The future for students interested in agriculture is bright. With demand for new hires outstripping supply, there is plenty of opportunity for the next generation. (Illustrations by Jim Starr)

Best Universities for Earning an Agricultural Degree
Which universities have the most respected ag-related programs? “This listing, compiled by data science company Niche.com,” includes the top agricultural degree programs for 2020. Niche used data from dozens of public data sources — including the Department of Education, U.S. Census and FBI — along with real reviews and outcomes to determine rankings, grades and profiles.

1. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
2. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
3. University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia
4. Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
5. University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minneapolis, Minnesota
6. Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas
7. University of Missouri — Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri
8. North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina
9. Oklahoma State University-Stillwater, Stillwater, Oklahoma
10. University of California — Davis, Davis, California

Career Paths in Agriculture

The coming changes in ag education

How is education and training for ag careers expected to change in the next few years? An educational survey from Purdue University Online4 shows that 75% of educators expect digital content will reach a critical mass by 2026. Here are a few other emerging educational trends from Purdue University Online4:

• Augmented Reality Glasses — Will allow students to layer data on top of what we naturally see to allow for a real-world learning experience.
• Multitouch Surfaces — Could allow virtual tools streamed directly to the surface.
• 3D / 3D Printing — Can transform learning by allowing students to see and touch objects.
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Top Salaries for Ag Careers
Which ag-related professions offer the highest salaries? Here is a ranking from career advice company CareerAddict.5

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Ag companies increase recruitment efforts
How are ag companies reaching out to find new recruits? These key statistics from 2018, up 12.07% from 2017 figures, are a few of the major tools streamed directly to the surface.

AG COMPANIES INCREASE RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

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The 6 Top Ways Companies Recruit Potential Hires 6

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4. Scholarships and Grants
5. Affiliation With Student Organizations
6. Agricultural Advocacy Educational Outreach

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5 Ag Careers in High Demand

Which ag-related fields will experience the greatest growth in the next few years? Ag companies say the most important reason for focusing on new graduate recruitment is the competition for talent.

5 Ag Careers in High Demand

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