

Iowa FFA State Officer Candidate Exam Resource

1. Curriculum for Agriculture Science Education provides professional development to teachers for each specific course to ensure they have the background and expertise to utilize CASE curriculum resources.
2. Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resources systems.
3. One example of experiential education in agricultural education is usually offering supervised agricultural experience (SAE) programs. These experiences allow students to gain the application of their knowledge and learning, outside the classroom environment.
4. The State Advisor position is employed through the Iowa Department of Education (DE) as a result of the public charter being held by the DE.
5. The first trade school was opened in 1881 in New York.
6. In 1929 a supplementary law – the George Reed Act – was passed authorizing additional and increasing annual appropriations for five years for education in agriculture and home economics.
7. The Smith-Hughes Act provided for annual appropriations starting with \$1,655,586 the first year and increasing annually until the maximum of \$7,161,726 was reached in 1926.
8. The Smith-Hughes Act was first proposed to the United States Senate by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia December 7, 1915.
9. The Smith-Hughes Act became effective July 1, 1917.
10. The Federal Board for Vocational Education was created 17 days after the Smith-Hughes Act became effective. This board was required to make reports, studies, and investigations of the various fields of vocational education.
11. The Ag Ed Vision, according to the National Council for Agricultural Education, is “Agricultural education envisions a world where all people value and understand the vital role of agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resources systems in advancing personal and global well-being.”
12. The Agriculture Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content Standards provide state agricultural education leaders and educators with a high-quality, rigorous set of standards to guide what students should know and be able to do after completing a program of study in each of the AFNR career pathways.
13. There are eight (8) pathways within the National AFNR Content Standards as established by The Council:
 - Agribusiness Systems
 - Animal Systems
 - Biotechnology Systems
 - Environmental Service Systems
 - Food Products and Processing
 - Natural Resources Systems
 - Plant Systems
 - Power, Structural and Technical Systems
14. 16% of Iowa’s High school Ag Ed Instructors are eligible to retire by 2021.

15. The average Iowa Ag Ed instructor earned \$52,245 during the 2017 fiscal year.
16. Over 20,000 Iowa Ag Ed students invested over 4,750,000 hours in experimental learning outside of school hours.
17. There are over 20,000 Iowa Ag Ed students from Middle and High School.
18. Ag Ed Students in Iowa earned over \$30,000,000 through their career experiences (SAE).
19. Iowa's Team Ag Ed consists of the Iowa FFA Association, the Iowa FFA Foundation, The Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators (IAAE), Postsecondary Agricultural Students Organization of Iowa (PAS), Iowa FFA Alumni.
20. Team Ag Ed on the national level consists of
 - National Council for Agricultural Education
 - The U.S. Department of Education
 - National Association of Agricultural Educators(NAAE)
 - National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE)
 - American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE)
 - Association for Career and Technical Education
 - National Farm & Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc
 - National Young Farmer Educational Association
 - National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization (PAS)
21. The Agricultural Education Mission is Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.
22. The Morrill Act of 186 established land-grant colleges in each state for teaching agriculture among other subjects.
23. SAE's are an experiential learning tool implemented that are essential to all ag education programs.
24. The three-circle model consisting of Classroom/Laboratory, FFA, and SAE serves as a representation of how students are able to grow in agricultural education.
25. Over 800,000 students are enrolled in secondary agriculture courses across the country.
26. Over 8,000 agricultural science education programs are in high schools across the Nation.
27. The STAR program exists to assist states in developing sustainable and effective recruitment and retention plans based on historical data, real-time trends, and individual state needs. STAR activities included Teach Ag workshops, state-based websites, internship programs, student-teacher scholarships, state program tours, teacher professional development support, ambassador programs, teacher recognition, campus ag ed events, mentoring programs and parent-based programs, to name a few.
28. During the early 1980's, it became apparent that a mechanism was needed through which the various stakeholders could coordinate in developing strategies to guide the agricultural education community into the 21st century. Out of this need, The Council on Agriculture Education was formed.
29. The AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards were originally developed as part of the 2003 United States Department of Education (USDE) Career Clusters Project. In 2009, The Council first reviewed and revised the content standards. The 2015

revision focused on ensuring that the content standards reflect essential and up-to-date knowledge and skills that students need to be ready for early-career success in a variety of AFNR disciplines.

