



Act 1131 of 2015
Regional Workforce Implementation Grant

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

DUE JUNE 1, 2016

To:	Arkansas Department of Higher Education
Requesting Institution:	Arkansas State University-Newport
Title of Project:	Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT)
Project Partners:	1. See list of partners in Strength of Partners section and attached letters. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.
Requested Budget:	\$677,000.00
Date Submitted:	6/1/2016
Applicant Contact:	Dr. Holly Ayers
Applicant's Information:	7648 Victory Blvd Newport, AR 72112 870-512-7716 holly_ayers@asun.edu

Authorized Signatures for Institution

Arkansas State University-Newport

Dr. Sandra Massey, Chancellor


Lead Institution


Authorized Official



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY - NEWPORT

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

May 31, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Review Committee:

On behalf of Arkansas State University-Newport, I am both proud and excited to endorse the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) grant. ASUN is committed to being the driving force that revitalizes the Delta and restores the American dream in the communities that we serve. No industry is more critical to Northeast Arkansas than agriculture. It is evident through emerging technologies that farming operations are at a crossroads. Advances in agricultural technology have made farming operations more efficient currently than at any time in history. Adaptation to technology is critical for all sizes of farming operations. However, the technologies required are advanced and complex and agricultural entrepreneurs are struggling to find the qualified workforce needed to allow them to continue operating.

Through the NEA EAT Grant, we have an opportunity to change the region and sustain a need that is critical to the survival of not only Northeast Arkansas, but to our state as well. The timing of this implementation grant is impeccable. Through funding this grant, it will bring about a culmination of filling a dire need that the college has been working on with our local workforce partners.

As an institution, ASU-Newport is fully committing to providing for the needs of the program after the implementation grant has ended. The projected ongoing costs of \$210,000 needed annually to fund the program will be sustained by the college. ASUN will fund the costs of the program through collected tuition and fees from the students enrolling in the program. We will also provide the needed facilities, grounds, and administrative support through existing infrastructure. The revenue collected from the enrollments in the programs will also allow us to maintain and upgrade equipment as needed to ensure we provide the most up to date technology to our students that our workforce partners need.

In closing, we believe the impact of funding this grant will be felt for generations to come. Sustainability indeed takes on a new meaning with this opportunity. We sincerely appreciate your consideration of our grant request and look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Massey".

Sandra Massey, Ed.D.
Chancellor

Act 1131 of 2015

Regional Workforce Implementation Grant Application

*Please complete each section of this application and submit to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education by **June 1, 2016**. Applications should be emailed to ADHE.Workforce.Grant@adhe.edu. Please note that only projects that were awarded a planning grant are eligible to apply for an implementation grant.*

SECTION 1 – PROGRAM NEED

20 Points

Proposals will include a thorough description of the labor needs, as determined by the Local Workforce Development Board, and specifically identify the skills gap employers face in the selected region and will continue to face in the future. Entities seeking grant funds must outline the proposed program and/or equipment needed and how creation of the program and/or acquisition of equipment will address those labor needs.

Essential Components:

- Regional data demonstrating the need for action - provide empirical data that illustrates needs of the local workforce, with a particular emphasis on anticipated or future needs.
- Clear linkages between grant activities and local needs- clearly illustrate how the proposed grant project is directly linked to addressing the workforce needs and deficits of the region. Successful applications will provide a thorough description of the region's high-demand and high-skill industrial occupations, and identify how the proposed activity will address job candidate deficits in those areas. **Applicants must also submit letters of support from at least two area employers for the proposal, citing need and outlining benefits for local industry.**
- Alignment with Arkansas economic and workforce goals- describe how the proposed project will increase overall higher education attainment in the region and provide clear linkages between a postsecondary credential and the needs of employers.

Keep the following rubric in mind when completing this section:

	Exemplary	Superior	Adequate	Needs Improvement
Program Need (20 Pts)	Significantly addresses a top 3 workforce need in the region. (18–20 Pts)	Addresses in a more limited way a top 3 workforce need in the region. (15–17 Pts)	Addresses in a limited way a less critical workforce need in the region. (11–14 Pts)	Identified labor need is too narrow or not in a critical area. (0–10 Pts)

Please enter your answer in the box provided below. Feel free to include any necessary charts, graphs or tables.



1. Regional data demonstrating the need for action – provide empirical data that illustrates needs of the local workforce, with a particular emphasis on anticipated or future needs.

Agriculture is the largest industry in Arkansas and accounts for \$15-20 billion of the state's economy (Arkansas Farm Bureau, 2016; Arkansas Foundation for Agriculture, 2016; U of A Division of Agriculture, 2016). There are currently 43,500 farms in the state of Arkansas covering 13.8 million acres of the state's land (USDA NASS, 2016). The state leads the country in rice and poultry production (Arkansas.com, 2016). It is home to Tyson Foods and Riceland foods, the largest poultry producer and rice miller and marketer in the country respectively. Arkansas also produces a large portion of the country's sorghum, cotton, and soybeans (Arkansas.com, 2016).

About 20% of the state's jobs are related to agricultural production and processing (Arkansas WIOA State Plan, 2016). During the past several decades new technology has been developed rapidly. This new technology has many applications, including the development of equipment used to make farming practices more efficient and cost-effective, the development of new chemicals to eliminate weeds and pests that affect farm regions, and the development of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) designed to thrive under increasing environmental pressures. According to the Arkansas Workforce Development Board (AWDB) "the farms in Arkansas are highly mechanized and few require a significant number of manual laborers" (Arkansas WIOA State Plan, 2016).

The demand for skilled workers for positions such as equipment operators, mechanics, and service technicians, agricultural equipment operators, and chemical equipment operators is expected to increase in Arkansas over the next decade (Figure 1). In addition to knowledge of how to operate new equipment and programs, workers must also understand other developing science related to the application of chemicals and the use of GMOs. Workers must understand and implement appropriate application techniques as new chemicals are developed for use in

farming. Regulation in the safety and use of these chemicals is increasing both at the state and federal level. Additionally, the public is increasingly aware of exposure to chemicals and desire food produced as safely as possible.

GMOs are increasingly in the public spotlight as more crops are modified to be pest resistant, drought resistant, and higher yielding. While these developments help to increase production and provide produce for an ever-expanding global population, people are concerned about the safety of genetically modified foods for consumption as well as their impact on the environment. Farm workers need to understand these new crops and be aware of any regulations on their use and growth.

2. *Clear linkages between grant activities and local needs* – clearly illustrate how the proposed grant project is directly linked to addressing the workforce needs and deficits of the region. Successful applications will provide a thorough description of the region’s high-demand and high-skill industrial occupations, and identify how the proposed activity will address job candidate deficits in those areas.

There are currently 21,801 farm related jobs in the eight counties in Northeast Arkansas served by Arkansas State University Newport (ASUN) (Craighead County, Cross County, Independence County, Jackson County, Lawrence County, Poinsett County, White County, and Woodruff County). Northeast Arkansas is projected to have job growth of 12.14% in the next three years, which is higher than the state average (Arkansas WIOA State Plan, 2016). The projected growth rate of agriculture and forestry related jobs for the state of Arkansas is 6.33% by 2022 (Arkansas WIOA State Plan, 2016), and the occupational classification “farmers, ranchers and other agricultural managers” is projected to increase by 13.76%, more than any other occupation in the state (Figure 2). There is a growing demand for skilled workers, but the educational needs of these workers are not currently being met to full potential by the educational institutions in the area.

