

## Ag Achiever & Ag Innovation Grant Application 2022-2023

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To: Shayla Berry <shayla.berry@todd.kyschools.us>



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Here's what was received.

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## Ag Achiever & Ag Innovation Grant Application 2022-2023

The Ag Achiever Grant is designed to help local Agricultural Education programs enhance learning opportunities for students.

Form Deadline January 7, 2023.

- Enhancements may include but are not limited to the purchase of new equipment or teaching resources, modifications to existing equipment or facilities, implementation of innovative programming for students.
- Ag Programs may apply for up to \$5,000 for Ag Achiever Grants.
- Grant applications over \$2,500 require a dollar for dollar match.
- Those who received last years Ag Achievers grant must submit their final impact report before applying.
- A report of project results, including a financial report of all income and expenses and project photos, must be filed at the conclusion of the project.

The Ag Innovation Grant is a \$10,000 grant intended to offer a transformational or innovation to an aged program. The application is the same. If you are not selected to receive the \$10,000 Ag Innovation Grant, please check the box that you would like to be considered for an Ag Achiever grant, at a lesser amount.

To see full scoring rubric visit <https://kyffa.org/grants>

Email \*

shayla.berry@todd.kyschools.us

Does the budget for this project exceed \$10,000, to be considered for an Ag Innovation Grant? \*

YES

NO

If you are not selected for a \$10,000 Ag Innovation Grant, would you like to be considered for an Ag Achiever grant, for a lesser amount?

Yes

No

Other: .....

Ag Education Program Name \*

Todd County Central

Teacher Name \*

Shayla Berry

Teacher Phone Number \*

270-604-5237

### Statement of understanding

I certify that the information contained in this grant application is correct and accurate.

If selected for this grant program I agree to the following:

- Funds will be spent as specified in the budget in the timeline specified. (Written requests to amend the budget or scope of the project must be submitted to the Kentucky FFA Foundation and approved before these changes are made.)
- I will submit a written impact report and photos of the project the Kentucky FFA Foundation.
- I understand that if funds are not spent according to the grant application that my school will be expected to return the entire amount of the grant to the Kentucky FFA Foundation.

Please initial below to accept the above Statement of Understanding. \*

SB

Project Title \*

From Seed to Sales – A school operated Cut-Flower Garden

Describe the project in detail how the funds will be used. \*

The funding provided through this grant will allow students to experience the process of learning floriculture and floral design through our Kentucky Horticulture Academic standards and skills. Students will be able to use the grant funds to purchase materials and supplies to start a “cut flower garden.” Along with the cut flower garden, students will experience creating raised beds for growing the flowers from germination to harvest, using hand-tools, soil and fertilizer supplies, marketing supplies, flower containers, cultivators and learning how temperature affects the life cycle of cut flowers in a refrigerated cooler. Students will document and collect data from germinating to harvest; prepare and examine budgets (gross and net profits) from the sale of the flowers to the community. Technology will be used to enhance infographics, and marketing material to inform our community of this amazing opportunity. This grant will allow our school to provide an opportunity to demonstrate to students the commitment of life-long processes of agriculture, and yield opportunities available in the floriculture world. The school will match partial funding through the agricultural department where needed to create the most efficient use of space, and greenhouse usage when needed.

Describe the impact of the project on student learning over time including the number of students impacted per year and how many years the impact will occur. \*

Students will have the opportunity to develop skills, confidence, and pride in creating their own learning environment to meet the skills and learning necessary to master the Floriculture and Floral design curriculum. The impact of creating this type of direct, hands-on learning environment will impact our students' knowledge of growing and harvesting product, budgeting and marketing product, and enhance writing and mathematical skills affecting profitability of a business. Students will also gain knowledge of forecasting, risk management, and experience in identifying "big picture" investments that are needed in a community. By giving our students another avenue to pursue career opportunities in agricultural areas, students will gain knowledge in horticulture science which can lead to internships in local businesses in the floral, co-ops, and design professions. By giving students experience in management of a cut flower garden from planting to harvest, students will understand the ins-and-outs of owning their own business. Students will be able to research and determine which soil, fertilizers, supplies, and tools are best in each growing season. They will also be able to determine product supply and demand as the community starts to invest their funds in helping to maintain this project. Students' knowledge of the economics of supply and demand will be enhanced as they gain an understand of what flowers sell best in our community. They will also develop their skills in design as they research the best ways to create arrangements, what products help flowers last longer after cutting, and how creating your own garden is more cost effective than purchasing from local wholesale businesses or vendors. The costs of cut flowers from wholesalers and local vendors can be analyzed against our own cut flower garden. Currently in our program, we are limited to the experiences we can provide students due to the cost. The number of arrangements and designing we conduct is far from enough when compared to the interests and talents of the students in this program. A prime solution to this would be growing our own flowers. The school has offered an empty plot of land near our greenhouse, to begin a project of the magnitude if we have grant funds to create this learning environment. This project will vastly impact our Floriculture & Floral Design class. Each year, it will be students' primary responsibility to design, create, maintain, and manage the cut flower garden. Our program hosts an average of 28-30 students each year. Not only will the students in my Floriculture and Floral design class gain opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills, our students in Principles of Agriculture and Greenhouse Technology will be able to help implement and grow the product and learn from and in the garden periodically throughout the year. This would increase the number of students impacted by this grant and garden to approximately 75 to 80 per year as they gain exposure and knowledge from their experiences in the cut flower garden. Additionally, it is our goal to two to three students utilize this garden as a school-based SAE project in the summer months while school is not in session.

Describe the impact of the project on the local community and agriculture industry.

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This grant will allow this project to become a natural part of our community. It will help families who live in the city limits, and who qualify as a low socio-economic family to provide flowers for their homes and children when flowers are wanted and needed for special occasions. Flowers

help to enhance any home and are used to celebrate special occasion. Many families find that they cannot purchase flowers due to the cost. Changing the way students learn is paramount to long-term memory. Giving the experiences in agriculture is of utmost importance to schools and communities in order to keep the agriculture pathways of learning vibrant and growing in our rural community. Community members have reached out to our agriculture department wanting to partner with our Floriculture & Floral Design students to create arrangements. By producing and marketing our own flowers, this will allow us to network and promote our program within the community.

Describe any partnerships that will be established or strengthened through this project. \*

As mentioned, producing, and marketing our own flowers will allow us to network with people and groups in our community. Networking allows students to enhance their communication skills in order to gain other stakeholders who will support and help grow our program. Floral design workshops, germination and harvesting classes are planned for the future. Local businesses will be contacted to help us purchase emerging technology resources in the agricultural and floriculture fields.

Describe the timeline for this project. \*

The timeline for this project is approximately one year. The one-year mark is when we will start seeing results. If we are honored with receiving the grant, the construction of the garden will start immediately by purchasing spring and summer seeds to germinate and plant in order to have a summer and fall harvest. Students who are enrolled in the Floriculture & Floral Design classes will begin learning, planning, and designing immediately upon receipt of grant funds. This will ensure that our first harvest will be late summer, early fall of this year.

Projected Budget - Please include item of expense and cost. \*

Garden Tiller/Cultivator - \$269.99 Bush Floral Cooler - \$4633.00 Raised Garden Bed - \$59.99  
Seeds - \$34.15

Total Amount Requested \*

\$4997.13

List any source of additional funding. This is required if you are requesting more than \$2,500.

Perkins – Can be used to purchase non-consumable items  
Greenhouse Sales – Income from annual greenhouse sale

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