30. The Iowa Council on Agricultural Education is a bipartisan effort that is charged to review, develop, and recommend standards for secondary and postsecondary agriculture education in Iowa.
31. In Iowa, recent legislation H.F. 2392 that was passed in 2016 requires that career and technical education programs have approved standards in place for their program.
32. Nationally, 23 percent of agricultural education instructors have five or fewer years of teaching experience.
33. FFA was organized nationally in 1928 in Kansas City, MO. In 1950, Congress granted FFA a federal charter, making it an integral part of public agricultural instruction under the National Vocational Education Act.
34. Agriculture teachers rely on more than 359,514 FFA Alumni members in 2,051 Alumni chapters and countless volunteers to help ease the outside commitments of teaching.
35. The National FFA Organization is headquartered at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C. This is established as a result of the federal charter.
36. The National FFA Center is located in Indianapolis, IN.
37. Today, there are 669,989 FFA members, aged 12-22, in 8,630 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
38. Collectively, FFA members earn more than \$4 billion annually through their hands-on work experience nationally.
39. Through 24 national career development events and one activity, FFA members are challenged to real-life, hands-on tests of skills used to prepare them for 235 unique careers in agriculture.
40. FFA Vision – Grow Leaders, Build Communities, Strengthen Agriculture.
41. In 1929, national blue and corn gold became the official colors of FFA. A year later, delegates adopted the official FFA Creed and by 1933 the familiar Official Dress of blue corduroy jackets was adopted after convention delegates were enthralled by the jackets worn to Kansas City by members of the Fredericktown, Ohio, FFA chapter.
42. Less than a decade after the formation of the Future Farmers of America in 1928, a national organization for African-American boys interested in agriculture formed in Tuskegee, AL. The New Farmers of America was modeled after another Virginia organization – the New Farmers of Virginia – and began in 1935. The New Farmers of Virginia was instrumentally started by G.W. Owens and J.R. Thomas, teacher-educators in agricultural education at Virginia State College, and Dr. H.O. Sargent, a federal agricultural education official who later proposed NFA.
43. In 1973, Texas' Fred McClure became the first African-American national FFA officer, and in 1994 Chicago's Corey Flournoy became the first African-American national FFA president.
44. Girls were restricted from the earliest forms of FFA membership by delegate vote at the 1930 national convention. It wasn't until 1969 that females gained full FFA membership privileges by vote of the national convention delegates, despite many state associations permitting female members long before. New York's Anita Decker

and New Jersey's Patricia Krowicki became the first two female delegates to the national convention in 1970.

45. Today, females represent more than 45 percent of FFA members and roughly half of all state leadership positions. In 1976, Washington's Julie Smiley became the first female national FFA officer. California's Jan Eberly became the first female National FFA President in 1982. In 2002, Wisconsin's Karlene Lindow became the first female FFA member to earn the prestigious American Star Farmer Award.
46. The National FFA Creed, written by E.M. Tiffany, was adopted by the Future Farmers of America in 1930.
47. The blue corduroy jacket was first adopted in 1933. In 2017, national delegates voted to have non-gendered official dress styles.
48. The National FFA Convention was first held in Kansas City, MO in 1928 and remained there for 71 years. The event is now taking place in Indianapolis, IN.
49. 1942- During World War II, when tens of thousands of FFA members served in the armed services, national FFA conventions were streamlined events where only delegates and award winners attend. In 1942, just 217 people attended the convention.
50. 1988- Future Farmers of America changed its name to the National FFA Organization to reflect the growing diversity in the industry of agriculture.
51. 1988- National FFA permitted seventh and eighth grade students to become FFA members.
52. The National FFA Center in Indianapolis, IN was dedicated on July 20th, 1998
53. The National Officer team is made up of 6 American-Degree recipient members from across our nation. The team consists of 4 Vice Presidents representing the Eastern, Southern, Central, and Western regions as well as a President and Secretary from anywhere in the FFA. Each association may only be represented by one candidate for national office.
54. Washington Leadership Conference (WLC) is the ultimate leadership experience for FFA members. It provides hands-on experiences that help attendees learn how to apply leadership skills to real-life situations. This conference focuses on personal development, diversity, advocacy and service. There are seven, one-week sessions each summer in Washington D.C.
55. The Iowa FFA Today is a video publication created and produced by the State Reporter and Secretary that shares current events within Iowa FFA.
56. At the 2018 Iowa State Fair, there were over 2,300 FFA exhibitors who exhibited over 9,800 projects.
57. The Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference is one of the largest of its kind in the National FFA Organization.
58. There are 242 local FFA Chapters across the state of Iowa.
59. In 2018, the Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference attendance record was set with 6,086 members, advisors, and guests in attendance.
60. There are 32 district officers elected across Iowa who represent and lead each of the 6 districts (Northwest, North Central, Northeast, Southwest, Southeast, South Central).
61. The FFA New Horizons is the official member magazine of FFA. Published quarterly, the magazine is mailed to FFA members, agricultural educators, lifetime FFA Alumni