3. *Alignment with Arkansas economic and workforce goals* – describe how the proposed project will increase overall higher education attainment in the region and provide clear linkages between a postsecondary credential and the needs of employers.

The objectives described by the AWDB for 2016 for employment and training services for farmworkers and agricultural employers are “to increase the percentage of referrals to agricultural employers; to increase the percentage of agricultural openings filled; to enhance employer/worker job match through the interstate clearance process” (Arkansas WIOA State Plan, 2016). To meet these goals, emerging skills are required in the workforce as agricultural science and technology advances occur. In order to keep up with demands for these new skills, it is important for farming regions to have in place the educational base that prepares people entering the workforce to effectively and efficiently use these skills. Unfortunately, the velocity of the development of new technologies makes it difficult for educational providers to keep up with the types of training programs that are needed unless a concerted effort is made to do so.

The proposed program would provide agricultural science and technology training across three stages of education: in high school agricultural education programs, at the community college level at ASUN, and at the Baccalaureate level at Arkansas State University

(ASTATE). The majority of high schools in the area do not have the capacity to provide modern agricultural education. There are currently no community college programs in the area with an agriculture education program. To be well prepared for the modern job market students in agricultural science need to be well versed in a variety of technologies, from geographical information system (GIS) to precision farming techniques to the safe application of appropriate pesticides and fertilizers to maximize production while minimizing damage to the environment. ASUN would be able to meet this need through existing programs and the development of new courses and programs described in this proposal to meet the needs of modern agricultural education.

Occupation	2012	2022	Change	An Change	% Change	Growth %
Farmers, Ranchers & Other Ag. Managers (In Demand)	5,022	5,713	691	69	13.8	1.3
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	1,272	1,386	114	11	9	0.9
Agricultural Workers	1,202	1,310	108	11	9	0.9
Grounds Maintenance Workers	714	784	70	7	9.8	0.9
Landscaping and Grounds keeping Workers (In Demand)	637	700	63	6	9.9	0.9
Animal Care and Service Workers	148	170	22	2	14.9	1.4
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders (In Demand)	81	103	22	2	27.2	2.4
Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians (In Demand)	111	130	19	2	17.1	1.6
Agricultural and Food Science Technicians (In Demand)	53	66	13	1	24.5	2.2
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers (In Demand)	43	55	12	1	27.9	2.5
Ag. Equipment Operators (In Demand)	162	174	12	1	7.4	0.7
Animal Trainers (In Demand)	71	81	10	1	14.1	1.3
Farm and Home Management Advisors	41	46	5	1	12.2	1.2

Figure 1. Projected percent growth in agricultural related occupations in Arkansas from 2012 to 2022 (from www.discoverarkansas.net).

**Top Ten Growth Occupations, 2012-2022
Ranked by Net Growth**

Occupation	2012 Base Employment	2022 Projected Employment	Net Growth	% Growth
Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	5,022	5,713	691	13.76
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	2,247	2,918	671	29.86
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	2,231	2,647	416	18.65
Personal Care Aides	851	1,259	408	47.94
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	935	1,242	307	32.83
Team Assemblers	2,995	3,301	306	10.22
Registered Nurses	1,747	2,046	299	17.12
Nursing Assistants	1,786	2,055	269	15.06
Waiters and Waitresses	1,375	1,625	250	18.18
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,952	2,187	235	12.04

Figure 2. Top ten growth occupations in Arkansas from 2012 to 2022 (from www.discoverarkansas.net).

Please review this video created during the Planning Grant:

<https://youtu.be/KEh4-SVDq0E>

References

- Arkansas.com. *www.arkansas.com*. Accessed May 31, 2016.
- Arkansas Farm Bureau "Arkansas Farming Facts." *www.arfb.com/for-consumers/arkansas-ag-facts*. Accessed May 31, 2016.
- Arkansas Foundation for Agriculture. "Economy/Jobs." *http://www.growingarkansas.org*. Accessed May 31, 2016.
- Arkansas Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan. Program Years 2016-2019. April, 2016. *www.dws.arkansas.gov*. Accessed May 31, 2016.
- Discover Arkansas. *www.discoverarkansas.net*. Accessed May 31, 2016.
- USDA NASS. United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service. "Arkansas Number of Farms, Average Farm Size and Land in Farms." Updated February 18, 2016. *http://www.nass.usda.gov/ar/*. Accessed May 31, 2016.
- University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Research and Extension. "Economic Contribution of Arkansas Agriculture 2014." *www.dividion.uaex.edu*. Accessed May 31, 2016.

SECTION 2 – PROGRAM PLAN**25 Points**

Program plans must be designed to meet the goals and core requirements of the Regional Workforce Grants program as well as the following Essential Components:

- Detailed project timeline and overview- provide a month-by-month overview of the critical convenings, activities, and actions that will comprise the project.
- Measurable objectives for each phase of the project- detail the metrics utilized throughout the project to track how credentialed job candidates possessing the skills needed by employers will be provided.
- Project governance and accountability plan- clearly describe the plan for governance, meetings, and decision-making structure; identify a project director; and identify members of a project steering committee that will maintain oversight throughout the project period.
- Pathways articulation and support- clearly describe the educational pathway(s) and support services that will be developed, or existing pathways that will be enhanced, to meet the identified workforce needs. Pathways should incorporate all appropriate student outcomes from short-term industry-recognized credentials through the highest certificate or degree programs appropriate to the identified career goals and include career step-out points at the completion of each credential.
- Role of equipment request- required only for those proposals seeking equipment purchases. Outline how equipment purchase will specifically address local labor market needs; provide detailed description of equipment, educational value of equipment in preparing workforce, and justification for purchase.
NOTE: Equipment may not be purchased during the planning phase
- Performance assessment- clearly define measurable outcomes to be achieved through implementation of the plan and strategies to measure and report achievement of those outcomes. Priority will be given to programs which prepare candidates for high wage jobs or which create capacity to move candidates from unemployment to employment.
- Program plans must be designed to meet the goals and core requirements of the Regional Workforce Grants program. At a minimum, the plan must include a detailed project timeline and overview, measurable objectives for each phase of the project, a project governance and accountability plan, pathways articulation and support, the role of any equipment requested, and a performance assessment.

Keep the following rubric in mind when completing this section:

