### Overview

To best meet the ever-changing demands on learners’ lives, this online Agricultural Education graduate program is designed to prepare graduates for entry into or advancement in formal and non-formal teaching careers. This program also develops professional leadership skills for other careers in agricultural leadership and communications.

The online master’s degree program in Agricultural Education, with its various options, provides a program that can be tailored to meet each student’s career goals. In addition to the wide variety of professional courses in agricultural education, offerings are also available from all academic Departments in the College of Agriculture, including agricultural economics, animal and range sciences, land resources and environmental sciences, plant sciences and plant pathology, and veterinary molecular biology. Specialization areas such as adult education, educational administration, career education, and curriculum coordination are also available through cooperation with the College of Education, Health and Human Development.

### Program Requirements

The program offers considerable flexibility to students to help them meet their professional and personal objectives. Plan A requires a thesis. At least 30 credit hours, 20 coursework credits, and 10 thesis preparation credits must be completed. Students who choose Plan B must complete a professional project based on a current research issue related to the student’s emphasis area. Students will take at least 30 hours of coursework, 6 of which are professional paper credits. The final selection of the student’s professional project will be the student’s responsibility in collaboration with the advisor and the graduate committee. All Plan B students will complete a comprehensive exam and then choose one of the following three options to complete:

1. Create a research project formatted for journal publication.
2. Create a research project formatted for a conference proceeding.
3. Submit a substantial grant proposal for funding.

The requirements for students in the online program are similar to those for students following the Plan B program. Taking at least six credits per semester, students will take 30 semester hours of graduate coursework. Their coursework must include Research Methods (AGED 506), Philosophy of Teaching and Learning in Agricultural Education (AGED 511), Program Planning and Evaluation (AGED 507), AGTE 591, and Graduate Seminar (AGED 594) two times during your program. A final written exam and a professional paper are required in place of a thesis.

### Admission

Before you apply to the Agricultural Education program, take a moment to review the application requirements (http://ageducation.montana.edu/graduateprogram.html) on the Agricultural Education homepage. Once all application materials are received, the Agricultural Education graduate committee will review the application (typically after the deadline). Application deadlines are July 1 for a Fall start, November 15 for a Spring start, and March 15 for Summer (international applicants must have materials two months before these dates). Based on their review, the department will provide their recommendation to The Graduate School; all applications will receive a response through your application portal (https://www.applyweb.com/msug/). Teaching and Research Assistantships may be available for qualified students. If interested, please direct your questions to the Departmental Graduate Coordinator.

### Required Application Materials – to be added to the GS application

The following is a list of application materials required by the Department:

1. Letter of Intent: Plans and interest in teaching and research in agriculture
2. 3 Professional letters of recommendation
3. Official transcripts
   a. 3.0 undergraduate GPA
4. Writing Sample – up to 10 pages and may be a previous capstone project, thesis, journal article, or other scholarly work which exemplifies your writing abilities.
5. Phone Interview
6. (Optional) GTA application (check box and statement of interest of teaching)

### Links

Application for on-campus and online programs: http://www.montana.edu/gradschool/admissions/getting_started.html

Additional information for online program: http://www.montana.edu/online/degrees/agricultural-education/

### Graduate Programs

http://ageducation.montana.edu/graduateprogram.html

**Program Requirements**

This online program offers considerable flexibility to students to help them meet their professional and personal objectives. The Department offers two pathways to completion. Plan A is the traditional thesis option while Plan B requires a project or professional paper. Plan A requires a minimum of 30 credit hours; 20 credits of course work and 10 thesis credits. Plan B requires a professional project based on a current research issue related to the student’s emphasis area. Plan B students take a minimum of 24 credits of course work and six professional paper credits. The final selection of the student’s research activity will be the student’s responsibility in collaboration with the assigned faculty advisor and the graduate committee.

- M.S. in Agricultural Education (http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/agriculture/agricultural-education/ms-agricultural-education/)