

ApprenticeshipUSA Chat Sheet



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Monthly Newsletter for H.S. Students – Agriculture

What is the Agriculture Industry?

The agriculture industry is a vast and vital sector that encompasses more than just farming. It includes all the activities involved in growing crops raising livestock, and producing food, fiber, and other materials. The following are key components of the industry:

- a) **Crop/Fiber production:** Growing plants like grains, vegetables, fruits, and cotton.
- b) **Livestock production:** Raising animals such as cattle, pigs, poultry, and sheep for meat, dairy and eggs.
- c) **Aquaculture:** Farming aquatic organisms like fish, shellfish and algae.
- d) **Forestry:** Managing forests for timber, pulp, and other forest products.

Why is Agriculture Important?

The agriculture industry is a cornerstone of human society, providing essential resources and supporting numerous economic sectors. The agriculture industry is essential for human survival, economic development, and environmental sustainability. Its role in providing food, supporting livelihoods, and managing resources is indispensable for a thriving society.

What are the Benefits of a Career in the Agriculture Industry?

The Agriculture industry offers a variety of rewarding career paths, and the job outlook for these positions is positive in the coming 24 months. The Industry is constantly growing, ensuring job stability and high demand for qualified workers. This is a sample of occupations with good future job prospects and average starting annual pay in parenthesis (...):

- 1) **Agriculture Equipment Operator** - (\$39,000/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification;
- 2) **Greenhouse Technician** - (\$40,500/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification;
- 3) **Grain Elevator Operator** - (\$35,000/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification;
- 4) **Maintenance Technician** - (\$43,000/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification.

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How to Prepare for a Career in the Agriculture Industry?

If you are interested in a career in the Agriculture industry, there are a few different ways you can get started. Focus on Biology, Chemistry, Agriculture and Business skills which are valuable across roles. Research to learn about relevant Certifications and Licenses that can enhance career prospects.

Another approach is an Apprenticeship. Go to the **ApprenticeshipUSA** link for more information[click the blue] ([Homepage | Apprenticeship.gov](#)). There, you will find Apprenticeship Programs and on-the-job training opportunities which can take 1 to 2 years of hands-on and classroom training with pay. Let me know if you have questions or need assistance.

For local in-person support you can use your area **American Job Center (AJC)** [click the blue] ([American Job Center Finder | CareerOneStop](#)). Simply enter your Zip code to find your nearest AJC.

Conclusion

The Agriculture Industry is positioned to expand and offer exciting careers for motivated individuals. Remember, the journey to becoming an Agriculture professional begins now, so start actively preparing and exploring your options.

Additional Tips for High School Students

- Take advantage of career counseling services at your high school. Your high school counselors can help you to learn more about different career options, including Agriculture industry careers.

Tip for recent High School graduates looking for a change:

- Check out the American Job Center (AJC) above...a great resource!
- **How to Work Better:** (Tips from Chester, England)
 - 1) Do One Thing at a time;
 - 2) Know the Problem;
 - 3) Learn to Listen;
 - 4) Learn to Ask Questions;
 - 5) Distinguish Sense from Nonsense;
 - 6) Accept Change is Inevitable;
 - 7) Admit Mistakes;
 - 8) Say it Simple;
 - 9) Be Calm;
 - 10) Smile.