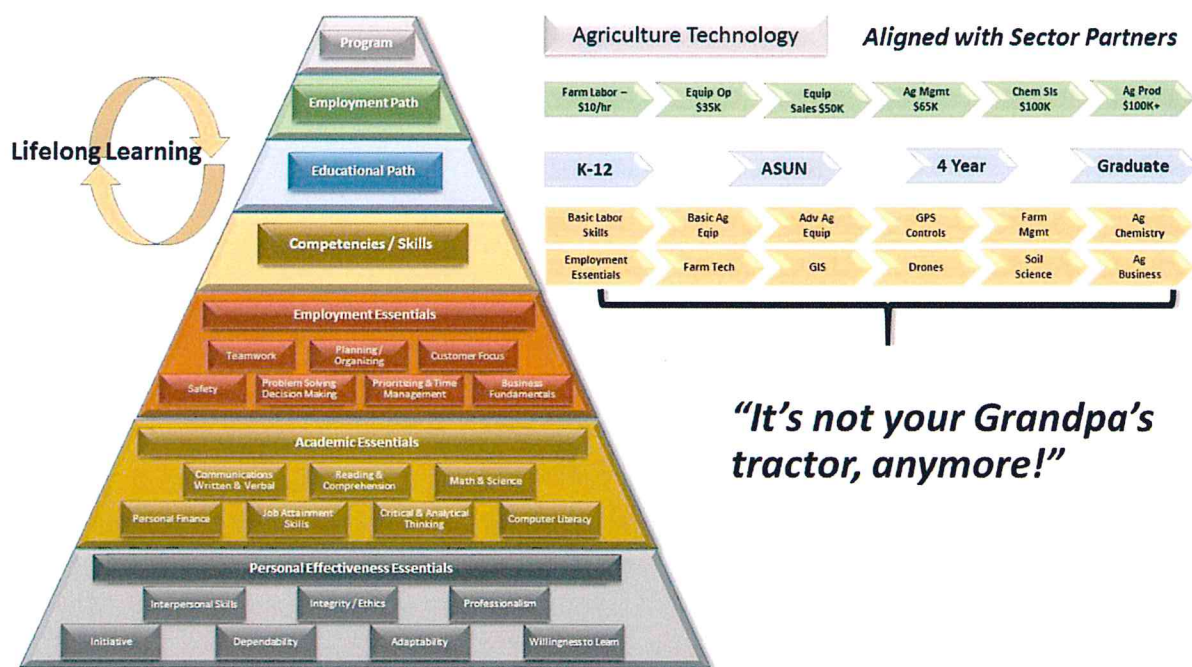
	Exemplary	Superior	Adequate	Needs Improvement
Program Plan (25 Pts)	Plan addresses all goals and core requirements and properly connects all activities to measurable outcomes that address workforce needs. (22–25 Pts)	Plan addresses most goals and requirements and substantially connects activities to measurable outcomes. (18–21 Pts)	Plan addresses many goals and requirements and connects some activities to measurable outcomes. (14–17 Pts)	Plan lacks significant requirements or connections of activities to measurable outcomes are not clear. (0–13 Pts)

Please enter your answer in the box provided below. Feel free to include any necessary charts, graphs or tables.

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Program Plan: Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) Initiative

Pathways Articulation and Support



Mission, Goals, and Objectives

Mission

The Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative will create a collaborative process to address the current and future workforce training needs of the Agriculture and Food Production industries in Northeast Arkansas.

Goals

1. Enhance agriculture curriculum in partner high schools to emphasize Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) disciplines.
2. Develop a collaborative workforce development training program that will mitigate the skills gap for mid-level farm and food production workers.
3. Create an integrated educational pathway for regional workers that seek employment in farm management, seed and chemical industry management, crop consulting, or other agriculture related management fields.

Goal 1: High school students and recent high school graduates have traditionally filled the entry level agriculture jobs in Northeast Arkansas. As agriculture practices have become more sophisticated, a skills gap has emerged and these entry level positions have become seasonal general labor with workers paid minimum wage with no benefits. Regional producers (letters of support attached) have committed to pay \$10.00 to \$12.00 hourly wages for entry level workers if they are able to demonstrate good work ethic and use of existing farm technology.

Objective 1: Enhance existing programs in partner high schools (\$20,000 for each partner high school = \$140,000)

- Investigate the Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE) as an instructional system for regional high schools. This curriculum is recommended by the National Science Foundation. Through its system of professional development, curriculum, assessment and certification, CASE equips teachers to elevate student experiences in the agriculture classroom, and prepares students for success in college and careers emphasizing science, technology, engineering, and math.
- Faculty from ASUN will visit each partner high school program each semester.
 - Participate in advisory committees
 - Team teach and assist in STEM disciplines
 - Provide instruction in team building, critical thinking, and conflict resolution to develop required employability skills for students.

Objective 2: Mobile Precision Agriculture Lab (\$85,000)

- ASUN will establish a Mobile Precision Agriculture Lab. During the planning grant, ASUN researched precision agriculture programs in community colleges with similar regional needs. Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls, Iowa has developed a very successful mobile precision agriculture lab. We will use their lab as a model.
- The lab will include a scout utility vehicle with precision agriculture systems including auto steer, variable flow chemical application rate, auto swath, and various GPS signal types. The unit includes a 20' trailer with a flat screen TV and media system for use as a mobile classroom.
- The unit will be used for instruction in chemical applications for pest/weed control, surveying/marketing levees, knowledge and use of GPS/GIS units, use of auto steer technology and use and maintenance of equipment.

Goal 2. Full-time farm workers in our region can earn up to \$42,000 annually and are provided transportation, a cell phone and insurance. There are currently no college programs in Northeast Arkansas designed to deliver skills required for these positions. Seed production and storage, crop insurance, implement companies and consulting services are also target employers (letters of support attached).

Objective 1: Create an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Agriculture at Arkansas State University—Newport (ASUN).

- Will include a pathway for a Certificate of Proficiency in Precision Agriculture-
- Will include a pathway for a Technical Certificate in Precision Agriculture
- Program completers will earn a Class A Commercial Driver's License
- Program completers will earn industry certifications in basic service maintenance

Objective 2: Hire an applied science agriculture instructor/ EAT program coordinator (\$56,000 year 1/\$58,000 year 2)

- Coordinate with EAT partners and be responsible for grant reporting
- Instruct/oversee courses in the AAS Agriculture
- Coordinate collaborative learning/apprenticeships with local producers
- Will also support Goal 3

Objective 3: Purchase instructional equipment for workforce skill development (\$100,000).

- ASUN has 2 mid-size tractors with various attachments, but will need to purchase one tractor designed for auto steer technology. This will be a platform for technology training and will not be used for crop production, local implement companies believe this platform should have a training life up to 10 years.
- Purchase auto steer software/equipment. This equipment should be sufficient for up to 5 years with software updates.
- Will also support Goal 3.

Objective 4: Build equipment storage facility/pole barn. (\$60,000) Facility will be required to maintain life cycle of equipment and as a lab for equipment use and maintenance. Will also support Goal 3.

Objective 5: Collaborate with high school partners to develop coursework that will articulate into the AAS Agriculture and/or may be offered as concurrent credit.

Objective 6: Provide wrap around student services (\$20,000). 75% of the workforce in our region require remedial coursework in Math and Science. For this initiative to be successful, we will need to include tutoring and support services in the project.

Goal 3. Currently there are no educational pathways for regional workers that allows them to continue their employment while they pursue training that will lead to a position in farm management, consulting, seed and/or chemical industry management or independent agriculture producer. Managers in agriculture and agriculture related fields can earn from \$65,000 up to \$100,000 if they complete a Bachelor's or Master's degree and have applicable experience.

Objective 1: Create an Associate of Science Degree that will articulate to a university Bachelor of Science in Agriculture.

- Collaborate with Dean of Engineering and Agriculture at ASTATE to develop an appropriate transfer curriculum.
- Establish a Memorandum of Agreement with 4 year universities to accept the AS Agriculture.

