Agricultural Education

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Major: Agricultural Education
Degrees offered: M.S.

Online and Off-Campus Programs: Agricultural Education
Degrees offered: M.S.

Graduate Degree Programs

The M.S. in Agricultural Education is a professional degree for training classroom-based educators and community and organizational developers to address issues as they pertain to teaching and learning in and about the agricultural, life, and environmental sciences. Students are typically interested in either furthering their career in Extension, agricultural classrooms in secondary education, professional organizations in training and supervisory roles, or community development. We also work with students interested in gaining licensure for teaching agriculture in Illinois public schools for grades 9-12.

Admission

We are looking for highly motivated students with strong academic records. Students with backgrounds in agriculture, education, behavioral or social sciences are especially encouraged to apply. The minimum undergraduate grade-point average for admission is 3.0 (A = 4.0). Applicants for the online/off-campus program are not required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). International applicants from non-English-speaking countries must have official TOEFL scores of at least 575 (written version) or 233 (computer-based version) to be eligible for admission. To receive full consideration for admission (and financial aid opportunities if you are applying for the full-time, on-campus program), please apply by February 15 for possible admission the following fall semester or September 15 for possible admission to the following spring semester.

Each applicant's undergraduate transcript will be evaluated for completion of general education courses required for certification by the Illinois State Board of Education. Students with deficiencies may be admitted with the stipulation that these be met before completion of the master’s program.

Student Teaching

In addition to meeting the above criteria, applicants interested in gaining a teaching license in the state of Illinois must pass the Illinois Certification Testing System test of Basic Skills test prior to student teaching. If taking this examination prior to admission presents substantial hardship (e.g., the applicant is from another state), the applicant should contact the director of the agricultural education graduate program to discuss the possible options.

Financial Aid

We are committed to funding as many of full-time on-campus students who are making timely progress as possible. The duration and amount of our commitment varies. Funding may include fellowships, research assistantships, and/or teaching assistantships. These opportunities typically include stipends and tuition waivers. In some cases, fees are also waived. All applicants are automatically considered for all department funding opportunities; there is no separate application process. Federal and state financial aid is completely separate from the support provided by our department. For information regarding federal and state financial aid, please refer to www.osfa.illinois.edu/ (http://www.osfa.illinois.edu).

Master of Science in Agricultural Education (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/ag-education/ms-ag-ed)

Master of Science in Agricultural Education Online (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/ag-education/ms-ag-ed-onl)

Agricultural Education can be pursued as an online degree. Please refer to http://aged.illinois.edu/grad/online-MS for more information.