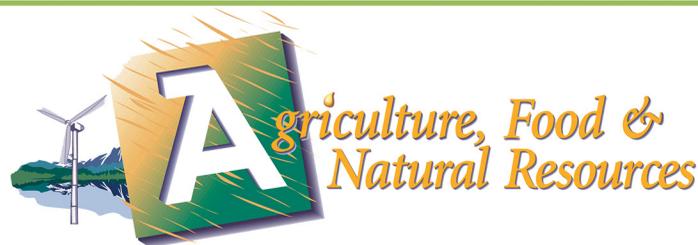


Career Clusters

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources is one of the 16 Career Clusters identified by the U.S. Department of Education and adopted by the State of Alabama. These Career Clusters represent more than 79 career pathways with the purpose of assisting students in navigating their way successfully in college and careers.

The Alabama Department of Labor further defines these career pathways by selecting common occupations with related education requirements, work experience, wages and typical training needed, as defined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Included in this pamphlet are the high skilled, high demand, and high wage occupations associated with Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources.



This Career Cluster focused on the production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and the development of agricultural commodities and resources including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products/resources.

Employment

Occupation	ALABAMA STATEWIDE SELECTED OCCUPATIONS		Average Annual Openings
	2012	2022	
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	2,520	3,010	80
Agricultural Equipment Operators	2,040	2,190	80
Butchers and Meat Cutters	1,540	1,580	40
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	2,700	2,970	85
Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	1,420	1,620	45
Pest Control Workers	1,970	2,380	95
Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation	410	470	15
Forest and Conservation Workers	160	200	5
Logging Equipment Operators	2,490	2,540	20
Farm Equipment Mechanics	550	590	20
Environmental Engineering Technicians	730	860	30
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	770	1,020	35
Food Scientists and Technologists	170	170	5
Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists	110	110	5
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	930	1,000	30
Veterinarians	1,030	1,190	50

Earnings

Occupation	ALABAMA STATEWIDE SELECTED OCCUPATIONS SALARY		
	Entry	Average	Experienced
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	\$16,775	\$20,642	\$22,575
Agricultural Equipment Operators	\$16,705	\$23,875	\$27,459
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$19,436	\$26,653	\$30,262
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	\$19,271	\$27,228	\$31,206
Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	\$16,991	\$22,127	\$24,696
Pest Control Workers	\$18,077	\$26,972	\$31,420
Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation	\$24,639	\$30,200	\$32,980
Forest and Conservation Workers	\$16,686	\$27,982	\$33,631
Logging Equipment Operators	\$24,041	\$33,237	\$37,835
Farm Equipment Mechanics	\$25,899	\$35,836	\$40,805
Environmental Engineering Technicians	\$32,114	\$48,517	\$56,718
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$20,653	\$28,539	\$32,482
Food Scientists and Technologists	\$40,152	\$68,403	\$82,529
Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists	\$41,515	\$59,003	\$67,747
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	\$46,552	\$66,151	\$75,950
Veterinarians	\$47,378	\$79,822	\$96,044

Education

HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS

Occupation	Work Experience	Job Training
Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	■	○
Pest Control Workers	■	●
Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation	■	●
Forest and Conservation Workers	■	●
Logging Equipment Operators	■	●
Farm Equipment Mechanics	■	●
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	■	○
Agricultural Equipment Operators	■	○
Butchers and Meat Cutters	■	●
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	■	○

SOME COLLEGE - ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE

Environmental Engineering Technicians	■	○
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	■	○

BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND ABOVE

Food Scientists and Technologists	■	○
Zoologists and Wildlife Biologists	■	○
Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	■	●
Veterinarians	■	○

Typical On-the-Job Training Needed to Attain Competency		Work Experience in a Related Occupation	
None	○	More than 5 years	↑
Short-term On-the-Job Training	●	1 to 5 years	↕
Moderate-term On-the-Job Training	●	Less than 1 year	↓
Long-term On-the-Job Training	●	None	■
Apprenticeship	◆		
Internship/Residency	▲		

Career Snapshot

The occupations reporting the highest average salaries require a Bachelor's degree or higher, include: Veterinarians, Food Scientists & Technologists, and Occupational Health & Safety Specialists. Occupational Health & Safety Specialists are also required to complete short-term on-the-job training.

The occupations reporting the highest average annual openings require a high school degree, or less, and no prior work experience in a related occupation. These occupations include Pest Control Workers, Refuse & Recyclable Material Collectors, Nonfarm Animal Caretakers, and Agricultural Equipment Operators. Refuse & Recyclable Material Collectors, Nonfarm Animal Caretakers, and Agricultural Equipment Operators require short-term on-the-job training, while Pest Control Workers require moderate-term on-the-job training.

Career Clusters

For more information regarding
Career Clusters, visit:
www.careertech.org/career-clusters
www.altechprep.org/clusters.html

For Occupational Videos, visit:
www2.labor.alabama.gov/videos



- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing, Sales & Service
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics



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*Average Annual Salary Source:
Wage data based on the May 2014 OES Employment & Wage File,
In partnership with the Alabama Department of Education
Career and Technical Education Section.

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