Objective 2: Hire an Agriculture Faculty with credentials to teach transfer coursework. (\$52,000 year 1 and \$53,000 year 2 for salary only. ASUN will pay all fringe benefits)

- Must have a Masters or higher in Agriculture, Plant Science, or Agriculture Technology
- ASUN will pay all benefits (Approximately \$16,000 per year)

Agriculture Educational / Skills / Earnings Pathways

Educational Pathway		Competencies / Earnings		Employment Pathway / Partners
K-12 Partners	Ag Science	\$10 – 12 / HR	Basic Labor / \$10 – 12	Producers / Farmers
	Concurrent Programs	\$30 – 40K / YR	Equipment Operators / \$30K – 32K / Year (plus vehicle, fuel, clothing, housing) Higher earnings with experience	Cooperatives
ASUN	CP / TC / AAS	\$50K / YR	Chemical / Equipment / Seed Sales - \$50K/year	Equipment Dealers / Manufacturers
	CDL			Chemical / Seed companies – Ex. Helena
ASTATE	BS / MS AG	\$60 – 70K / YR	Farm Management \$65K / Year (plus vehicle, fuel, clothing, housing)	Riceland, Busch
	AG Business	\$100K + / YR	Independent Ag Business – Earnings in 6 figures	Ritter Ag

Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) Project Timeline

July, 2016	Notice of Approval and Permission to Proceed NEA EAT Announces Project Director Position
August, 2016	1 st Funding Disbursement (25%) Project Director Hired 1 st Meeting High School Equipment Committee
September, 2016	Steering Committee Meets w/ New Director New program proposals sent to ADHE AS Agriculture AAS Agriculture TC Precision Agriculture CP Precision Agriculture
October, 2016	1 st Quarterly Meeting of EAT Steering Committee Submit bids for instructional equipment
November, 2016	
December, 2016	Quarterly Report Due to Project Director
January, 2017	2 nd Funding Disbursement (25%) Purchase instructional Equipment 2 nd Quarterly Meeting of NEAC ³ Steering Committee 1 st semester for ASUN Agriculture courses
February, 2017	Recommendations from High School Equipment Committee And aligned curriculum
March, 2017	Quarterly Report Due to Project Director Marketing campaign for partner High School seniors to transition to ASUN/ASTATE
April, 2017	3 rd Quarterly Meeting of EAT Steering Committee Approve High School Equipment requests
May, 2017	Place bids for High School equipment
June, 2017	Quarterly Report Due to Project Director Purchase High School Equipment
July, 2017	4 th Quarterly Meeting of EAT Steering Committee Precision Agriculture High School Summers camp
August, 2017	3 rd Funding Disbursement (25%)
September, 2017	Quarterly Report Due to Project Director Interim Report Due to ADHE
October, 2017	5 th Quarterly Meeting of NEAC ³ Steering Committee High-lights of Interim Report Presented to EAT Partnership
November, 2017	
December, 2017	Quarterly Report Due to Project Director
January, 2018	4 th Funding Disbursement (25%) 6 th Quarterly Meeting of EAT Steering Committee
February, 2018	
March, 2018	Quarterly Report Due to Project Director
April, 2018	7 th Quarterly Meeting of EAT Steering Committee
May, 2018	Update and Distribution of Survey to Regional Employers
June, 2018	Quarterly Report Due to Project Director
July, 2018	8 th Quarterly Meeting of EAT Steering Committee Precision Agriculture Summer Camp 1 st Cooperative Learning Term
August, 2018	EAT Survey Findings Distributed Project High-lights Report Presented to EAT Partnership Implementation Grant Project Ends

Measurable Objectives – Participant (Student) Outcomes

The numbers in the table below represent Northeast Arkansas EAT’s composite targeted participant outcomes. The projected outcomes data are also available for each year of the implementation grant period. Each partner’s shares of the projected outcomes data will be included in a Memorandum of Agreement between ASU Newport and each of the partner high schools and Arkansas State University. EAT will implement a tracking system which applies consistent data definitions, and the partners will report participant data at designated intervals.

Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) Participant Outcomes	
Outcome	Participants
High School Students Served	280
High School Students Matriculated to ASUN	40
Academic Credentials Attained	50
Industry Certifications Attained	80
Work Based Learning	20
Employment	100
Transfer to University	20

Project Governance and Accountability

Arkansas State University-Newport will manage the grant and be responsible for fiscal and administrative processes. Northeast Arkansas EAT fiscal, programmatic, and reporting processes will be implemented through memoranda of understanding between Arkansas State University-Newport and the Northeast Arkansas EAT partner high schools and will be in compliance with state procurement regulations and Workforce Initiative Act grant requirements.

Meetings will be held no less than quarterly and will focus on project administration, accountability, and the accrual, monitoring, and reporting of data and other information related to project outcomes. These meetings are exclusive of meetings designed to present outcomes and engage stakeholders across the region.

The Northeast Arkansas EAT initiative will hire a Program Coordinator to be named upon receiving the grant. The Program Coordinator will be responsible for ensuring the project stays on schedule, that project partners share information and resources, that joint activities are arranged and well publicized for the benefit of partners and other stakeholders, that the project is monitored for maximizing outcomes, that project data is collected and aggregated quarterly, and that reports and requests for information are submitted or responded to in a timely fashion.

The project will draw on the existing Northeast Arkansas EAT network of industry, advisory councils, training consortiums, post-secondary consortiums, K-12 educational cooperatives, and other partners to identify and recruit additional partners for addressing workforce needs. The project Steering Committee will maintain oversight of the initiative and will be comprised of representatives from the ASUN, ASTATE, local producers and local industry leaders. They will seek input and guidance from other Northeast Arkansas EAT partners as needed.

The Steering Committee will include the following:

Committee Chair: Dr. Sandra Massey, Ed.D, Chancellor, ASUN or designated representative

Vice Chair: ASUN Dean for Applied Science, Mr. Robert P. Summers

ASTATE: Dr. Timothy N. Burcham, P.E., Ph.D., Dean, College of Agriculture and Technology

Local Producer: Mr. Dennis Haigwood

Local Producer: Mr. Tommy Young

Local Industry Leader: Mr. Randy Cooper

Local Industry Leader: Mr. Randy Chlapecka

Newport Schools Superintendent: Dr. Larry Bennet

Jackson County Schools Superintendent: Mr. Chester Shannon

Northeast Arkansas Career and Readiness Center: Mr. Eddie Crain, Director

ASUN Assistant Professor of Agriculture Science: To be named after the grant has been awarded

High School Equipment Committee: The Superintendent of each partner School District will appoint a representative on the High School Equipment Committee. They will select a Chair and Recorder during the first meeting. ASUN will appoint a non-voting advisor that for this committee.

Role of Equipment Requested:

Equipment costs were included in the associated Goals and their supporting Objectives to demonstrate their importance on student learning and their projected impact on our regional labor market. There are no high school agriculture programs that include precision agriculture in Northeast Arkansas and there are no community colleges in Arkansas that have a program of study that includes precision agriculture. We have clearly stated the need for a modern agriculture program in Northeast Arkansas and have demonstrated that there is a

growing skills gap in agriculture related industry. The main cause of this growing skills gap is the prohibitive cost of training. The primary cost for a startup training program is equipment.

The Northeast Arkansas EAT partners realize that no single partner could sustain equipment costs with current emerging technology trends. The equipment funded through this grant will be shared by each education partner and will support students in a five county service area. Our local producers have signed letters of support that commit millions of dollars in equipment for training and cooperative learning experience. Our students need a basic understanding of the equipment, its operation, and general service maintenance prior to using equipment that is used on operational farms.

