



Quick Facts

Teacher Three Circle Grant Program

Who is eligible to apply for this grant?

Illinois school districts and area vocational centers created pursuant to Section 10-22.31a of the School Code that employ full-time middle or secondary school teachers in a state-approvable agricultural education program (includes high school, middle school, and hybrid programs) are eligible to apply. Visit the [Financial Reimbursement Information System \(FRIS\) Inquiry portal](#) for funding information.

What is the purpose of this grant?

The purpose of this grant is to support implementation of the complete [Three-Circle Model](#) of agricultural education by working with Local Education Agencies (school districts and career centers) to compensate agricultural education teachers for extended working time outside of their regular duties. This extended time must be spent facilitating work-based learning (e.g., Supervised Agricultural Experience [SAE] programs); managing Career and Technical Student Organizations (e.g., FFA); and conducting curricular and/or intracurricular activities, such as, but not limited to, professional learning and the development of curricular resources.

When is the deadline for applying for the grant?

The annual established 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. Biannual programmatic reports ([to be filed in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act \[GATA\] portal](#)) and expenditure reports ([to be filed in the FRIS portal](#)) will be required for this grant program; they have their own associated timelines.

Where do I complete the grant application?

There are two grant applications required for this program. The first is an Intent to Apply form that provides ISBE with the necessary information to formulate each individual allocation. The second is the Budget Application, which is completed in the IWAS portal. The Budget Application has [11 parts](#): Applicant Information, Amendments, Upload, Budget Pages, Programmatic Risk Assessment, GATA Pages, Assurance Pages, Submit, Application History, Page Lock Control, and Application Print. The [Upload](#) and [Budget Pages](#) [require the most information from applicants](#). You can visit the [Agriculture Grants webpage](#) to find information on how to complete your application.

Why should my I participate in this grant program?

The [Three Circle Model](#) of agricultural education provides students with abundant opportunities to develop leadership skills, experience personal growth, and start on an empowering track toward career success. All three components (Classroom, SAE, and FFA) require the dedicated time and focus of a qualified agricultural education teacher. This program partners with local communities to compensate, incentivize, track, and reflect on this effort. Participation in the Three Circle Grant Program is a powerful tool to help your local program support student growth in a holistic and impactful way.

How do I sign up to participate in this grant program?

Please contact your [district](#) Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education [program advisor](#) or reach out to ag_ed@ISBE.net to [learn how to sign up for this program](#). Please regularly check our AFNR webpage to stay up to date on the Three Circle Program. Check out the [Agricultural Education Grants](#) webpage for more resources.