



# School-Based Agricultural Education Funding Opportunities

## Minnesota Career and Technical Education (CTE) Revenue

Minnesota CTE Revenue (§124D.4531), including CTE Levy and CTE Aid, reimburses a school district for 35% of its CTE expenses. Districts are eligible to submit all approved expenses of an MDE approved program, such as:

- Appropriately licensed teacher salary (including extended/summer/FFA contracts), but not benefits
- Teacher travel, including registration, lodging, and mileage for professional development and FFA
- Supplies and instructional food unique to CTE (i.e., classroom, SAE, and FFA), but not equipment

<https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/cte/pol/levy/>

## Federal Carl D. Perkins CTE Act of 2018 (Perkins V)

Perkins V improves and expands services for students enrolled in CTE programs. It provides an increased focus on the academic achievement of CTE students, strengthening the connections between secondary and postsecondary education, and improving state and local accountability. Minnesota receives about \$18 million; split \$9 million to the secondary level. Each consortium's allocation procedure varies, but ***agriculture programs can often access between \$1,000 to several thousands of dollars per year*** for innovative equipment, work-based learning opportunities, teacher recruitment efforts, career exploration, and local needs assessment.

<https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/cte/perk/>

## Minnesota Agricultural Education Summer Grant

The state legislature appropriates \$250,000 in annual state funding to MDE for school districts, including charters, intermediates, and education districts, with current MDE-approved agriculture programs. Schools may use grant funds to pay for licensed agricultural education teachers for an agriculture program during the summer for high school students in extended programs.

- Schools must provide a one-to-one dollar match.
- Grant funding supports one-half of up to three licensed agriculture teachers' salaries and benefits for up to 40 working days each for one summer program.

Application deadline varies each year. Search "Agricultural Education Summer Grant" on the Minnesota Department of Education's grant website. <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/grants/>

## MAELC Strategic Initiative Grants

The Minnesota Agricultural Education Leadership Council (MAELC) offers Strategic Initiative grants to support programming for agriculture, food, and natural resources (AFNR) education at the primary, secondary, and post-secondary levels. Applications due April 15 and November 15. ***Over the last five years, the average grant award was approximately \$6,734.***

[http://mn.gov/maelc/grants/strategic\\_initiatives\\_grants.html](http://mn.gov/maelc/grants/strategic_initiatives_grants.html)

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## **Compeer Financial**

Two programs: 1) Agriculture Education Grant - provides students with access to modern resources to broaden their perspective of the rapidly changing agriculture industry; typically available in April. 2) General Use Grant- education, environment, technology, or quality of life for agriculture and rural America. Typically, available in May and November. <https://www.compeer.com/Home/Investing-in-Rural-Communities/Giving-Back>

## **Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE)**

Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE) curricular materials provide an elevated level of educational experiences to students to enhance the rigor and relevance of AFNR subject matter. CASE provides purposeful enhancement of science, mathematics, and English language understanding. Grants and scholarships available online. <https://www.case4learning.org/>

## **National FFA Organization**

Grants are available from the National FFA Organization to help support FFA chapters, FFA alumni affiliates, and student supervised agricultural experiences (SAE's). These programs include Living to Serve Grants, Alumni Awards and Grants, and SAE Grants. <https://www.ffa.org/participate/grants-and-scholarships>

## **Minnesota Department of Agriculture**

1) Farm to School Grants – Supports Minnesota school districts that want to purchase and serve Minnesota agricultural products. Typically, due in November.

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/business-dev-loans-grants/agri-farm-school-grants>

2) AGRI Urban Agriculture Grant - Encourages urban youth agricultural education and urban agriculture community development within city limits of urban or peri-urban areas (population over 5,000 or within tribal land). Applications are typically due in early Spring and awarded between \$5,000-\$100,000.

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/grants/urbanaggrant.aspx>

## **Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITC) Ag Literacy Grants**

The MAITC Foundation offers Ag Literacy Grants (max of \$1,000) to K-12 educators effectively integrating agriculture and food systems content into their classroom or school. MAITC aims to fund projects that provide students the opportunity to experience agriculture in a cross-curricular manner. Applications are typically due in September. <https://minnesota.agclassroom.org/grants/literacy/>

## **CHS/National Agriculture in the Classroom Grant**

CHS offers grants for K-12 teachers implementing an agriculture-related project in their classroom. Several \$500 grants are available for classroom projects that use agricultural concepts to instruct students in reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and other core subject areas. Applications are typically due in April.

<https://agclassroom.org/teacher/grants/>

## **Minnesota FFA Foundation Legacy Club Grant**

The Minnesota FFA Foundation provides grants to support FFA chapter growth and expand opportunities for students. New and existing programs can apply for support (\$1,500 & \$1,000 respectively). Applications are due October 1 each year. <https://www.mnffaoundation.org/chapter-corner>

## **School Garden Grants**

Several grant opportunities are available for school gardens. Visit the School Gardening in Minnesota website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/school-based-garden-f2s/funding>

## **Local Grants**

Many local businesses and community agriculture/education organizations offer grants, so be sure to keep an eye out for other funding opportunities.