We are requesting the following equipment:

1. One tractor with functional auto steer package and implements for tilling, planting, and spraying. Our partners have assured us that they can provide this package for \$100,000, which would be a significant discount. (See Attachment)
2. Mobile Precision Lab: This lab will include an All-Terrain Vehicle chassis (we have a quote for a John Deere Gator), auto steer package with various GPS/GIS packages for surveying, and functional spray rig with variable spray package. The lab will be housed and transported in a 20ft box trailer (built by Delta Trailer in Newport, AR) that will also house a portable monitoring platform. (See Attachment)
3. We are allocating up to \$20,000 for each participating high school to use toward establishing PACE curriculum. Originally we had planned for each school to develop a program for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Agriculture applications. We discovered during the planning phase that the Federal Aviation Administration considers all Agriculture related UAV use as commercial. All commercial use requires an FAA exemption and requires that the operator be a licensed pilot. The Northeast Arkansas EAT partners determined that we would establish a High School Equipment Committee to evaluate equipment if the grant is awarded. The Committee would work collaboratively to determine appropriate equipment that will support integrated training throughout the EAT service area and leverage pricing by purchasing similar equipment.

SECTION 3 – STRENGTH OF PARTNERSHIP**20 Points**

Proposals are required to address how the program plan incorporates each of the mandatory partners, as identified above, in a meaningful role.

Essential Components:

- Detailed description of role of each partner in implementation of the project- describe how each partner will carry out components of the grant project; provide a description of assigned tasks for each of the mandatory partners; identify specific personnel and the roles they will play throughout the project; describe the integration of each role into the overall project; and describe the process for implementing fully articulated pathways from K-12 through a baccalaureate degree, as appropriate.
- Capabilities of each partner in ensuring project success- discuss the unique strengths of each partner in executing planned proposal; describe how each partner is qualified to participate in the proposed project and how each partners strengthens the overall partnership.
- Consideration of all potential partners in the region – describe the process for identifying each selected partner, including the consideration of regional community colleges, universities, public schools, education service cooperatives, businesses and industries, career and technical education programs, multidistrict vocational centers, and private partnerships.

Keep the following rubric in mind when completing this section:

	Exemplary	Superior	Adequate	Needs Improvement
Strength of Partnership (20 Pts)	Plan includes broad representation and each partner has a defined role with identified critical contributions. (18–20 Pts)	Plan includes broad representation but partner roles are not clearly defined. (15–17 Pts)	Plan lacks one or two important partners or not all partners are critical to success of the plan. (11–14 Pts)	Partner participation is too narrow or some partners do not contribute meaningfully. (0–10 Pts)

Please enter your answer in the box provided below. Feel free to include any necessary charts, graphs or tables.

Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT)
Initiative Partners

Education Partners

Arkansas State University-Newport
Arkansas State University Jonesboro
Nettleton High School
Harrisburg School District
McCrory School District
Newport School District
Jackson County School District
Marked Tree School District
Northeast Arkansas Career & Technical Center

Program Coordinator

Producers

Holden Conner Company
G&G Farms
Haigwood Family Farms
Rutledge & Rutledge Farms
Connie J Waters
Generation Three Partnership Farms
Eagle Lake Farms
Currier Farms

Industry Partners

Young's Irrigation & Equipment, Inc
Ritter Agribusiness
Farmers Supply Association
Helena Chemical Company
Greenway Equipment
Farmers Oil Corporation
BrASE, LLC
Farm Bureau
University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service
Crop Production Services

Legislative Partners

City of Newport

Ronald Caldwell- State Senator

Rick Crawford- State Representative, District 1

Michael John Gray, State Representative, District 47

Workforce Development Partners

John Chadwell, Director of Newport Economic Development Commission

White River Planning & Development District, Inc.

Agriculture remains the economic underpinning of the Northeast Arkansas-Delta region. The industry of agribusiness has within the past two decades undergone enormous technological changes, yet education providers have not kept pace with these changes nor have they revised their curriculum to meet the changing demands and needs of the agribusiness community. As one of our farming partners said, "Mules are just a memory." This grant addresses filling this important gap through a strong alignment of partners.

ASUN has assembled a team of dedicated individuals who bring years of knowledge and expertise to the table and comprise the partners in this alliance for this initiative and pledge their support:

* ASUN's own administrative team: Chancellor, Dr. Sandra Massey; Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Holly Ayers; Vice Chancellor for Workforce and Economic Development, Charles Appleby; and Dean of Applied Sciences, Robert Summers. These four alone account for more than 150 years of combined leadership, management, and administrative experience.

* Arkansas State University (ASTATE), College of Agriculture and Technology, headed by Dr. Timothy Burcham;

* U.S. Senator John Boozman, U.S. Congressman Rick Crawford, Arkansas Senator Ronald Caldwell, and Arkansas State Representative, Michael John Gray, legislators from the Northeast Arkansas-Delta region which these schools serve;

* Northeast Arkansas Career and Technical Center;

* Six K-12 CTE/ school district partners;

* The White River Planning and Development District, Inc., the Newport Economic Development Commission, and Ritter Agribusiness;

* Eight area producers that own or control over 150,000 acres of production farmland.

* Ten Regional Agri-Business leaders that represent chemical, seed, consulting, and insurance services.

The agricultural sector that comprises Northeast Arkansas EAT includes five prominent, local farming families whose holdings represent more than 150,000 acres of Northeast Arkansas-Delta farm land currently under crops. These partner farmers all come from multi-generation farm-owning families, one going back to the establishment of the state of Arkansas. The land and farming are in their blood. Their commitment to keeping Arkansas a major agricultural producing state and keeping the brightest and the best of our children in Arkansas is sincere and unwavering. Our partners all believe that to build a stronger, better Arkansas tomorrow, we need to retain our youth. To do this, we must offer them an opportunity to a better life and gainful employment. The letters of commitment are appended at the end of this proposal.

This partnership envisions a pathway to meet the needs of our agricultural community. Agriculture is the heart of our area's economic development. The commitment to strengthening and supporting the agricultural sector is evidenced in the letters from our legislators. This coalition is erected on three building blocks to provide a strong educational agriculture technology program that will, in turn, provide credentialed workers who meet the needs of all the members of this alliance:

- * Partners who help with determining the real world need;
- * Partners who will close the partner-identified skills gaps;
- * Partners who will be the employers of this product: credentialed completers. These are the youth of the Northeast-Delta who will remain in Arkansas by virtue of increased agricultural productivity and a revitalized, thriving Delta.

Representatives from the Workforce Development Boards, the Economic Development Boards, and the agribusiness community have already come together to identify and clearly define the gaps. They have already presented real world needs and have met with ASUN to discuss best practices needed to formulate the parameters of this project. The first goal of this coalition was to obtain a clear understanding of the gaps in education and training to meet the needs of today's agricultural world and to identify the entire supply chain as it pertains to our region. These members are committed to continue to serve as an advisory board throughout the entire project.

ASUN will be the training collaborator and interface for the K-12 partners, A-State College of Agriculture and Technology; and the workforce and agribusiness community alliance. ASUN will integrate the partners into an educational pathway continuum that moves students from K-12 through employment. ASUN and all our partners will work together to develop and implement the EAT strategy and curriculum. This continuum will allow students to enter and exit to employment and then to re-enter to further advance their careers.

Core elements will begin with an assessment of existing skills and skill gaps. Students with skill deficiencies will be offered wrap around services. These will be addressed through basic skills instruction, student support, and will have ultimately a certification based on best practices. ASUN will, in conjunction with the Workforce Development Board and the Agribusiness Advisory Board, develop an agricultural workforce readiness program. ASUN will also work with A-State's College of Agriculture and Technology to provide a seamless

pathway for a four year degree if students wish to pursue that option rather than going immediately into the workplace.

ASUN presently is engaged in a robust, vibrant concurrent program partnerships with the K-12 schools in their service area. These collaborations have been integral to the ASUN-K-12 concurrent career pathway model since 2002. ASUN has served more than 5000 enrollments in little more than a decade and anticipates a record-breaking 1000 enrollments for Fall Term 2105 and Spring 2016. ASUN believes that this shows how well we work with our K-12 partners to help their students succeed.