- and supporters of FFA. Every issue is filled with information about agriculture, career possibilities, chapter and individual accomplishments and news on FFA.
62. The top 6 membership states in the National FFA Organization are Texas, California, Georgia, Oklahoma, Ohio, and Missouri.
 63. At National FFA Convention, 475 delegate members from across the nation meet in committees and vote on how to address current issues in the National FFA Organization.
 64. Roughly 46% of FFA Membership in Iowa is female with 53% being male and 1% being non-disclosed.
 65. As of the 2018 Iowa FFA Membership Report, the Muscatine FFA chapter is the largest chapter in Iowa with 301 members.
 66. As of the 2018 Iowa FFA Membership Report, about 7% of membership in Iowa FFA consists of Middle School members.
 67. The Iowa FFA Board of Directors is a concurrent board that consists of the nine state officers, an agricultural education instructor representative of each FFA district, representatives from IAAE and Alumni, the past state president, the Iowa FFA Foundation Executive Director, Business and Industry representatives, an administrator representative and an Iowa State University representative.
 68. In order to receive the Iowa FFA Degree, a member must have participated in at least 2 years of Ag Education, maintain a C average, serve their community, and productively earn and invest \$1,500 in their SAE.
 69. AgExplorer.com: The National FFA Organization, Discovery Education and AgCareers.com have joined forces to create a robust career website to help students explore the broad range of careers within agriculture. Visit AgExplorer.com to learn more about 235 unique careers in agriculture while watching videos, exploring career pages and completing the interactive Career Finder.
 70. THE FFA MISSION: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.
 71. Iowa has roughly 87,000 farms and 129,000 farm operators. More than 97% of Iowa farms are owned by families.
 72. Iowa farms grow more corn, raise more pigs, and produce more eggs than any state in the nation. They also rank second in soybeans, fourth in cattle marketed, ninth in sheep and lambs, seventh in turkeys, and twelfth in milk production.
 73. Iowa has a growing grape industry, with 267 commercial vineyards and 104 commercial wineries. The state ranks second nationally in farmers markets per capita.
 74. Agriculture accounts for 1/3 of the dollars driving Iowa's economy. Iowa agriculture and ag-related industries accounted for \$112.2 billion in total economic output in 2012.
 75. Farmers also help Iowa generate more than 35% of its electricity from wind, the highest production in the nation.
 76. Iowa farmers harvested 12.9 million acres of corn (2.6 billion bushels) in 2017. Iowa corn crop values \$5.2 billion.
 77. Iowa harvested 9.94 million acres of soybeans (561.6 million bushels), in 2017, which valued \$5.2 billion.

