



Illinois State Board of Education

Technical Assistance Session FCAE – Work-based Learning Grant

A review of the program purpose, grant terms, performance measures, and other valuable information for potential applicants

Please note that session **will be recorded** for public viewing.

Equity • Quality • Collaboration • Community

Session Agenda

- Program Overview
- General Information
- Program Description
- Objective of WBL Grant
- Grant Terms
- Measures, Targets and Standards
- Deliverables and Milestones
- Quarterly Performance
- Funding Information
- Reporting Requirements
- Content and Form of Application
- Objectives and Activities Narrative
- Evaluation Design Narrative
- Review Criteria
- Questions



Program Overview

- Eligible applicants include colleges and universities with agricultural programs of study, ROEs, ISCs, and nonprofit organizations.
- Requires prequalification through GATA
- Successful applicant will complete FY23 ICQ
- Applicants must be
 - Registered with SAM before submitting
 - Provide a valid DUNS number in application
 - Always maintain active SAM registration



Program Overview

- Grant applications considered through merit-based review and selection process
- Grant renewable for up to two subsequent years
- Proposals under 70 points will not be funded
- Initial grant period: July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023
- Proposals due no later than February 15, 2022
- Any changes to NOFO/RFP will be made by ISBE no later than January 15, 2022
- All questions submitted to ISBE will be answered and maintained on a publicly-accessible FAQ document on the ISBE AFNR website
- Applications submitted through the ISBE Attachment Manager at <https://sec1.isbe.net/attachmgr/default.aspx>. Choose **Staci Hardin** from the drop-down menu in Receiver Information. Submit the application using the button at the bottom of the page.



General Information

- ISBE directed by legislation to establish a State program for agricultural education
 - See 105 ILCS 5/2.3.80
- FCAE project established to award one or more grants to facilitate and coordinate agricultural education programs in Illinois
- This FCAE grant, called **Work-based Learning (WBL)** will provide students and teachers information and resources related to student engagement in Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) and coordinate efforts between SBAE and related industries to improve SAE programs.

Program Description

- Successful applicant will:
 - Attend and participate in Ag Ed related meetings
 - Train teachers on current topics in SAE
 - Develop, update, and disseminate teacher resources relating to SAE program implementation
 - Coordinate implementation of Illinois Learning Standards (i.e. ELA, Math, NGSS, and AFNR) into learning and growth plans for SAE programs.
 - Implement a statewide system of student-led agricultural science fair projects
 - Implement a statewide system of individual student awards and recognition for demonstrated proficiency in one or more areas of the AFNR industry



Objectives of WBL

- The WBL grant has the following goals:
 1. Coordinate information and resources relating to student participation in SAE programs and maintain said resources on the IL Ag Ed website
 2. Coordinate efforts between the AFNR industry and SBAE teachers to improve SAE programs
 3. Coordinate statewide contracts relating to work-based learning opportunities and record keeping of SAE programs

Grant Terms

1. Subcontracting requires prior written approval of the State Superintendent of Education
2. Reporting includes mid-term and final narrative report, biannual GATA reports, quarterly expenditure reports, and reports at regularly scheduled ICAE and ILCAE meetings
3. Funds cannot supplant state or federal funds that would otherwise be used for authorized activities
4. Grantee must designate project director, who will coordinate all activities and meet monthly with ISBE Staff in Dept. of CTE & Innovation

Grant Terms

5. Attendance at ILCAE and ICAE meetings required
6. Out-of-state travel requires approval by ISBE at least 30 days in advance of first day of travel
7. Application must specific ICR, provided that in no case shall the ICR exceed 8%

Measures, Targets, and Standards

- WBL project evaluated through performance measures. Each measure has a performance target and performance standard.
- Targets will be used **as a goal** to measure the overall effectiveness of the project.
- Standards represent the **minimum required** accomplishment for project continuation.