The secondary technical center and concurrent enrollment programs with the eight high schools in our area that have not career and technical centers are the means by which high school CTE students participate in college technical programs as the entry point to earning Certificates of Proficiency, Technical Certificates, and often the Associate of Applied Sciences. Those high school students who will participate in this program will earn concurrent college credits that will position them to scale the stackable credentials pathway that will ultimately lead to good jobs working or to continue in the agribusiness field at a four year university. At every level, the agribusiness partners will be integrated into the program so that ASUN can provide earning outcomes for both the students and the region.

The EAT career pathway model includes a pipeline for high school students to enter into college technical programs through either a secondary technical center such as the Northeast Arkansas Career and Technical Center or from the concurrent CTE programs at the five participating high schools. These schools will engage with ASUN in this initiative in several ways:

- * Student Participation in concurrent college credit opportunities, including a career pathway that leads either to further education at both the two year and four year level or to gainful employment in the agricultural field.
- * Collaboration with ASUN faculty and staff in student recruitment, activities, and promotions of targeted pathways such as classroom presentations, parent nights, Future Farmers of America activities, college/program tours, and New Student Orientations.
- * Collaboration with Career Coach Program and activities.
- * Participation in ASUN's one credit hour College and Life Skills class to help students learn college and real world survival skills.
- * Access to students regarding admission/enrollment, financial aid, assessment measures, and other college-related processes to prepare these students for success.
- * Collaboration with Career Pathways to assist in providing their clients with opportunities in the agricultural technological fields.
- * Collaboration with workforce and agribusiness partners to assure CTE programs and employment relevance.

- * Participation on planning discussion.

The workforce and agribusiness employer level of engagement will vary based on capacity and time involved as indicated by their letters of commitment; future employer partners will assume significant roles:

- * Hiring of qualified credentialed graduates
- * Preferential hiring consideration of qualified credential graduates
- * Interviews with graduates and new completers
- * Mentoring
- * Work-based experiences; e.g. job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships, etc.
- * Subject matter expertise; such as, guest speakers in classes, event judges, skills requirements, and /or feedback regarding program content and direction; assessment, and credentials
- * Workplace tours
- * Participating in job and career fairs
- * Provision of program resources: career based materials, shop/lab supplies, equipment, instructors, and/or other donations
- * Participation in planning discussions.

The attached letters of support provide evidence of the strength of commitment pledged by the Northeast Arkansas EAT alliance.

SECTION 4 – BUDGET PLAN**15 Points**

Proposals will include a detailed financial plan that maximizes efficient use of existing resources and a completed budget template.

Essential Components:

- Clear alignment between funding request and grant activities- detailed discussion of how each component of the grant budget supports the goals and stated outcomes of the program.
- Institutions may request up to \$1 million over two years that will provide resources to implement approved Phase 1 projects.
- Local match of at least 10% of the total request, with a maximum cap of \$50,000- all proposals will include a plan for local funding to match 10% of the total grant proposal. For example, a grant requesting \$400,000 in funding would be required to provide \$40,000 in matching funds. However, the local match is capped at \$50,000, meaning grants in excess of \$500,000 will have the same match as a \$500,000 project.

Note: With a submitted written commitment and payment guarantee from an industry partner, internship wages paid during the initial twenty-four (24) months of this program may be used to offset the local match amount on a dollar-to-dollar basis. Additionally, wages paid to incumbent workers of the employer while enrolled in academic training may be deducted from the match as well. Any entity wishing to utilize this method of funding the match must include the appropriate documentation with their proposal and, if selected for funding, will be monitored to ensure compliance.

Keep the following rubric in mind when completing this section:

	Exemplary	Superior	Adequate	Needs Improvement
Budget Plan (15 Pts)	Plan identifies efficiencies that take full advantage of existing human and physical resources and all requested resources clearly support the goals of the plan. (13-15 Pts)	Plan includes significant efficiencies from existing resources and all requested resources clearly support the goals of the plan. (10-12 Pts)	Plan includes limited efficiencies from existing resources or includes some questionable resource requests. (7-9 Pts)	Budget includes limited or no existing resources from partners or includes requests deemed unnecessary. (0-6 Pts)

Section 4.1 – Budget Plan Detail

Please provide your detailed financial plan in the box below.

**Total Budget Request is \$677,000 with most costs incurred in FY17.
Projected sustainability by year 3.**

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP SUPPORT COSTS

A1. Personnel/Stipend

\$235,000 (108,000, FY17; 125,000, FY18)

Salary/fringe benefits/stipends: Project Director/AAS Faculty (\$56,000 FY 17/ \$58,000 FY18)

: Agriculture Faculty (\$52,000 FY17/\$53,000 FY18)

ASUN will pay fringe benefits for this position.

:Adjunct Salary (0 FY17; 20,000 FY18)

A2. Travel

\$8,000 (\$4,000, FY17; \$4,000, FY18)

Grant-related travel, such as meetings, workshops, conferences, dissemination of the EAT marketing materials.

A3. Other

\$16,000 (\$8,000, FY17; \$8,000, FY18)

Purchase class set for Ag Leader Precision Agriculture education software package.

OTHER DIRECT COSTS

B1. Equipment

\$325,000 All equipment will be purchased during FY 17.

1. One tractor with functional auto steer package and implements for tilling, planting, and spraying. Our partners have assured us that they can provide this package for \$100,000, which would be a significant discount. (See Attachment)
2. Mobile Precision Lab: (\$85,000) This lab will include an All-Terrain Vehicle chassis (we have a quote for a John Deere Gator), auto steer package with various GPS/GIS packages for surveying, and functional spray rig with variable spray package. The lab will be housed and transported in a 20ft box trailer (built by Delta Trailer in Newport, AR) that will also house a portable monitoring platform. (See Attachment)
3. We are allocating up to \$20,000 for each participating high school to use toward establishing PACE curriculum. Originally we had planned for each school to develop a program for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Agriculture applications. We discovered during the planning phase that the Federal Aviation Administration considers all Agriculture related UAV use as commercial. All commercial use requires an FAA exemption and requires that the operator be a licensed pilot. The Northeast Arkansas EAT partners determined that we would establish a High School Equipment Committee to evaluate equipment if the grant is awarded. The Committee

would work collaboratively to determine appropriate equipment that will support integrated training throughout the EAT service area and leverage pricing by purchasing similar equipment.

B2. Materials and Supplies

\$45,000 (\$20,000, FY17; \$25,000, FY18)

Cost of program materials and supplies for Precision Agriculture will include, but are not limited to, instructor instructional supplies, fuel, lubricants, classroom lab supplies, seeds, and chemicals.

B3. Publication Costs/Documentation/Dissemination

\$8,000 (\$5,000, FY17; \$3,000, FY18)

The Northeast Arkansas EAT partners have developed a logo and branding during the Planning grant. Each participating schools with have banners supporting the initiative as well as pamphlets and handouts. Promotional materials including decals will be distributed to agri-business partners. Set up fees will be incurred during year 1.

B4. Consultant Services

None

B5. Other

Student Services support: \$20,000 (\$10,000 FY17; \$10,000 FY18)

Wrap around student support services for Agriculture students. This program initiative will require students to have a high level of proficiency in Math and Science. Over 75% of the students in our region require remedial coursework in Math and Science.

