

Pre-Agricultural Education

Pre-agricultural education majors pursue an Associate of Science degree which enables them to complete the first half of a major in agricultural education in a Bachelor of Science degree program at Ohio State.

This degree also includes the transfer module, a common set of courses which apply to other bachelor's degree programs in Ohio.

While at Ohio State ATI, students can specialize in one of two areas of licensure: agriculture production and science or horticulture. Other options prepare students for extension work as 4-H agents or program assistants and in agribusiness education and training.

Pursuing Pre-Agricultural Education at Ohio State ATI

Students pursuing the Associate of Science program must complete the following high school curriculum in order to be admitted to the program without conditions:

- four units of English
- three units of mathematics
- two units of natural science
- two units of social science
- two units of the same foreign language*
- one unit of visual or performing arts
- one additional unit from any of the above categories

Applicants to the Associate of Science program in pre-agricultural education who have not followed this curriculum will have conditions placed on their enrollment. These conditions must be satisfied by earning college course credits in the high school subject areas in which the students are deficient.

* Students with a deficiency in foreign language are permitted to fulfill the requirement upon transfer to the Columbus campus.

Students seeking an Associate of Science degree in pre-agricultural education at Ohio State ATI enter directly into the program upon completion of their admission requirements. All applicants are strongly advised to arrange a pre-admission conference with a faculty member in the pre-agricultural education program in order to acquaint themselves with the various aspects of this major.

General Degree Requirements

With the Associate of Science degree, pre-agricultural education majors complete a combination of technical and general courses that allow them to gain hands-on

experience while completing 50 percent of the curriculum for a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

When students complete this curriculum, they will be able to apply 100 percent of their Ohio State ATI credits toward a degree at the Columbus campus of Ohio State.

Students must complete a minimum of 95 quarter credit hours of technical and general studies courses, with a cumulative point-hour ratio of 2.0 or above, to earn the Associate of Science degree in pre-agricultural education. A minimum of 45 quarter credit hours must be earned through regular course work at the institute.

Technical courses emphasize principles of animal production, soil management, and mechanization. All Pre-Agricultural Education students also take four Agricultural Education courses while at Ohio State ATI.

Pre-agricultural education students also complete 55 credit hours of general studies which include communications, social sciences, mathematics, and biological and chemical sciences.

Fourteen credit hours of electives, either technical or general, round out the curriculum.

Internships

Students in the pre-agricultural education program do not complete an internship while attending Ohio State ATI. Students complete two field-based experiences in the schools, in extension or in agribusiness, depending upon their chosen area of emphasis. As part of the curriculum, students participate in an early experience, which allows them to "try on" the role of an agricultural educator. Once they transfer to the Columbus campus of Ohio State, students complete a full quarter of student teaching internship, during which they apply what they have learned in a classroom setting.

Career Prospects in Agricultural Education

Agricultural education graduates have many career options. A few of the possibilities include: high school teacher of agriculture or horticulture; two- or four-year agriculture college instructor; agricultural extension agent; 4-H agent; farm business planning and analysis instructor; adult education instructor; agriculture organization personnel trainer; farm manager; sales consultant; sales representative; and public relations specialist.

For more information, check these web sites:

Pre-agricultural Education: www.ati.osu.edu/programs
Ohio State ATI: www.ati.osu.edu
Ohio State: www.osu.edu

Admissions: www.ATIadmissions.osu.edu
Visit ATI: www.ati.osu.edu/visit_campus.html

Curriculum Sample

First Year:

Autumn Quarter

FEAS Survey	1
First-Year English Composition	5
Introductory Animal Sciences	5
Rural Sociology	5

Winter Quarter

Algebra and Trigonometry and their Applications	4
Elementary Chemistry	5
American Civilization to 1877	5
Introduction to Agricultural and Extension Education	3

Spring Quarter

Principles of Food and Resource Economics	5
General Psychology	5
Introduction to Soils and Soil Management	4
Total hours	47

Second Year:

Autumn Quarter

Bio Sc: Energy Transfer and Development	5
Early Field Experience in Agricultural and Extension Education	2
Engine Basics	4
Transferable Elective	5

Winter Quarter

Agricultural Issues in Contemporary Society	5
General Plant Biology	5
Principles of Animal Nutrition	4

Spring Quarter

Sophomore Seminar in Agricultural Education	1
Fundamentals of Leadership	3
Transferable Electives	9
Music Cultures of the World	5
Total hours	48

Beginning salaries for agricultural education graduates range from \$24,500 to \$34,000 per year, depending upon the position, candidates' skills, and other factors determined by employers.

Opportunities for Outstanding Students

Each spring, the Outstanding Student Banquet recognizes the top student in each major or technology. Ohio State ATI also has a chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for students at two-year institutions. Selection for this prestigious society is based upon academic achievement and leadership qualities. Students with cumulative grade point averages of between 3.7 and 4.0 are eligible to graduate with Latin honors (summa cum laude, magna cum laude, or cum laude).

About Ohio State ATI

Ohio State ATI, located in Wooster, Ohio, is ranked number one in the nation in the awarding of associate degrees in agriculture and related sciences and is the associate-degree granting unit of The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Twenty-five technical programs leading to the Associate of Applied Science or Associate of Science degree are offered at the Wooster campus. Two Certificate of Competency programs, in hydraulic service and repair and commercial turf equipment, are also offered. Within four months of graduation, 99% of Ohio State ATI graduates are employed or pursuing bachelor's degrees.

Revised July 2005

Contact information:

The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute
Office of Admissions | 1328 Dover Road | Wooster, Ohio 44691-4000
(330) 264-3911 ext. 1327 | Toll free in Ohio 1-800-OH-STATE