

Louisiana Agritechnology

October 23, 2017



Certifying Organization	Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation https://lafarmbureau.org/					
Description of Credential	The Louisiana Agritechnology credential certifies that individuals have a knowledge and skill set applicable to entry level positions in the agricultural industry. The credential is given as a result of a state-to-state partnership between Louisiana and Florida's Farm Bureau, Department of Education, and Future Farmers of America (FFA) and includes, but not limited to, agricultural safety, environmental conservation and management, plant and animal systems, agricultural machinery and facility maintenance and operation, agribusiness marketing, and mathematics and physical science skills.					
Part of which Graduation Pathways ¹	<u>Integrated</u> : Agriculture Tech					
Associated with Which Careers?	<p>5 Star: Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products</p> <p>4 Star: Agricultural Education Teachers, Postsecondary; Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers;</p> <p>3 Star: Agricultural Inspectors; Agricultural Equipment Operators</p> <p>2 Star: Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, nursery, and Greenhouse; Buyers and Purchasing Agents, Farm Products</p>					
Entry-Level Annual Salaries	\$17,118 - \$43,50					
Industry-Based Certification Requirements: Students						
Standard / Curriculum	New curriculum frameworks have been aligned to those of Florida, and approved by the Louisiana Department of Education. The standards are based upon the National Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Content Standards, revised 2015, as well as the Florida Career and Professional Education Act (CAPE) industry-based standards. The Florida Agricultural Education Services and Technology (AEST) website includes a free study guide for the Agriculture tech exam which lists the standards and curriculum resources.					
Testing Methodology	Paper?	No	Online?	Yes	Performance Exams / Tests?	No
Re-Testing (if available)	Re-Testing Procedures	Retesting is done as per school system policies, at the reduced rate of \$50 per attempt.		Max Attempts	None	
Testing Details (including any age requirements / accommodations)	<p>The Agritechnology two-hour long exam is given after the completion of the Agriscience III. Agriculture I and II are prerequisites for Agriscience III. This proprietary exam is 100 questions in length and includes multiple choice options for all questions. The exam is administered online, through Agricultural Education Services and Technology (AEST) website. The exam is electronically graded, and feedback to the teacher is immediate.</p> <p>In accordance with ACT 837, prior to the agriculture tech exam being taken, each teacher must have on file a student information authorization form for each student signed by a parent/guardian before entering student information into AEST.</p> <p>Testing information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests must be pre-ordered on a credit based system by each school. • The Executive Director of Agricultural Education will enter individual schools into the AEST online testing system upon request by school administration or a designee. • Once a school is in the system, teacher(s) and proctor(s) then request an account at http://certify.ag/ • Teachers and/or proctors order testing credit through the online system no less than 30 days prior to the anticipated testing date. • Payment is to be received by AEST prior to testing. There are two choices for payment on the online system, invoice or credit card. Invoice is recommended for all Louisiana school systems. The AEST system will send an invoice automatically to whomever ordered the credit (teacher or proctor) via email. It will be the responsibility of whomever ordered testing credit to send the 					

	<p>invoice to the local school system purchasing agent. Carl Perkins and CDF funding should be used to pay for the agriculture tech exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once payment has been received, teachers may schedule the seats for the test. • Individuals are required to score a 60% or above to receive a passing score and the certification. • Accommodations are provided in the same manner they may be for students taking EOC exams. Proctors can request a printed copy of the exam for accommodations requiring extended time or test read aloud. 					
<p>Industry-Based Certification Requirements: Teachers</p> <p><i>Bulletin 746, Chapter 5: All Louisiana teachers providing instruction in a course that leads to an IBC must hold the certification that they're teaching students to attain.</i></p>						
Instructor Certification Requirements (by certifying agency)	<p>Teachers must hold the Louisiana Agritechnology certification as well as a valid Louisiana teaching certificate and follow the curriculum frameworks on which the Louisiana Agritechnology IBC is placed. Teachers must be proctored when taking the exam and have to achieve at least a 60% score to receive certification.</p>					
Proctoring / Test Security (if any)	<p><u>Proctors facilitate the testing process and cannot be teachers of agriculture.</u> It is suggested that guidance counselors, testing coordinators and administrators serve as proctors. The randomly selected questions are proprietary information, and not available except through the credentialing process. Students testing will receive individual login information for AEST from the proctor. A trained proctor, not the Agriscience teacher, administers the exam to maintain security. Only the proctor can order the registration codes and open the exams. Testing codes expire after 24 hours of activation. Full explanation of the testing process for proctors can be found at certify.ag/proctors/</p>					
<p>Certification Tracking</p>						
Credentialing Documentation	<p>Certificates for passing students will be produced immediately by the AEST system and are made available for the student. However, the certifying credential provided by Louisiana Farm Bureau will serve as the official credential for accountability purposes. Florida's AEST documents which students pass the exam and forwards the list of names to the Farm Bureau, who prints and mails the certificates. Each school will be able to obtain a report and track which students took the exam, their score, and whether or not they passed.</p> <p>Link to picture of Agritechnology Credential</p> <p>Link to Louisiana Agritechnology Student Information Release Form</p>					
Certification Tracking System	Online Tracking System?	Yes	Details	AEST maintains the data base, but each school is able to see the results online.		
Other Details	Expiration Timeframe?	Credential is valid for 5 years. At the end of that period, an individual would have to retake the exam to certify. That would be arranged through the local school system.				
<p>Certification Costs / Funding Sources</p>						
Cost Details	\$85.00 exam fee AEST will send an invoice via email when tests are ordered.					
Re-test / Refund Policies	\$50.00 retake fee. There is no refund. If an exam is paid for, but not taken, it is noted as a credit for the school system for the upcoming year.					
Funding Sources ²	CDF?	Yes Agriculture III eligible	Perkins?	Yes	Alternative Source (other than General Funds)	N/A

For More Information	
Certifying Agency Contact Info	<p>Keitha Bennett AEST Coordinator 5600 SW 34th St. Gainesville, FL 32608 352-378-0060 or 352-275-8675 Keitha.bennett@ffbf.org</p> <p>Lynda Danos Louisiana Farm Bureau PO Box 95004 Baton Rouge, LA 70895 225-922-6503 lyndad@lfbf.org</p> <p>Henry Eric Smith, Ph.D. Executive Director of Louisiana Agricultural Education/State FFA Advisor 244 John M. Parker Coliseum Baton Rouge, LA 70803 Office: 225.578.5749 hsmith@agcenter.lsu.edu</p>
LDE Contact	JumpStart@La.Gov
Jump Start Regional Team Experts	TBD

1 – This table may not include all the graduation pathways this credential appears in. Please check the [graduation pathway](#) you are working with if you have a question as to whether or not this credential is part of that pathway.

2 – CDF = [Career Development Fund](#)