

# AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY (AGRONOMY)

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## LIMITED ENROLLMENT

Delivery Method: On Campus

Program Begins: Fall only

## Program Description

The Agriculture Industry and Technology program prepares students for multiple positions within the agronomy industry. Coursework is concentrated in crop science and agribusiness skills. Technology instruction is infused throughout the curriculum. Students are exposed to various applications of technology related to business management, crop production, and soil science. Precision farming technology instruction includes guidance systems, mobile software, GIS software, variable rate technologies, and remote sensing. Students will graduate with a North Dakota Commercial Pesticide Applicator license and will be prepared to pursue a commercial driver's license and North Dakota certified crop advisor certification. The program requires a cooperative education internship with on-the-job training at an agricultural business. Training consists of a minimum of 400 hours completed during the summer session in the first year of the program.

## Preparation

Students interested in agriculture should be resourceful, flexible, creative problem solvers, interested in technology, and enjoy continuous learning. Communication skills and interpersonal skills are an important part of successfully translating sound business, science, and technology-based solutions in the field. The following background is helpful: high school or college courses in agriculture, science and math, and experience working on a farm or for an agriculture-related business. Interested students are encouraged to apply early as openings are limited.

## Program Requirements

Students who complete the curriculum requirements earn an Associate in Applied Science degree.

## Special Costs

A \$100 deposit, required upon acceptance into the program, is applied toward tuition. Fee is non-refundable if you decide not to attend BSC.

## Career Opportunities

Today's agronomy graduate needs specialized skills to fill the need for qualified workers. Industry has high demand for graduates skilled in agronomy-related disciplines such as crop science, soil science, precision technology, management, and sales. Farms are getting larger and farm managers are turning to service providers to take care of their agronomy needs. Crop consultants, crop scouts, crop protection applicators, fertilizer applicators, and retail/wholesale product sales professionals are the most popular agronomy service positions open in our region.

Specialized training in crop growth and development, seed genetics, pest management, plant nutrition, as well as precision technology, soil and water resource management are necessary to excel as an agronomy professional. This business-savvy industry has many opportunities for candidates skilled at streamlining processes and creating value-added solutions for promoting agricultural goods. Current placement rate of students in this program is 100 percent.

## Additional Information

### Agriculture Club

The BSC Ag Club is dedicated to helping the students of BSC ATNR through career development, service opportunities, professional networking, and education enhancement. BSC Ag Club also promotes interest in agriculture, educates the general public about the importance of agriculture, inspires interpersonal interactions, and enhances students' understanding of local and global agricultural industries.

### ATNR Scholarships

Students are eligible for a variety of scholarships. The BSC Foundation provides two ND Ag Association scholarships, four Ervin and Dorothy Bourgois Memorial Scholarships along with assorted academic scholarships. Five scholarships are also available through the CHS Foundation.

## Contact

701-224-2429

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## Degree Plans

- Agriculture Industry and Technology (Agronomy) Associate in Applied Science