Measures, Targets, and Standards

Performance Measure	Target	Stand.
PM1. Percentage of students enrolled in SBAE programs participate in a Supervised Agricultural Experience project documented through comprehensive project records	15%	10%
PM2. Percentage of SBAE teachers in Illinois participate in professional development opportunities specific to management and promotion of SAE programs.	25%	10%
PM3. Number of unique employers in the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources industry are engaged in statewide programs or advisory roles relating to SAE programs.	25	10
PM4. Percentage of students enrolled in SBAE programs participate in a SAE-based awards and recognition programs such as FFA Proficiency Awards and/or Agriscience Fair.	5%	3%



Deliverables and Milestones

- The following are required annually:
 - Mid-year report that includes updated information on all performance measures
 - Final narrative report indicating the program impact and achievement of performance measures
 - Document and keep on file all products and evidence of completed activities, partners, documents, publications or other educational tools develop, time and data summary reports, and expenditures
 - Attend and report at all regularly scheduled meeting of ICAE and ILCAE to include updated information on all grant performance measures

Quarterly Performance

- Each quarter of the fiscal year, the successful applicant of this program *should* demonstrate the following performance levels:
 - **PM1.** Percentage of students enrolled in SBAE with an SAE documented in the reporting period
 - **PM2.** Percentage of teachers that have participated in professional development specific to SAE programs in the current fiscal year
 - **PM3.** Number of employers in the AFNR industry engaged in SAE improvement, to include prospective employers not yet contacted
- Note that **PM4** will be evaluated in the third and fourth quarters of the fiscal year on final narrative report.



Funding Information

- Funding awarded dependent on total appropriation for the project
- One Work-based Learning grant expected to be awarded for the purposes outlined in this RFP for a total of **\$146,500**.
- Indirect costs may **not exceed 8%** as described in Section 75.440 in Part 75 Administrative Rules for Agricultural Education

Reporting Requirements

- One mid-year progress report is due on or before January 31 each fiscal year
- Final end-of-year progress report is due before the approval of subsequent year's budget application
- Attendance and progress report at scheduled meetings for both ICAE and ILCAE
- Attendance and participation in at least monthly Illinois Agricultural Education state staff meetings, to include representation from all FCAE grant projects, the Illinois FFA Center, and ISBE

Content and Form of Application

- Each application must be submitted in the format outlined in the RFP to be considered complete. A complete application will include:
 - Uniform Application (Attachment 1)
 - Proposal Abstract (Attachment 2a)
 - Program Narrative (Attachment 2b)
 - Objectives and Activities (Attachment 3)
 - Evaluation Design (Attachment 4)
 - Budget Summary & Payment Schedule (Attachment 5a)
 - Budget Breakdown (Attachment 5b)
- All application attachments have required components outlined in the NOFO/RFP.



Objective and Activities Narrative

- Purpose: describe the activities proposed as they align with the established goals for this specific FCAE grant project.
- Form should be organized using the following goals:
 - **Goal 1.** Coordination of resources relating to SAE programs and maintenance of said resources on Illinois Agricultural Education website
 - **Goal 2.** Coordination of efforts among industry and educators to improve SAE programs
 - **Goal 3.** Coordination of statewide contracts relating to WBL and SAE record-keeping



Evaluation Design Narrative

- Purpose: outline and describe an annual, third-party evaluation of the project to measure the effectiveness of the project on an ongoing basis.
- Third-party must be experienced with the needs of local agricultural education programs
- Minimum required components outlined in RFP include but are not limited to:
 - Plan for continuous improvement aligned to performance measures
 - Plan for teachers to provide both feedback to all project staff
 - Process for external evaluation of partners and subcontractors
 - Process for feedback from students, teachers, and administrators

Review Criteria

- Selection of grantee will be based upon the overall quality of the application as determined through at least three independent reviewers
- Scoring is based on the following criteria:
 - **Need (15 points)**
 - **Capacity (10 points)**
 - **Quality (55 points)**
 - **Evaluation (20 points)**
- Criteria are defined in detail in the NOFO/RFP
- Proposals *under 70 points* will not be funded.
- Up to five **priority bonus points** will be awarded to proposals that include a plan for the identification and recruitment of *new* industry partners for the betterment of statewide SAE-related programs.
- **Tiebreaker** will be the best plan for identification, development, and dissemination of resources relating to innovate, non-traditional SAE programs to increase access to SAE-related agricultural education activities will be selected.



Remaining Questions



Illinois
State Board of
Education