

KANSAS AGRICULTURE SKILLS & COMPETENCIES CERTIFICATE

The Kansas Agriculture Skills and Competencies Certificate will document skills and competencies gained by student participation in agriculture education. The program is an opportunity to quantify and qualify skills learned through completion of all three segments of the agriculture education model.

The United States Department of Agriculture reported 15 percent of jobs are expected to be in agriculture and forestry production between 2010 and 2015. Agriculture is the nation's largest employer, garnering 20 percent of our nation's employment and 20 percent of our nation's gross national product. However, each year 10 percent of today's professional jobs in agriculture go unfilled because of a lack of qualified graduates.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) is pleased to sponsor this certificate program for Kansas FFA members. The certificate is listed as a qualifying certificate for Governor Brownback's Career Technical Education (CTE) Initiative. The certificate has been endorsed by the Kansas agriculture community, including; Kansas FFA Association, Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Grain & Feed Association, Kansas Livestock Association and other industry organizations and employers.

In order to be eligible for the Kansas Agriculture Skills & Competencies Certificate the following requirements must be met. Please refer to the Qualifying Competencies and Examples of Pathway Skills support documents for eligible competencies and examples of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Pathways skills.

- Must have completed three high school agriculture education courses.
- Must have been an FFA member for at least twenty-four months at time of application.
- Complete either of the following Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) documentation:
 - Submitted district level proficiency award application
 - Earned State FFA Degree
- Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in all classes, not just agriculture education courses.
- Participate in one FFA leadership event or Career Development Event (CDE) and one technical FFA CDE, above the chapter level, listed on the Qualifying Competencies support document.
- Satisfactorily complete the cPass Comprehensive Agriculture Assessment. Level to be considered satisfactory will be determined by the KSDE Education Program Consultant, in consultation with KDA.
- As part of the application, students will also be asked to complete a brief essay describing at least five, but up to ten, Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Pathways skills they have gained through their participation in above activities as reviewed by their advisor.

I hereby confirm that I have honestly and accurately met the certificate requirements listed above and are reflected in this application for the Kansas Agriculture Skills & Competencies Certificate.

Name (Printed)

Name (Signature)

Date

Home Address: _____

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is the state agency devoted to the total support of agriculture. The department works for the entire Kansas agriculture sector, including farmers, ranchers, food establishments and agribusinesses. The department is dedicated to providing support and assistance to make Kansas businesses successful and encouraging more farms, ranches and other agriculture business to expand in or relocate to Kansas.

Within this role, the Kansas Department of Agriculture also fulfills its statutory responsibility of regulating business functions in accordance with state law. The department works to ensure businesses know what laws affect them and how they can ensure they are in compliance with those laws. In this process, the department aims to minimize excessive rules and regulation.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Official transcript

One of the following two must be completed and attached to application:

District proficiency application signature page, signed by the chapter advisor.

OR

State FFA Degree application signature page, signed by chapter advisor.

All sections of the application must be completed

Agriculture Education Courses

FFA Membership

SAE Documentation

GPA Verification

FFA Leadership Event/CDE and Technical FFA CDE Participation above the chapter level

cPass Comprehensive Agriculture Assessment passage and verification

Skills identified in a brief essay referencing Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Pathways skills

Signatures *{both cover page and signatures documentation page}*

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

The Kansas Department of Agriculture will receive applications anytime during the academic year. All applications should be submitted upon completion, but **must be postmarked by May 1**. For an electronic application, please visit agriculture.ks.gov/ageducation – under the Kansas Agriculture Skills & Competencies Certificate list.

Applications may **only** be mailed to the following address:

Kansas Department of Agriculture
c/o Education & Event Coordinator
1320 Research Park Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502

In order for an application to be considered eligible, all sections of the application form must be completed.
No handwritten applications will be accepted.

KANSAS AGRICULTURE SKILLS & COMPETENCIES CERTIFICATE

Please complete the following sections in full prior to submitting your application. Please contact the Kansas Department of Agriculture Education & Events Coordinator at Robin.Blume@kda.ks.gov or at (785) 564-6756 with any questions.

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION COURSES

Please list the agriculture education courses you have completed. In order to receive the certificate, you must have completed at least three courses.

Please list any agriculture education courses you are currently enrolled in and anticipate completing prior to graduation.

FFA MEMBERSHIP

Please list the academic years in which you were an active FFA member. A minimum of twenty-four months of active membership is required.

Year One:

Year Two:

Year Three:

Year Four:

SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE (SAE) DOCUMENTATION

In order to receive the certificate, your SAE must meet one of the following requirements:

- 1) Submitted district proficiency award application
- 2) Earned State FFA Degree

District Proficiency Option

Attach to this application packet a copy of the District Proficiency Award cover page, signed by your FFA advisor. The submission of this application to the district level will be verified by KDA on behalf of the Kansas FFA Executive Secretary who will obtain a list of students who have submitted a District Proficiency Award application following district selections each spring.

State Degree Option

Attach to this application packet a copy of the State FFA Degree cover page, signed by your FFA Advisor. The earning of your State FFA Degree will be verified by KDA on behalf of the Kansas FFA Executive Secretary who will submit a list of students who have earned their state degree following State Convention each spring.

Please indicate which requirement you have completed:

- Submitted district proficiency award application
- Earned State FFA Degree

In the space below, give a brief overview of your Supervised Agricultural Experience:

GPA DOCUMENTATION

In addition to noting your overall high school GPA in the space below, attach a copy of your transcript to this application packet. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, in all courses, is required to obtain the certificate.

GPA {all classes, not just agriculture education courses} :

Weighed GPA {if applicable}:

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT (CDE) DOCUMENTATION

Please show documentation of one FFA leadership event/CDE and one technical FFA CDE above the chapter level and organized by FFA, in which you participated. The same CDE cannot be used for both requirements. Listing of acceptable CDEs and events is located on the Qualifying Competencies support document.

FFA Leadership Event/CDE above the Chapter Level

Event/

CDE:

Date:

Location:

FFA Technical CDE above the Chapter Level

CDE:

Date:

Location:

CPASS COMPREHENSIVE AGRICULTURE ASSESSMENT

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) program consultant, in consultation with KDA, will verify that the cPass Comprehensive Agriculture Assessment has been completed satisfactorily. No further documentation is necessary.

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES GAINED

In a brief essay, describe 5-10 major skills, competencies and knowledge (e.g. marketing, safety, personal skills development) that best describe what you gained technically and personally from your agriculture education curriculum. Skills should be selected from the competency profiles for technical courses from your selected Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Pathway(s).

Please refer to the Examples of Pathway Skills support document for examples of pathway skills.

SIGNATURE DOCUMENTATION

Agriculture Education Instructor and FFA Advisor

As the agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor to this Kansas Agriculture Skills & Competencies certificate, I hereby verify that this student has completed a minimum of three courses of agriculture education work, been an active FFA member for a minimum of two years, participated in the FFA events/CDE's documented above and taken the cPass Comprehensive Agriculture Assessment test.

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|------|
| Name (Printed) | Name (Signature) | Date |
|----------------|------------------|------|

School Administrator

As the school administrator to this Kansas Agriculture Skills & Competencies certificate applicant, I hereby verify that all information provided in this certificate application is accurate.

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|------|
| Name (Printed) | Name (Signature) | Date |
|----------------|------------------|------|