Graduate School Checklist:

- Determine which degree will be most beneficial to you in your career growth, M.S., Ph.D., D.V.M.
- Develop a list of schools that offer programs in areas that interest you.
- Obtain information about the research professors are conducting there.
- Gather information about the programs and rate them.
- Gain experience in the field you want to pursue in graduate school.
- Ensure that you have met all undergraduate prerequisites for the graduate school program(s) you apply for.
- Develop a plan for how you will pay for graduate school.

For more info:

The Career Center
career.colostate.edu

Contact the Career Center at 491-5707 to schedule an appointment with your Career Counselor Beka Crocket

Career Center Liaison for the College of Agricultural Sciences
http://www.agsci.colostate.edu/career

Sample careers for Ag Education majors

Agricultural Education leads to teacher licensure by the State of Colorado. Teachers combine classroom, laboratory, and hands-on experiences to teach high school students about the myriad of agricultural topics. The curriculum requires students to demonstrate a competent knowledge of educational theory and a broad-based understanding in agricultural content. Students combine practical experience and technical course work including animal systems, plant systems, agriculture business systems, food systems, agriculture mechanics and technical systems, natural systems, national resources and environmental systems. Courses from biological sciences, liberal arts, and social sciences round out a student’s education.

Students must apply to the Teacher Licensure Program in the School of Teacher Education and Principal Preparation after they have completed at least 30 college credits, usually during their sophomore or junior year. A few of the requirements for acceptance are: having at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA, completion of an introductory education course, and 20 hours of documented work experience with school-age children. All students are required to student teach for one semester.

Agricultural Extension Education is a master’s level program that emphasizes preparation for careers in the Cooperative Extension System. Another Masters level program is: A Master of Agriculture degree in agricultural education is also available for students who have successfully completed their undergraduate coursework in any agriscience or related degree program. The MAgr in agricultural education degree requires 30 credits in advanced coursework in agricultural education, education or agriculture and natural resources. This degree can also be combined with the licensure degree program for individuals wishing to combine both a master’s degree and teacher licensing at the same time. If a student has appropriate coursework in licensing, then the MAgr degree can serve to provide professional development for individuals who are in the teaching profession.

Potential Career Options

Graduates in agricultural education are in demand to fill a fifteen-year shortage of agricultural teachers in Colorado and nationwide. Two-thirds of the Colorado State graduates have become teachers or administrators in public schools. Other graduates take agribusiness positions with seed, fertilizer, feed, machinery, or finance firms.

Students are also prepared to teach in community or junior colleges, area career and technical schools. Within Cooperative Extension, there are opportunities in local, state, and federal agencies for 4-H youth specialists/agents, resource managers, and extension agents.

Sample Job Titles of Graduates

High school agriculture teacher
Post secondary vocational agriculture teacher
Agribusiness representative
Cooperative Extension agent
Education specialist
4-H association youth specialist
Youth development specialist
### Salary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
<th>Low Salary</th>
<th>High Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ag Education Teacher</td>
<td>$35,800</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>48,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications/Public Relations</td>
<td>31,067</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>37,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Extension System</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family/Social Services</td>
<td>23,961</td>
<td>23,961</td>
<td>23,961</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>50,500</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>56,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit Organizations</td>
<td>32,667</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy/Legislative</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>34,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Representative</td>
<td>44,459</td>
<td>36,000</td>
<td>55,725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What it takes to be in Ag Education

1. **Communication Skills**
2. **Honesty/Integrity**
3. **Teamwork Skills**
4. **Interpersonal Skills**
5. **Motivation/Initiative**
6. **Strong Work Ethic**
7. **Analytical Skills**
8. **Flexibility/Adaptability**
9. **Computer Skills**
10. **Organizational Skills**

- Passion for working in the field of agriculture
- Enjoy working with youth and adults
- Capability to inspire trust and confidence
- Ability to motivate others for peak performance
- Enjoy guiding activities of others
- Work effectively with individuals and groups
- Enjoy planning and organizing courses of study
- Desire to understand emotional and educational needs of students
- Strong ability to communicate clearly
- Ability to maintain order, resolve differences, anticipate and prevent problems
- Aptitude for gathering information, organizing and presenting it in a manner that holds attention
- Ability to adapt and present information to different learning styles
- Ability to accurately assess progress of individuals and programs

### When To Start Seeking Career Information?

Start early - even in high school. Those who prepare early put themselves in a position to command the highest demand in the marketplace. Employment statistics suggest that people will change jobs 6 to 8 times throughout their working life and thus the process of seeking and analyzing career information is a life-long task.

### Check out these websites:

- The Career Center
  [www.career.colostate.edu](http://www.career.colostate.edu)
- CAS Career Center
  [http://www.agsci.colostate.edu/career](http://www.agsci.colostate.edu/career)
- Ag Job Network
- School Spring
  [http://www.schoolspring.com/searchForm.cfm](http://www.schoolspring.com/searchForm.cfm)
- Higher Education Jobs
  [https://www.higheredjobs.com/search/default.cfm](https://www.higheredjobs.com/search/default.cfm)
- National Job Bank
- [http://www.ffa.cccs.edu/jobAttachments/](http://www.ffa.cccs.edu/jobAttachments/)
- [https://www.ffa.org/About/NationalFFA/Pages/JobsAtFFA.aspx](https://www.ffa.org/About/NationalFFA/Pages/JobsAtFFA.aspx)
- [http://www.ext.colostate.edu/coop/jobsmenu.html](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/coop/jobsmenu.html)