



**GRANTS TO ILLINOIS COUNTIES SUPPORT LEARNING THROUGH  
ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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BLOOMINGTON, Ill. —Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (IAITC) is a go-to resource for teachers wanting to help students grow connections to agriculture. This week local programs received funding to continue classroom lessons thanks to IAA Foundation grants.

Eighty ag literacy coalitions serving 89 Illinois counties were awarded \$668,150 in grant dollars which can be used for materials, training, educational lessons, and activities taking place during the 2025-2026 school year.

“Providing these grants ensures teachers have a local connection and access to engaging resources to integrate accurate agricultural content into their classrooms,” said Kevin Daugherty, IAITC education director.

Last school year, 643,958 students and 36,335 teachers engaged in ag literacy lessons through IAITC. County AITC programs presented 31,233 individual programs throughout the state, an average of 390 per coalition. Classroom presentations, farm field trips, and agriculture expos add a new dimension to existing curricular standards.

County coalition grants are made possible through funding partner gifts to the IAA Foundation, and the generosity of individuals who support IAITC. Operating as the charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation raises funds for the IAITC program each year, and in addition to county grants, provides funding for Ag Mags, teacher grants, Summer Ag Academies, and more.

“Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom is a true partnership,” said Susan Moore, IAA Foundation director. “From committed funding groups, employment agencies for ag literacy coordinators, in-kind services, to every volunteer and each dollar donated, we are Illinois agriculture unified in a common goal to enhance ag literacy and aid in early discovery of connections to agriculture. Our partners are committed to making ag literacy a priority, and we are grateful for that.”

Partner organizations of IAITC include Illinois Farm Bureau, Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education, University of Illinois Extension, Illinois Beef Association, Illinois Corn Marketing Board, Illinois

Pork Producers Association, Illinois Soybean Association, Midwest Dairy Association, Illinois Department of Agriculture and the Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

In addition, annual donors include agribusiness partners and individuals with an interest in supporting the future of agriculture. For information on how individuals can contribute, or to view a listing of all major donors, visit [www.iaafoundation.org](http://www.iaafoundation.org). For information on IAITC, visit [www.agintheclassroom.org](http://www.agintheclassroom.org).

Counties awarded ag literacy grants:

- Adams County
- Bond County
- Bureau County
- Cass and Morgan Counties
- Champaign County
- Christian County
- Clark County
- Clay County
- Clinton County
- Cook County
- Crawford County
- Cumberland County
- DeKalb County
- Douglas County
- DuPage County
- Edgar County
- Edwards County
- Effingham County
- Ford and Iroquois Counties
- Franklin County
- Fulton County
- Gallatin County
- Grundy County
- Hamilton and Jefferson Counties
- Hancock County
- Henry County
- Jackson County
- Jasper County
- Kane County
- Kankakee County
- Kendall County
- Knox County
- Lake County
- LaSalle County
- Lawrence County
- Lee County
- Livingston County
- Logan County
- Macon County
- Macoupin County
- Madison County
- Marion County
- Marshall and Putnam Counties
- Mason County
- Massac County
- McDonough County
- McHenry County
- McLean County
- Menard County
- Mercer County
- Monroe County
- Montgomery County
- Moultrie County
- Ogle & Carroll Counties
- Peoria County
- Perry County
- Piatt and Dewitt Counties
- Pulaski and Alexander Counties
- Randolph County
- Richland County
- Rock Island County
- Saline County
- Sangamon County
- Shelby County
- St. Clair County
- Stark County
- Stephenson County
- Union County
- Vermillion County
- Wabash County
- Warren and Henderson Counties
- Washington County
- Wayne Counties
- White County
- Whiteside County
- Will County
- Williamson County
- Winnebago and Boone Counties
- Woodford

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