

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date due: \_\_\_\_\_ Why late? \_\_\_\_\_ Final Score: + ✓ -  
Day of Week Date If your project was late, describe why

# Agriscience Career Experience Planning Guide

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Department  
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
WATERFORD UNION HIGH SCHOOL

**Overview:** This packet is designed to help you to prepare for applying for college and seeking a career. Throughout the next four days, you will be guided through career options, colleges that would enable you to acquire this career, high school opportunities that will maximize your college and career preparation, and a personal reflection to help you understand what you need to do in order to get where you want to go. How much you benefit from this assignment depends on you – the more effort you put into your work, the more you’ll gain from this assignment. If you encounter problems at any point, raise your hand so that your instructor can assist you.

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# Choosing a Career



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Directions

- In this assignment, you will be profiling a potential career that you are likely to pursue after high school. You can use any credible source to obtain this information. Recommended sites include:
  - Type “FFA Career Explorer” into a search engine such as Google; it will be the first result that comes up.
  - You can also use the Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)) to find a career that works for you.
  - You can also try <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/explore-careers/careers> .
- Ideally, try to choose a career related to the subject of this course.
  - However, if there is a career you REALLY want to look into, it is ok to choose that one.
- Click on the profession to gain more information.
- If you are satisfied with that choice, complete the questions below. If you want, you can look at other jobs but you need to have this assignment completed by the deadline.
- Remember – this is just a *potential* career choice. If you change you’re mind later on, that is completely ok! Be sure to choose something that is applicable to you and your interests!

## Questions – Answer in complete sentences when needed (your future employer will expect it).

- What is the name of the career? \_\_\_\_\_
- Why did you choose this one? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What does this job pay? \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /year.
- What are the educational requirements for this job? (e.g. Bachelors, Ph.D, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
A bachelor’s degree is a four-year degree. An associate’s degree is a two-year degree. A master’s degree requires 6+ years of schooling. A Ph.D/doctorate = 8+ years of schooling.
- What classes should you take in high school to prepare for this kind of job? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Summarize what is person with this career does for their job: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

“No matter how smart you are, educated people will think you’re a moron if your grammar is lacking.” – Scott Adams, creator of Dilbert.

7. What kinds of skills or education do you need for this job? Write the listed items that would aid a person in this field:

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8. What major or training would you need to pursue after high school to have this career? Use the following site to help guide your search for a college major: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors-careers> .

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

9. What school would you choose that offers this major? \_\_\_\_\_  
Use a Google search or the following website: [majormania.uwex.edu/](http://majormania.uwex.edu/)

10. Consider the following information<sup>1</sup>:
- a. An in-state public four-year college cost roughly \$20,000 per year on average (tuition, rent, books, etc.).
  - b. An out-of-state private four year college costs \$30,000 per year on average.
  - c. Private four-year, in-state institutions charged an average of \$30,000 per year. (Out-of-state is higher)
  - d. Two-year public institutions cost an average of about \$5000 per year (not including rent).
  - e. Private two-year colleges charged roughly \$15,000 per year (not including rent).
  - f. If you intend to pursue any of the following, add whichever of the following apply to the total cost of a four-year degree: Medicine: \$120,000; Veterinary Medicine: \$75,000; Law: \$60,000; Dentistry: \$150,000; Pharmacy: \$85,000; Masters/Ph.D: \$30,000<sup>2</sup> (Note: this does not include rent or books).

Based on this information, what would your total schooling cost? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Hint: multiply the average cost of school per year times the number of years in school and add professional school costs if that applies. For example, a doctor with in-state public tuition would spend \$80,000 + \$120,000 = \$200,000 total.*

11. Based on the average annual salary, how long would it take for you to pay for your education if you were able to pay 5% of your salary per year towards your loans (pretend you don't have to pay interest to make it easier).

- a. What is the annual average income from this job? \$ \_\_\_\_\_/year
- b. Multiply the annual average income (what you wrote above) by 0.05: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*This is what you would pay per year if you used 5% of your income.*
- c. Complete the blanks below:

$$\frac{\$ \text{_____}}{\text{Total cost of schooling (see 10)}} \div \frac{\$ \text{_____}}{\text{Amount paid per year (see 11.b)}} = \text{_____ years of debt}$$

Your answer here is how long you would be in debt on average for the schooling needed for the career you chose.

<sup>1</sup>National Center for Ed. Stats., US Dept. of Education. July 2013. <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2013/2013289rev.pdf>  
<sup>2</sup> <http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/get-there/wp/2014/12/02/is-graduate-school-worth-the-cost-heres-how-to-know/>



# Choosing a College



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Directions – read and follow carefully!

1. Visit the following website: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search> .
  - a. You can also just type “College Board Search” into a search engine such as Google; it will be the first result that comes up.
2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click on “**Type of School**” .
  - a. Select either a 2-year or 4-year college (whatever your current intentions may be).
  - b. If you do not plan on attending college, choose the option you would select if you had to choose).
3. Click on “**Location**” on the left-hand side. Enter your ZIP Code and choose how far away you would be comfortable going.
  - a. e.g. if you want to be within a 3-hour drive of home, select schools within 200 miles of home.
4. Click on “**Majors and Learning Environment**” .
  - a. Type in a general description of the major you intend to have (or would have if you were hypothetically to go to college) –**OR-** select the family of majors that most suits your interests.
5. On the top right, click “**Close and See Results**” . Choose a college that most interests you and use it to answer the questions below.

