

KEEPING OUR BEST IN ILLINOIS

University Pathways to Agriculture Degrees in Illinois

The demand for graduates with degrees in agriculturally related fields is incredibly high. The U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts there will be over 55,000 job openings annually in agriculture and allied industries each year through 2020, with only 35,000 graduates available each year to fill these positions¹. Approximately 27% of these jobs will be in technology, science, engineering, and mathematical applications for advancing agriculture.

The state of Illinois offers four unique and special pathways to obtain agriculture degrees—choose the program that best fits you and your goals in life! Set up a visit now to explore our campuses. For more information on majors, financial aid, and scholarship opportunities, check out the websites below.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Cultivating tomorrow's leaders



agriculture.illinoisstate.edu/academics

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Over 8,000 acres of possible



coas.siu.edu/academics

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

A small college community
within a vibrant Big 10 campus



academics.aces.illinois.edu

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

A hands-on education
at your home away from home



wiu.edu/cbt/agriculture

Transfer Agreement Pathways: All four universities have articulation agreements with Illinois community colleges where the first two years are spent at the community college and the second two years are completed at the university. For more details about these programs, please visit the respective university's websites.

¹Source: USDA, Purdue Univ. 2015

WHY AGRICULTURE?

Never before has there been a more exciting time to venture into the world of agriculture and the multitude of opportunities it holds for you and your future! Find an exciting job anywhere in agriculture—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. Discover how an education in the state of Illinois will prepare you to find jobs to solve how the food and agriculture system can improve health, contribute to the economy, innovate new technologies, preserve the environment, adapt to a changing climate, and help all communities. Change the world by becoming a skilled communicator, critical thinker, and leader for the agricultural industry.

Together, we can

- Make our food supply more nutritious and safe.
- Discover sustainable solutions to society's challenges.
- Improve animal care, health, and well-being.
- Find solutions to world food supply and hunger.
- Engage your passion for families to make the human community a better place for all.
- Harness technology to sustain our environment and build our economy.
- Make a difference in the lives of others and of our planet.

WHY ILLINOIS?

Unique opportunities to Illinois

- We are leaders in agriculture. Illinois ranks third nationally in the export of agricultural commodities with \$8.2 billion worth of goods shipped to other countries.
- 2,640 food manufacturing companies set Illinois apart and allow us to turn the state's crops and livestock into food and industrial products. Illinois ranks first in the nation with \$180 billion in processed food sales.
- About 89 percent of the state's cropland is considered prime farmland, ranking the state third nationally in total prime farmland acreage which provides an environmentally sound base for crop production and research.
- Illinois houses some of the top machinery companies in the world.
- Billions of dollars flow into the state's economy from forest and ag-related industries, agricultural real estate, and production and sale of value-added food products.
- Illinois has a competitive edge over many other states due to its central location and superior transportation system.

Resources you can't find anywhere else

- Dixon Springs Agricultural Research Center—one of the largest animal research facilities east of the Mississippi
- Forests of southern Illinois—dive headfirst into real research in the field
- Chicago—one of the largest concentrations of food-related businesses in the world and home to the largest rail gateway in the nation
- World-renowned faculty—gain cutting-edge research opportunities working with amazing faculty throughout the state
- Significant scholarships, fellowships, and other financial support



Our Illinois colleges with ag programs offer a wide variety of agricultural degrees specializing in these interest areas:

- Animal sciences
- Business
- Communications
- Computer science
- Crop sciences
- Economics
- Education
- Engineering
- Family studies
- Food processing
- Food science
- Forestry
- Genetics
- Horticulture
- Human development
- Landscape management
- Leadership
- Nutrition
- Precision agriculture
- Renewable energy systems
- Soil science
- Sustainable agriculture
- Sustainable environmental systems
- Systems management
- Tourism
- Water science and engineering
- Weed science

“Illinois Farm Bureau, and many Illinois ag businesses I talk to, prefer to recruit graduates of universities within Illinois.”

~RICHARD GUEBERT, JR., IFB PRESIDENT