

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Career Cluster

The Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster focuses on the essential elements of life food, water, land, and air. This career cluster includes a diverse spectrum of occupations, ranging from farmer, rancher, and veterinarian to geologist, land conservationist, and florist. It also includes non-traditional agricultural occupations like wind energy, solar energy, and oil and gas production.

Veterinary Science



The Animal Science program of study focuses on the science, research, and business of animals and other living organisms. It teaches CTE learners how to apply biology and life science to real-world life processes of animals and wildlife, either in laboratories or in the field, which could include a veterinary office, a farm or ranch, or any outdoor area harboring animal life. Students may also research and analyze the growth and destruction of species and research or diagnose diseases and injuries of animals.

High School Courses

Level 1

- Small Animal Management
- Equine Science

Level 2

- Advanced Animal Science

Level 3

- Veterinary Medical Applications

Level 4

- Practicum in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

Postsecondary Opportunities

Associates Degrees

- Food Science and Technology
- Veterinary Studies
- Biotechnology Laboratory Technician
- Biology Technician

Bachelor's Degrees

- Animal Sciences
- Agriculture
- Biology
- Zoology/ Animal Biology

Master's, Doctoral, and Professional Degrees

- Genetics
- Veterinary Medicine
- Biological and Physical Sciences
- Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

Exploration Activities

- Participate in Texas FFA

Work-Based Learning Activities

- Compete in an Agri-Science Fair 4H
- Volunteer at a local farm or with a veterinarian
- Participate in an FFA supervised agriculture experience

Industry-Based Certifications

- Certified Veterinary Assistant, Level 1
- Elanco Fundamentals of Animal Science Certification
- Elanco Veterinary Medical Applications Certification
- Licensed Veterinary Technician



Aligned Occupations

Occupations	Median Wage	Annual Openings	% Growth
Animal Breeders	\$39,139	28	9%
Animal Scientists	\$57,533	22	12%
Medical Scientists	\$63,898	435	27%
Veterinarians	\$93,496	294	24%
Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists	\$67,309	45	32%

Successful completion of the Animal Science program of study will fulfill requirements of a Business and Industry endorsement or STEM endorsement if the math and science requirements are met Revised – August 2022