## Questions – Answer in complete sentences when needed (your future college will expect nothing less).

1. What is the name of the college you have chosen? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did you choose this one? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. When should you apply? \_\_\_\_\_  
Note: if no information is provided, go directly to that university or school’s website to find this information.
4. How many undergraduates attend this institution? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What percent graduate within 6 years? \_\_\_\_\_ %
6. Click on “**Paying**” in the upper left of the profile for this college. What is your estimated total cost per year to attend this institution? \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / year.  
(Note – if you are out of state, make sure you are reporting the right amount!).
7. The average student attends for over four years. Assuming you spent 4.5 years at this institution, what would you expect your bill to be by the time you graduated? **NOTE – if it is a 2 year school, multiply by 2** (instead of 4.5).  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ total.

8. Does this college prepare you for the career intend to do? YES NO (*circle one*)
9. What major would you choose from this college? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What would be your second choice of majors? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Click on "**Campus Life**". What percent men attend this school? \_\_\_\_\_% Percent women? \_\_\_\_\_%
12. Click on "**Activities**". What are three activities that you might want to be a part of if you attended this school?
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
13. On the left-hand side, click "**See Similar Colleges**". Write down three colleges that you would consider attending in the spaces below:
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Use the space provided to list three questions or concerns you have about the schooling or training you need to pursue your intended career. To receive full credit, you need to include three legitimate questions or concerns.
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Using your instructor's feedback, a search engine or other credible source, summarize some key information regarding your questions or concerns in the space below.
1. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# High School Experience Planning Guide



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. What career do you intend to seek after high school?
2. Visit the Ag Dept website and on the “More” drop-menu in the top menu bar, click on “Supervised Career Experience Program”. Read the section titled “On-Campus Opportunities” (scroll about halfway down). Check any of the following that would help you to achieve the career you listed above. *Choose at least one of the following.*

- School Forester     Animal Care Specialist     Ag Office Manager  
 Ag Marketer     Fruit Sale Manager     Greenhouse Manager  
 Field Manager     Summer Research Intern     Ag Coop     Personal Prep for Careers

What do the item(s) that you checked above provide that would help you to accomplish your career goal? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Visit the Ag Dept website and click on “Careers” in the top menu bar. In the space below, choose two courses (in addition to Agriscience) that could help you to achieve your career goal. Then explain how these courses would assist you in reaching your career goal.

Course: \_\_\_\_\_ How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

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Course: \_\_\_\_\_ How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Visit [bit.ly/wuhcourseguide](http://bit.ly/wuhcourseguide) and review all of the courses available at Waterford. In the space below, choose four courses (in addition those you listed earlier) that could help you to achieve your career goal. Then explain how these courses would assist you in reaching your career goal. Be sure to include electives and non-required courses.

Course: \_\_\_\_\_ How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Course: \_\_\_\_\_ How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Course: \_\_\_\_\_ How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. List four volunteer/service experiences that you are aware of that could help you to achieve your career goal. If unsure, speak with your instructor to get ideas.

Volunteer Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

How it could help: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What are 3 measurable goals you hope to accomplish before you graduate in order to attend your intended college and achieve your career goal? A *measurable* goal is one that is specific, applicable, realistic, and has a deadline. It might involve obtaining specific career skills, learning details about a specific occupation, making money, gaining valuable experience for a college application, job shadowing, scholarships, etc.

1) I hope to be able to \_\_\_\_\_  
*Describe your goal*  
\_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ . I intend to meet this goal at \_\_\_\_\_  
time Location

To accomplish this goal, I will need to do the following: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I might encounter the following problems or obstacles as I try to accomplish this goal: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2) I hope to be able to \_\_\_\_\_  
*Describe your goal*  
\_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ . I intend to meet this goal at \_\_\_\_\_  
time Location

To accomplish this goal, I will need to do the following: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I might encounter the following problems or obstacles as I try to accomplish this goal: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3) I hope to be able to \_\_\_\_\_  
*Describe your goal*  
\_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ . I intend to meet this goal at \_\_\_\_\_  
time Location

To accomplish this goal, I will need to do the following: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I might encounter the following problems or obstacles as I try to accomplish this goal: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Reflection



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. What career do you intend to have some day? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What college (if any) do you plan to attend after high school? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Rank how prepared you feel for college and for a career on a scale of 1 (nonexistent) to 5 (very prepared): \_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What are 3 personal strengths you have now that will make it more likely that you will get accepted you're your intended college and acquire the career that you want?

Strength: \_\_\_\_\_ How this will help: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Strength: \_\_\_\_\_ How this will help: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Strength: \_\_\_\_\_ How this will help: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What are 3 personal areas for improvement you have now that you will need to address in high school in order increase the likelihood that you will get accepted into your intended college and acquire your intended career?

Weakness: \_\_\_\_\_ How I will improve: \_\_\_\_\_

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Weakness: \_\_\_\_\_ How I will improve: \_\_\_\_\_

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Weakness: \_\_\_\_\_ How I will improve: \_\_\_\_\_

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6. In the space below, **describe** five things that you can do that will most affect your likelihood of obtaining the career of your choice and **explain** how they would help:

1 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 \_\_\_\_\_

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3 \_\_\_\_\_

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4 \_\_\_\_\_

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5 \_\_\_\_\_

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**When you are done, raise your hand so that your instructor can discuss your intentions with you and provide you with additional guidance.**