78. There are 22.8 million hogs (almost 32% of the nation's hogs), 4 million cattle, 165,000 sheep and 60 million chickens in Iowa. Iowa chickens laid 16 billion eggs in 2017.
79. In 2017, a little more than 12.1 million turkeys were produced in Iowa.
80. Iowa has 55,875 square miles of land. Over 85% of Iowa's land is used for agriculture.
81. Iowa's 43 ethanol plants have a combined annual capacity of 4.1 billion gallons of ethanol annually. Iowa produces more than 30% of the nation's ethanol.
82. Iowa's dairy industry produced an estimated 5.1 billion pounds of milk in 2017. The average milk produced per cow was 23,725 pounds.
83. The Iowa Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a highly targeted, performance based water quality program focusing on the reduction of nitrate loads to surface waters through the restoration of strategically designed and located wetlands that intercept tile drains from upper-lying cropped lands.
84. 2.1 million farms dot America's rural landscape. About 99 percent of U.S. farms are operated by families – individuals, family partnerships or family corporations America's Diverse Family Farms, 2016 Edition.
85. One U.S. farm feeds 165 people annually in the U.S. and abroad. The global population is expected to increase to 9.7 billion by 2050, which means the world's farmers will have to grow about 70 percent more food than what is now produced.
86. The pounds of feed (grain, forage, etc.) a dairy cow needs to eat to produce 100 pounds of milk has decreased by more than 40 percent on average in the last 40 years.
87. Farm and ranch families comprise just 2 percent of the U.S. population.
88. Total U.S. corn yield (tons per acre) has increased more than 360 percent since 1950.
89. About 25 percent of U.S. farm products by value are exported each year.
90. Cattle and calves, corn, and dairy products are the top 3 U.S. farm products by value.
91. About 8 percent of U.S. farms market foods locally, through direct-to-consumer or intermediated sales.
92. The millennial generation (people aged 34 and under) includes 257,454 farmers. More than 20 percent of all farmers are beginning farmers (in business less than 10 years).
93. The number of farm operators of Spanish, Hispanic or Latino origin is higher than ever, up 21 percent to 99,734. There also are more African American (44,629, up 12 percent) and American Indian (58,475, up 5 percent) farm operators. Women make up 30 percent (969,672) of the total number of U.S. farmer operators.
94. Iowa farmers currently have nearly 1.7 million acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), which assists with taking environmentally sensitive land out of production by planting long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and develop wildlife habitat.
95. Cover crops can reduce nutrient and pesticide runoff by 50% or more.
96. Farm programs typically cost each American just pennies per meal and account for less than one-half of 1 percent of the total U.S. budget.
97. In 1959, it took eight pigs (including breeding stock) to produce 1,000 pounds of pork. Today it takes just five pigs.
98. According to the Pork Checkoff, Data from the past 50 years shows that today's pig farms use 78% less land and 41% less water to produce a pound of pork.

99. Iowa is home to 3.9 million cattle and calves, 205,757 dairy cattle, and 20,455,666 hogs and pigs.
100. The Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy is a science and technology-based framework to assess and reduce nutrients to Iowa waters and the Gulf of Mexico. It is designed to direct efforts to reduce nutrients in surface water from both point and nonpoint sources in a scientific, reasonable and cost effective manner.

All information was found using these links:

Agriculture Education

CASE (Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education): www.case4learning.org

NAAE (National Association of Agricultural Educators): www.naae.org/about/

Iowa FFA Annual Report: <http://www.iowaffa.com/annualreport.aspx>

The Council for Agriculture Education: <https://www.ffa.org/thecouncil>

Iowa Team Ag Ed: Iowa FFA Association, Iowa FFA Foundation, Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators, Postsecondary Agricultural Students of Iowa, Iowa FFA Alumni

Association for Career & Technical Education <http://www.acteonline.org/>

Agriculture

Iowa Ag Facts (by Iowa Farm Bureau):
www.iowafarmbureau.com/public/167/ag_in_your_life/ag_facts

Iowa Agriculture Quick Facts: <https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov/>

Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers: www.iowaagriculture.gov/quickfacts.asp

Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy: <http://www.nutrientstrategy.iastate.edu/>

FFA

Iowa FFA Association Website: www.iowaffa.com

National FFA Organization Website: www.ffa.org

Iowa FFA Today: www.iowaffa.com/iowaffatoday.aspx

FFA Student Handbook (latest edition)

Official FFA Manual (latest edition)