Agricultural Education in South Dakota

Agricultural Education implements inquiry-based learning in the classroom and career exploration through work study and supervised agricultural experience programs. It develops leadership skills such as public speaking, teamwork, organization and civic service through the intracurricular implementation of FFA.

Students who participate in agricultural education programs graduate with the skills necessary to become productive citizens who will succeed in postsecondary education or the workforce.

For more information please visit www.doe.sd.gov or www.naee.org

Secondary Education

- **6,159** students in agriculture, food and natural resource courses
- **102** agriculture teachers
- **98** high school agricultural education programs
- **43** middle school agricultural education programs
- **72** students enrolled per program on average

**Courses offered**

- Middle School Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- CASE Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Ag Processing Technology
- Food Science
- Agriculture Biotechnology
- CASE Animal and Plant Biotechnology
- Agriscience
- Horticulture
- Floriculture
- Landscape, Design and Maintenance
- Greenhouse Management
- CASE Principles of Agricultural Science-Animal Fundamentals of Animal Science
- Advanced Animal Science
- Companion Animals
- CASE Principles of Agriculture Science- Plant Fundamental Ag Structures Technology
- Advanced Ag Structures Technology
- Fundamental Ag Mechanics
- Ag Metal Fabrication
- Ag Power Technology
- Natural Resources
- CASE Natural Resources and Ecology
- Wildlife and Fisheries
- Environmental Science
- Ag Business, Sales and Marketing
- Agribusiness Entrepreneurship
- Agriculture Communications
- Leadership and Personal Development

Postsecondary & Adult

**Postsecondary Agriculture Programs**

- 5 four-year colleges and technical schools offering postsecondary agriculture courses.
- Currently, there are 47 agriculture or related majors in the state.

South Dakota State University offers a pre-service agricultural education certification program.

**Economic Impact of Agriculture**

- Agriculture is South Dakota's #1 industry and has a **$25.6 billion** impact each year.
- Production agriculture and its value-added industries generate 20% of the state’s economic activity and employs over **115,000** South Dakotans.
- The **graduation rate** of South Dakota students who have taken 2 or more credits in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources career cluster is **98%**.
- After graduation 96% of those students will go into the following areas; four-year postsecondary (47%), technical institute (32%), employment (11%), military (4%) and advanced training (2%).