



# THREE CIRCLE (FFA & SAE) GRANT INFORMATION PAGE\*\*

**Legislation:** [SB2975](#)

**School code:** [105 ILCS 5/2-3.80b](#)

**Funding\*:** State grant in ISBE budget through the Agricultural Education line item.

**Purpose:** Partner with public school districts and AVC/ACC in financially supporting the personal services costs of extended time outside a teacher's regularly scheduled teaching duties for the benefit of Ag Ed through a formula grant and in order to expand and improve the ability to carry out activities based on the three circle model for agricultural education especially as it relates to FFA and SAE.

**Eligibility:** Illinois public school districts and area vocational centers that employ full-time middle or secondary school agricultural education teachers in an approved agricultural education program.

All full-time Agricultural Education teachers in a district that meet eligibility requirements can apply as part of their district's application.

**Grant Specifics:** Grant partners with the district for the personal services cost of 60 days (defined as 400 hours; 8 hours/day) only of extended time out side of the teacher's regularly scheduled teaching duties. For 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year programs, the grant covers 100% of the 60 day cost. For 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year programs, the grant will cover 80% of the cost with 20% covered by the district. For programs in operation for 5+ years, the grant covers 50% and the district covers 50% of the cost. The district pays the instructor and must document the payments were made.

The hours for each teacher must be documented (recommended to use AET Teacher Journal) and submitted in the final report. Failure to complete grant reporting requirements may result in grant ineligibility. The applicable hours (400) to be counted in the grant need to be activities to the benefit of the Ag Ed program and relate to one of the three circles in the Ag Ed model: FFA, SAE, and Curricular. FFA and SAE are the focus and have a minimum level of activity set at 17 days (136 hours) each. The curricular related component has a maximum activity of 16 days (128 hours). Each teacher must complete 400 hours of approved activity based on three circle model. Only hours when the teacher is representing the program/chapter or supervising students shall be counted and must relate to agricultural education. No hours related to activities of a personal nature are permitted.

Allocations are calculated using the grant daily rate as determined based on the current base salary (& applicable benefits) of each instructor (9 mo. base/180 days).

To apply for the grant, a district must complete an initial application (link) providing the necessary information for each participating teacher in the district. Once allocations are completed, the district needs to complete a budget application (IWAS).

\* Funding is subject to appropriation and satisfactory progress of the school district in the previous year. Districts shall hold the teacher harmless in honoring the original agreement/contract should the grant become no longer available.

\*\* Information page is based on the proposed rules and are subject to change until final rules are published.