Cost Sharing/Required Local Match

ASUN will pay fringe benefits for the Assistant Professor of Agriculture
\$32,000

We have 7 high school partners that have a dedicated Agriculture Teacher that have committed to this initiative: \$210,000

ASUN has over 80 acres on the Newport campus that will be used for equipment labs, will be dedicating a classroom with plant science lab, 2 medium size tractors, an equipment storage facility of approximately 8,000 square feet, and a 40 acres of tillable land at our Marked Tree campus for this project. Estimated contribution in excess of \$100,000

Each partner high school has a dedicated Agriculture lab and classroom, Nettleton has a 40 acre facility with shop and equipment, Newport has two labs with tractors and equipment.

Our partner producers have committed to 20 internships, over 50,000 acres of farmland for lab use, and use of equipment that would be valued well over a million dollars.

Section 4.2 – Budget Plan Template

Please complete the budget template below. Totals will calculate automatically based on your input. Institutions may request up to \$1 million in grant funding for Phase 2 Projects.

Requesting Institution:	Arkansas State University-Newport
Title of Project:	Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology

A. PROGRAM LEADERSHIP SUPPORT COSTS

1. Personnel/Stipend	\$255,000.00
2. Travel	\$8,000.00
3. Other (Explain Below)	\$16,000.00
Briefly Explain Other Costs	
TOTAL PARTNER PARTICIPANT COSTS	\$279,000.00

B. OTHER DIRECT COSTS

1. Equipment	\$325,000.00
2. Materials and Supplies	\$45,000.00
3. Publication Costs/Documentation/Dissemination	\$8,000.00
4. Consultant Services	\$0.00
5. Other (Explain Below)	\$20,000.00
Briefly Explain Other Costs	
TOTAL OTHER DIRECT COSTS	\$398,000.00

C. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS (A & B)**\$677,000.00****D. COST SHARING (Minimum 10% of C; up to \$50,000)****\$342,000.00****Total Implementation Grant Budget****\$1,019,000.00***Other Notes*

Memoranda of Agreement will be executed between ASUN and each partner high school. Each partner high school's detailed working budget will be included, and financial reporting/reimbursement requests will occur on quarterly basis. If funded, ASUN will seek permission from ADHE to administer a reasonable measure of line item flexibility, so that the partners can be fully responsive to unanticipated project needs and the use of funds can be maximized to benefit the initiative.

**Other costs explained in Budget Plan Detail*

SECTION 5 - SUSTAINABILITY**20 Points**

Proposals will include a commitment and detailed plan for sustaining grant activities beyond the twenty-four (24) month implementation period. Equipment requests will clearly specify how purchased equipment will continue to be linked to addressing labor and workforce needs beyond the grant period.

Essential Components:

- Detailed plan for sustaining the program beyond the twenty-four (24) month implementation grant funding period- describe how the work supported by this grant will continue beyond the grant period; outline the roles and funding sources of each partner after the grant period.
- Detailed plan for maintaining communication and sharing resources among all the program partners beyond the twenty-four (24) month funding period;
- Identify availability of long-term resources to maintain and/or repair any equipment requested.
- Describe plan for redistribution of equipment to meet additional workforce needs once the employer needs addressed by the proposal have been satisfied.

	Exemplary	Superior	Adequate	Needs Improvement
Sustainability (20 Pts)	Identifies existing resources to continue the program with no reduction in services at the end of grant funding period. (18–20 Pts)	Identifies significant resources to continue the program with limited reduction in services at the end of grant funding period. (15-17 Pts)	Identifies limited resources to continue the program or proposes significant reduction in services at the end of grant funding period. (11-14 Pts)	New funding sources must be identified for continuation of program at the end of grant funding. (0-10 Pts)

Please enter your answer in the box provided below. Feel free to include any necessary charts, graphs or tables.

Sustainability

Each of the Northeast Arkansas EAT workforce training partners has a proven record for sustaining programs.

Each of the high school partners have agriculture programs that are well established and have robust student enrollment. There programs are already sustainable, but they need assistance from this initiative to become relevant in the current highly technical agriculture workplace.

Newport High School: In 2015, Newport High School was recognized as the top agriculture program in a seven state area. Newport employs two Agriculture instructors and averages over 200 students in their programs each year. Newport HS has initiated an Agriculture Power Plants program that is being used as a model for programs across the state. They also have a strong animal husbandry program. In order to stay relevant and support our regional workforce, they have joined this initiative to begin a precision agriculture program. Newport School District was recently selected as a School of Innovation and their students will have flexible schedules that will allow them to attend college and workforce programs during the normal school day.

<http://www.newportschools.org/>

Tuckerman High School: Tuckerman High School has a strong agriculture and Future Farmers of America program. They often win state competitions and have sent students to national competition for the past 5 years. Tuckerman HS averages over 100 students in their agriculture programs each year. Mr. Chester Shannon, Superintendent, has established workforce training as a priority for the Jackson County School District. As of May 2016, Tuckerman hired an Agriculture teacher that has a Master's degree in Plant Science and has taught at the community college level.

<http://bulldogs.k12.ar.us/>

McCrory High School: McCrory's agriculture program is one of the most popular programs on their campus. Their class enrollment is over 100 annually. They currently teach traditional agriculture science and agriculture mechanics courses but are adding precision agriculture to meet the growing needs of their community.

<http://www.mccrory.k12.ar.us/>

Harrisburg High School: Harrisburg School District incorporated the Wiener School District in 2011. Both districts have a strong tradition of agriculture education and this initiative will help residents from both former districts find a common purpose.

<http://www.hbgdsd.org/>

Nettleton High School: Nettleton HS has the greatest potential to build a modern agriculture program. The school district owns a 40 acre farm with shop buildings and some equipment. Like many schools across the country, they changed their focus under the requirements of No Child Left Behind legislation and their agriculture program had less emphasis. It is still one of the most popular program on one of the largest high schools in Northeast Arkansas, but the program has not been updated in nearly 20 years.

<http://nettletonschoools.net/>

Northeast Arkansas Career and Technical Center: The Career and Technical Center serves students from 12 schools districts in four Northeastern Arkansas counties. The Center strives to instill in every student the skills necessary to compete for high demand, high wage earning positions in order to lead successful lives in the ever-expanding global marketplace. The Center is one of only 2 high schools in Arkansas that have an approved Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) program. If awarded, they will use the initiative to add courses in Agriculture Applications.

<http://www.neactc.com/>

Arkansas State University-Newport: ASUN serves over 2,500 students each term and has concurrent programs with 9 area high schools. ASUN has two viable programs that have curriculum that will be incorporated into this initiative.

1. **Commercial Driver Training.** ASUN has the most successful CDT program in Arkansas. Area producers have identified the CDL credential as a required skill.
2. **Diesel Technology.** ASUN has a viable Diesel Technology program that includes a Certificate of Proficiency in Service Maintenance. Area producers have identified service maintenance as a required skill.
3. **ASUN has been approved by the Arkansas Career Education (ACE) Board to initiate a 3 year pilot program to deliver four career programs to high school students on our Newport Campus. Two of our EAT partners (Tuckerman/Newport) will be included in this pilot. When the initial student surveys were conducted, Agriculture was one of the most requested programs. If the pilot is successful, ASUN plans to include agriculture as a future program offering.**
4. **ASUN has multiple faculty with credentials to support an agriculture program. ASUN currently offers transfer coursework in Plant Science, Soils and Biomass and**

Feedstocks that are requirements for an AS Agriculture and will be incorporated into the AAS Agriculture.

