Incentive Funding Grant for Programs in Grades 5-12

Who is eligible to apply for this grant?
Eligible applicants include approved agricultural education programs in middle schools, high schools, and area career centers. Approvable programs employ qualified instructional staff, each of whom either hold a current and valid agricultural education Professional Educator License or an Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for agricultural education. Approvable programs offer a series of courses that are sequential in one or more recognized AFNR pathways and include at least one introductory course and one higher-level course. Approvable programs must also include a state and nationally recognized chapter of the National FFA Organization and provide for Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs. For more information on the program approval process, please contact your district Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE) program advisor.

What is the purpose of this grant?
The purpose of this grant is to support local agricultural education programs for grades 5-12. The Incentive Funding Grant currently has eight recognized goals for program improvement. They are:
1. Ensure instructional staff are licensed and qualified.
2. Support and serve students' needs relating to college and/or career preparation.
3. Improve the quality of the AFNR instructional program.
4. Promote the development of SAE programs.
5. Increase participation in agricultural student organizations.
6. Ensure high-quality facilities, equipment, and supplies for AFNR programs.
7. Promote the development of engaged local agricultural advisory councils.
8. Increase agricultural literacy and consumer awareness of AFNR systems.

When is the deadline for the grant?
The annual deadline for this grant application may vary; however, each grant year will run from July 1 to June 30 pending special circumstances. An extension may be granted on a case-by-case basis for summer activities and responsibilities. Biannual programmatic reports (to be filed in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act portal) and expenditure reports (to be filed in the Financial Reimbursement Information System portal) are required by this grant program and have their own associated timelines.

Where do I complete the grant application?
The grant application is completed in IWAS. The application has 10 parts. In the order they appear, they are Applicant Information, Amendments, Budget Pages, Programmatic Risk Assessment, GATA Pages, Assurance Pages, Submit, Application History, Page Lock Control, and Application Print. The most information is required in the Applicant Information and Budget pages. For information on how to complete your application, please visit the Agriculture Grants webpage.

Why should my I participate in this grant program?
Funds from the Incentive Funding Grant enable local AFNR programs to do amazing things! From new technology and equipment to professional learning, these funds support what your program needs. Participation in this program is empowering to teachers and students alike.

How do I sign up to participate in this grant program?
Please contact your district FCAE program advisor or reach out to ag_ed@isbe.net. You can visit the "What's New?" banner on our AFNR webpage to stay up to date on Incentive Funding. For more resources, check out the Agricultural Education Grants webpage.