



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 occupations ranging from farmer, rancher, and veterinarian to geologist, land conservationist, and florist.

Statewide Program of Study: *Plant Science*

The Plant Science program of study focuses on occupational and educational opportunities associated with the science, research, and business of plants and other living organisms. This program of study includes the application of biology and life science to real-world life processes of plants and vegetation, either in laboratories or in the field.

Secondary Courses for High School Credit

Level 1 • Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

Level 2

Level 3 • Horticultural Science
• Floral Design

Level 4 • Advanced Floral Design

Aligned Advanced Academic Courses

AP or IB	AP Biology AP Environmental Science IB Biology SL IB Biology HL	AP Chemistry IB Chemistry SL IB Chemistry HL
Dual Credit	Dual credit offerings will vary by local education agency.	

Students should be advised to consider these course opportunities to enrich their preparation. AP or IB courses not listed under the Secondary Courses for High School Credit section of this framework document do not count towards concentrator/completer status for this program of study.

Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

Work-Based Learning Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in a part-time job at a landscaping company to learn about production and management of plants. Intern at an agricultural research company, working alongside a biological technician to learn about application of biology to plant production
Expanded Learning Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in an FFA career, leadership, and speaking contest like an agriscience fair Participate in an industry-related competition like an agriscience fair

Aligned Industry-Based Certifications

- Principles of Floral Design Certification



Example Postsecondary Opportunities

Apprenticeships

- Horticulturist

Associate Degrees

- Biology/Biological Sciences
- Biological and Physical Sciences

Bachelor's Degrees

- Horticulture
- Plant Pathology/Phytopathology

Master's, Doctoral, and Professional Degrees

- Plant Breeding
- Botany/Plant Biology

Additional Stackable IBCs/License

- Nursery Floral License
- Horticulturist Certification



Example Aligned Occupations

Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation

Median Wage: \$46,153

Annual Openings: 205

10-Year Growth: 17%

Biological Technicians

Median Wage: \$45,787

Annual Openings: 879

10-Year Growth: 14%

Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers

Median Wage: \$65,490

Annual Openings: 28,020

10-Year Growth: 4%

Data Source: TexasWages, Texas Workforce Commission. Retrieved 3/8/2024.



For more information visit:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-career-and-military-prep/career-and-technical-education/programs-of-study-additional-resources>