

MISSOURI AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

2017 FACT SHEET



Leadership is one component of agricultural education's model of learning. FFA also helps students learn hands-on career skills.

Agriculture — It's America's most creative, productive and basic industry. Today, we credit a sound education program for much of this country's success in agriculture. For agriculture to advance — both dynamically and efficiently — education must be a top priority. From learning institutions to government agencies and related businesses, we must all work together to provide leadership for the future through strengthened education.



WHY WE NEED AG EDUCATION

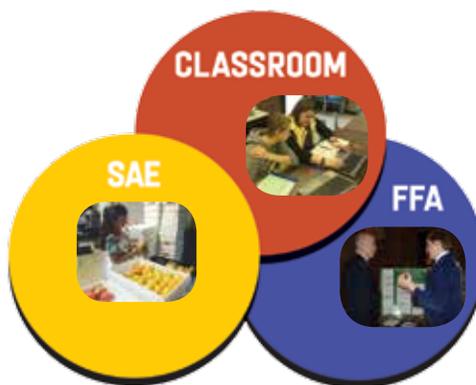
- Accelerating globalization of markets.
- Growing demand for environmental protection and safe food.
- Increasing dependence on technology.
- Declining public understanding of agriculture.
- Growing need for highly trained and diverse workforce.

HOW STUDENTS LEARN

Through **classroom instruction**, ag ed students use unique problem-solving skills.

Ag Ed students gain **hands-on experience** outside the classroom through their Supervised Agricultural Experience.

Leadership development is a key component of FFA. Activities are designed to promote personal skill development.



AT A GLANCE

28,285

Students enrolled in Missouri agricultural education programs

342

High schools and career centers offering agriculture classes

5,419

High school agricultural education graduates in 2015. Of this, 95.2% were employed or continuing their education. 64% are pursuing agriculture as a career.



WHAT'S THE IMPACT OF MO AG EDUCATION?

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION



Agricultural Mechanics and Technology is one of six career cluster areas students can select.

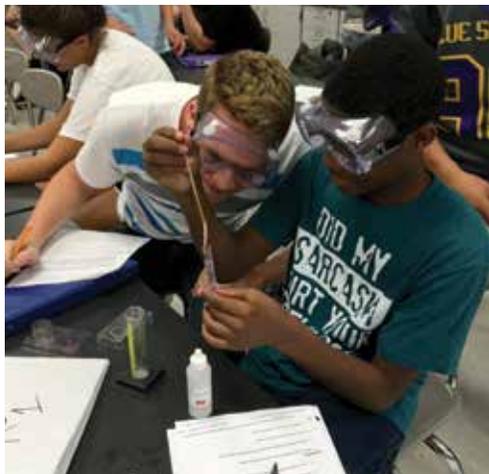


Local FFA chapters build community partnerships through programs that help feed the hungry.

FFA: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The FFA Motto: *Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve.*

- ▶▶ Local, chartered FFA chapters where members work with their community.
- ▶▶ Area, district and state programs help members advance their leadership skills and career objectives.
- ▶▶ Missouri FFA membership in 2015-16 was **26,057**.



Agriscience projects are growing in interest among ag education students.

Missouri Ag Education | Phone 573.751.3544
<http://https://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/career-education/agricultural-education>
www.missouriffa.org

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Ag education students select their interests in one of six Agricultural Career Cluster areas:

- Agricultural Business Management Systems
- Agricultural Mechanics & Technology
- Animal Science Systems
- Food Science Systems
- Natural Resources Conservation Systems
- Plant Science / Horticultural Systems

SAE: HANDS-ON LEARNING

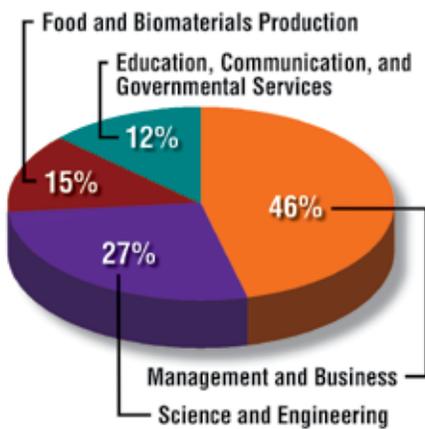
Ag ed students select courses and Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAE) activities that relate to his or her agricultural interest.

In 2016, of the 75% of students who completed SAE programs:

- ▶▶ **17%** had entrepreneurship only projects.
- ▶▶ **48%** had placement only projects where students work for someone in an agribusiness or on a farm.
- ▶▶ **7%** had agriscience projects.
- ▶▶ **28%** had a combination of projects.

Statewide, more than **\$48,320,789** net income was generated through SAE programs.

Employment Opportunities



Source: USDA

- ▶▶ College graduates in agriculture, food and natural resources will find good employment opportunities through 2020 creating 57,900 average annual openings nationally.

— Source: USDA

MISSOURI'S TOP 5 SAE PROGRAMS

1. Placement/Agribusiness Systems
2. Placement/Animal Systems
3. Placement/Food Production
4. Beef
5. Equine

