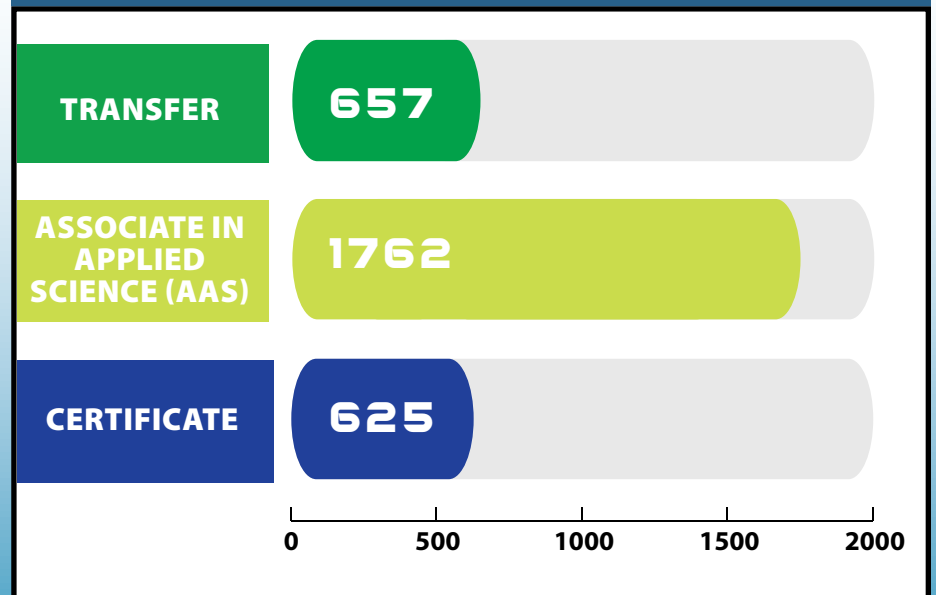


FEMALE  
FARM

322

TOTAL 3,044

## ENROLLMENT BY DEGREE



# PAS ACHIEVEMENTS

The Professional Agricultural Student Organization (PAS) prepares 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
Discussion Meet	Rob Janssen, WIU

SPECIALIST EVENTS	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
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	INDIVIDUAL AND COLLEGE
Agribusiness Management and Marketing System	Rob Janssen, WIU
Agricultural Education Systems	Hannah Klingele, John Wood
Non-Ruminant 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



14 CHAPTERS

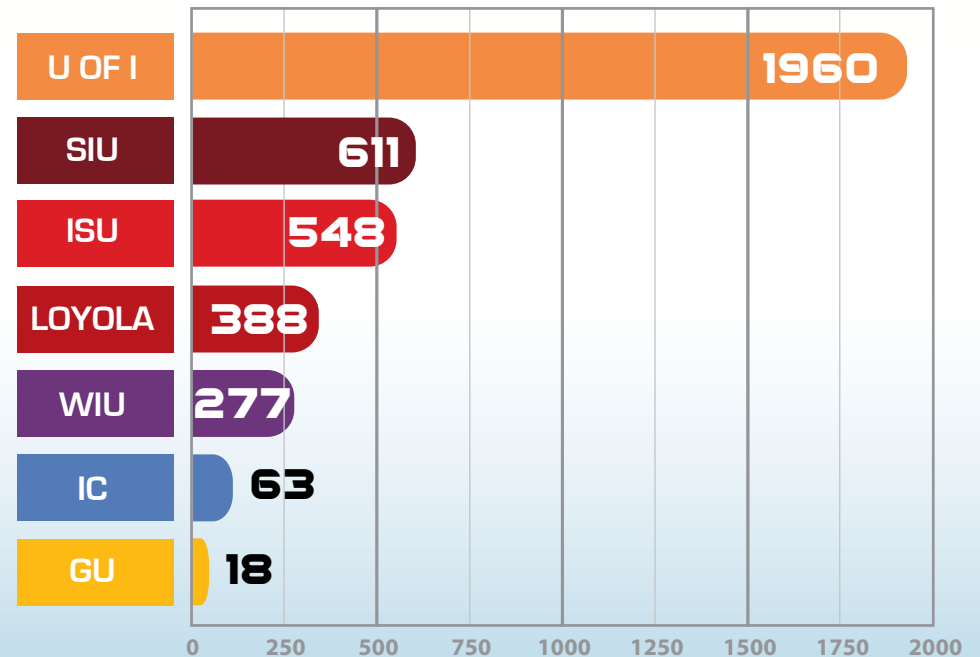


206 MEMBERS

# UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS



## STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT



MALE 47%

FEMALE 53%

**373**

FACULTY

**342**

GRADUATE STUDENTS

**649**

FRESHMEN

**694**

TRANSFER STUDENTS

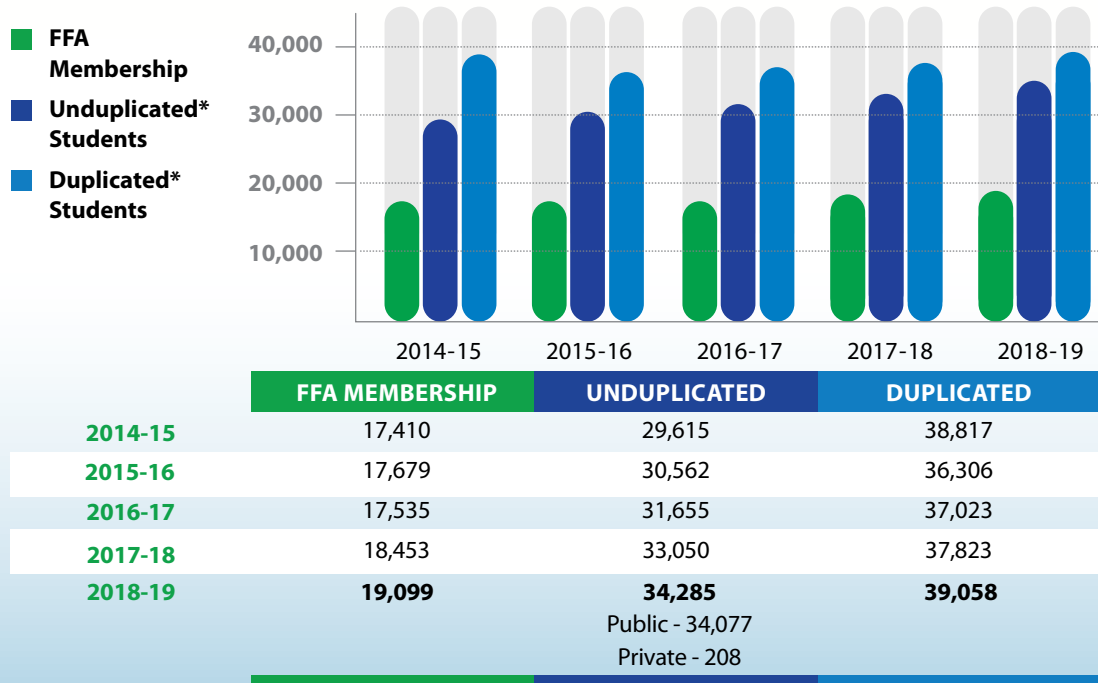
**3,737**

TOTAL STUDENTS

# ENVISION

## THE FUTURE

### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION ENROLLMENT AND FFA MEMBERSHIP GRADES 6-12



\* Unduplicated = Enrollment count only includes a student once.

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



#### Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street | Springfield, IL 62777-0001

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ISBE Chair

**Dr. Carmen I. Ayala**

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