

## Colorado FFA Innovation SAE Grant

The Agricultural Experience Innovation Grant Program will be used to assist students (FFA Members) enrolled in agricultural education courses in Colorado start or enhance an enterprise within their supervised agriculture experience program (SAE). Those receiving a grant will also be paired with a mentor to provide advice, offer an outside perspective, assist with SAE/business development, and foster the development of a business relationship.

### **Description:**

All freshman, sophomore, and junior FFA members in Colorado can apply for a grant—preference will be given to students who show need and demonstrate innovation. Grants will typically be \$500-\$1500 for individuals depending on the size and scope of the SAE. Grantees will be matched with a mentor. The instructor, student, parents (if possible), mentor, and funding donor will meet each other in person at the beginning of the program. The program will run for a 12 month period. The team will communicate via phone, or video chat, where possible, at least three times throughout the 12 month period. Topics for discussion will be provided to the mentors to assist and insure that the quarterly communication is time well spent. Informal communication through phone, email, etc. is encouraged throughout the experience.

### **Requirements of the student:**

- Completed Application
- Current FFA member in good standings
- Member must return Grant monies awarded if they leave FFA membership or enrollment of Agriculture Education classes during the program year they were awarded.
- SAE must align with a Proficiency award application.
- Quarterly conference calls will take place with the mentor, student, instructor and parents when possible. The Colorado FFA Foundation will also participate in the quarterly conference calls when possible.
- Meet with sponsors and mentors at scheduled reception times. i.e. NWSS Stock Show reception and possibly State FFA Convention.
- **AET** record books will be due at State Convention for review. AET Record books must be kept up to date on a monthly basis for internal review by the Colorado FFA Foundation or its designee. Failure to update the record book may disqualify the student from future grants and scholarships from the Colorado FFA Foundation.
- A Display board of your SAE will be shown at the State FFA Convention during the year of the program.
- An online survey will be distributed at the conclusion of the grant period. The student and teacher are required to complete the survey.

## Assurances

| <b>Local Advisor Responsibilities</b> <i>(please initial beside each point indicating your understanding of responsibility)</i> |   |
|---|---|
|   | Assist with setting up quarterly conference calls, making SAE visits and documenting visits   |
|   | Guide student in the successful implementation and operation of SAE   |
|   | Assure delivery of record book, and display board to State FFA Convention   |
|   | Complete end of the experience survey and insure that the student will do the same  |
|   |   |
| <b>Student Responsibilities</b> <i>(please initial beside each point indicating your understanding of responsibility)</i>       |   |
|   | Attend first year meeting at the reception during the NWSS on FFA Day   |
|   | Treat the grant as a gift and only use the funds for the intended use as outlined in the grant application funds may be required to be returned if they are used in a manner not in accordance with the application |
|   | Set up and participate in quarterly conference calls with the mentor, ag instructor and parents when possible. The Colorado FFA Foundation should be notified of conference call dates and times.                   |
|   | Keep an accurate AET record book of the project (updated monthly). To be reviewed at the FFA State convention during the program year. Book will be internal reviewed periodically throughout the year as well.     |
|   | Create SAE display board of your project. This board will be displayed at the State FFA Convention while enrolled in the program.   |

***We have read the rules to the above selected program and agree to abide by those rules if selected. We understand that failure to abide by the rules and the intent of the program may be cause for being suspended from FFA activities. We have also initialed the responsibilities above in the Program Requirements.***

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





Advisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Upload this completed assurances page with the online application.  
Application can be found at:**

[Student Grant Application](#)

## SAE Grant selection rubric

The following items are present and completed: ( 5 points possible)

|   |   |  |  |                                 |
|---|---|--|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Checklist (10pts)</b><br> | <b>Parent Letter</b><br> | <b>Budget</b><br> | <b>Pictures</b><br> | <b>Points possible</b><br>_____ |
| <i>Advisor and student</i>  |   |  |  |                                 |

Rate the following on a scale of **1 -10 points** based on the quality of writing and if the question was answered according to the prompt. **10 points being the best.**

**NEED FOR SAE:**

Member shows a distinct need for the program award based on financial, strong desire, or unique circumstance. Member shows a clear and concise reasoning in their answer. Member explains what they will do with award money and gives a brief description of planned SAE.

**Points possible**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Time Investment:**

Member is very concise and realistic in their determination of time needed to invest in the program. Also includes time needed to plan, implement, manage and care for the project. Includes time for the clerical elements included in the program requirements.

**Points possible**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Investment:**

Provides a brief summary of the estimated budget. Includes estimated costs to purchase the necessary equipment, supplies, or assets and estimated expenses that will incur during the program along with the source of the funds.

**Points possible**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Capital Investment:**

Member describes the Capital Items that they own along with describing any use of existing Capital Items that are not owned by the student but used for their program. If they are leased/ rented that arrangement is stated and explained.

**Points possible**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Learning Outcomes/ Goals:**

Member lists at least three learning outcomes that are related to the program type. Member lists at least three goals that can be identified as "SMART" goals.

**Points possible**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL POINTS  
EARNED:** \_\_\_\_\_