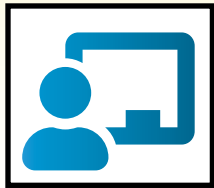


ACCOMPLISHMENTS



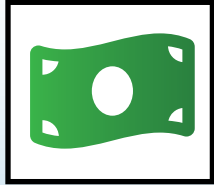
79 Ag In The Classroom (AITC) county coalitions (91 counties) with community, industry, and agency representation reached **664,534** preK-12 grade students about the food and agricultural industry in providing a school based coordinator, student and teacher resources, teacher presentations and professional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



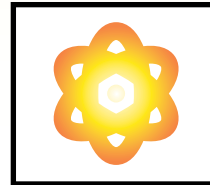
80% of school districts approved an agricultural course to fulfill academic course graduation requirements in science, consumer economics, math, social studies, and language arts. Agriculture courses are viewed as beyond elective courses.



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.