Projected program budget:

By the third year of the program ASUN projects the following annual program costs:

Faculty Salaries with benefits	\$ 135,000
Adjunct Salaries	20,000
Supplies	35,000
Administrative and overhead	<u>20,000</u>
Total	\$210,000

By the third year of the program ASUN projects that there will be 40 active students in the program with annual program cost (tuition and fees) per student of \$6,000 for a total program budget of \$240,000 per year. Based on this projected budget, ASUN will be able to sustain the program and invest in equipment upgrades when necessary.

Arkansas State University: Over the past 100 years, ASTATE has evolved from a regional school of agriculture instruction to a comprehensive university. While education is still the primary focus of the college, they also have extensive public outreach and research activities. ASTATE offers both undergraduate and master's degrees within the college and participate in doctoral education through the interdisciplinary Environmental Sciences and Molecular Biosciences program.

<http://www.astate.edu/college/agriculture-and-technology/>

SUBMIT BY JUNE 1, 2016Email to ADHE.Workforce.Grant@adhe.edu*Applications will only be accepted for projects that were awarded a planning grant.***IMPLEMENTATION GRANT SCORING RUBRIC**

Critical Elements	Exemplary	Superior	Adequate	Needs Improvement	Value
Program Need	Significantly addresses a top 3 workforce need in the region. (18–20 Pts)	Addresses in a more limited way a top 3 workforce need in the region. (15–17 Pts)	Addresses in a limited way a less critical workforce need in the region. (11–14 Pts)	Identified labor need is too narrow or not in a critical area. (0–10 Pts)	20 Pts
Program Plan	Plan identifies efficiencies that take full advantage of existing human and physical resources and all requested resources clearly support the goals of the plan. (13–15 Pts)	Plan includes significant efficiencies from existing resources and all requested resources clearly support the goals of the plan. (10–12 Pts)	Plan includes limited efficiencies from existing resources or includes some questionable resource requests. (7–9 Pts)	Budget includes limited or no existing resources from partners or includes requests deemed unnecessary. (0–6 Pts)	25 Pts
Strength of Partnership	Plan includes broad representation and each partner has a defined role with identified critical contributions. (18–20 Pts)	Plan includes broad representation but partner roles are not clearly defined. (15–17 Pts)	Plan lacks one or two important partners or not all partners are critical to success of the plan. (11–14 Pts)	Partner participation is too narrow or some partners do not contribute meaningfully. (0–10 Pts)	20 Pts
Budget Plan	Plan identifies efficiencies that take full advantage of existing human and physical resources and all requested resources clearly support the goals of the plan. (13–15 Pts)	Plan includes significant efficiencies from existing resources and all requested resources clearly support the goals of the plan. (10–12 Pts)	Plan includes limited efficiencies from existing resources or includes some questionable resource requests. (7–9 Pts)	Budget includes limited or no existing resources from partners or includes requests deemed unnecessary. (0–6 Pts)	15 Pts
Sustainability	Identifies existing resources to continue the program with no reduction in services at the end of grant funding period (18–20 Pts)	Identifies significant resources to continue the program with limited reduction in services at the end of grant funding period (15–17 Pts)	Identifies limited resources to continue the program or proposes significant reduction in services at the end of grant funding period (11–14 Pts)	New funding sources must be identified for continuation of program at the end of grant funding. (0–10 Pts)	20 Pts
Total Points Possible					100 Pts



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY
Office of the Dean | P.O. Box 1080, State University, AR 72467 | o: 870-972-2085 | f: 870-972-3885

May 31, 2016,

Dear Dr. Summers,

I am pleased to support Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) efforts to initiate a new technical program (AAS in Agriculture) that addresses workforce skill gaps in the area of modern agricultural technology. The Regional Workforce Planning Grant from the Governor's Workforce Cabinet indicates ASUN has identified a strategic opportunity to enhance the Arkansas workforce.

The College of Agriculture and Technology (CoAT) at Arkansas State University Jonesboro (A-State) looks forward to working with ASUN on the following objectives:

1. A-STATE will participate in the ASUN advisory committee to develop an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Agriculture degree program that meets regional skill demands in the area of modern agricultural technology.
2. A-State will work with ASUN to develop a transfer pathway for AAS in Agriculture graduates into the A-State Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Technology degree program.
3. A-STATE will work with ASUN to develop a transfer pathway for students obtaining an Associate of Science (AS) in Agriculture degree from ASUN into a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Agriculture degree program at A-State.
4. Through the implementation process, A-STATE will collaborate with ASUN to explore opportunities to share resources (mutually) to meet regional skill gaps in modern agricultural technology.

Arkansas' economy is strongly tied to agriculture, and this program is dedicated to training the agricultural workforce of tomorrow. We look forward to working with our ASUN colleagues to develop a well-trained workforce that addresses competencies in modern agricultural technologies at high school, community college, and baccalaureate levels of academic achievement.

Sincerely,

Timothy N. Burcham, P.E., Ph.D.
Dean – College of Agriculture and Technology

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

406 Wilkerson Drive
Newport, Arkansas 72112
(870) 523-1311 • Fax (870) 523-1388

May 25, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

Please accept this letter in support of Arkansas State University—Newport's (ASUN) application for an implementation grant for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative.

This grant will allow ASUN and their regional partners to implement the EAT initiative. Agriculture related industries make up the majority of Arkansas' economy and agriculture technology has advanced significantly in the last ten years. There are no two year agriculture programs in the region to follow up our local high school Agriculture Programs. Newport High School currently teaches a course entitled "Precision Agriculture". This course develops partnerships with local Agriculture Industries to provide training to our students on new technologies in Agriculture. Our goal is to establish an opportunity for our graduates to continue their pursuit of careers in Agriculture thus requiring programs at the collegiate level. The EAT initiative will help build a program of study at ASUN; enhance technical education at area high schools, and build a pathway for students to a four year degree at ASTATE. This grant will help ensure that we have a collaborative program that addresses the growing skills gap in our regional economy.

The Newport School District will assist with the development of the ASU-Newport Agriculture Program by providing additional lab space (if needed) and encourage our students to continue their studies in Agriculture. As a former Agscience teacher and current school administrator, I would volunteer to serve on any advisory committee's if my experience would be of a benefit to the program.

Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. The Newport School District supports this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

Respectfully,



Larry Bennett, PhD
Superintendent of Schools



"The Tradition Continues"

Jackson County School District

Member of North Central Association of Colleges and Schools

Chester Shannon, *Superintendent*
(870) 349-2232 • (870)349-2355 Fax

PRINCIPALS

Michael Holland, *Tuckerman High School*
Kristy Metzger, *Swifton Middle School*
Pharis Smith, *Tuckerman Elementary*

DISTRICT TREASURER

Cathy Platt

P.O. Box 1070

Tuckerman, Arkansas 72473

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Randy Wagner
Dennis Neal
Sandra Provence
Phil Zuber
Brian King
Wroten Koller

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

Please accept this letter in support of Arkansas State University—Newport's (ASUN) application for an implementation grant for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative.

This grant will allow ASUN and their regional partners to implement the EAT initiative. Agriculture related industries make up the majority of Arkansas' economy and agriculture technology has advanced significantly in the last ten years. There are no two year agriculture programs in the region and many of our high school programs are not able to teach modern agriculture practice. The EAT initiative will help build a program of study at ASUN; enhance technical education at area high schools, and build a pathway for students to a four year degree at ASTATE. This grant will help ensure that we have a collaborative program that addresses the growing skills gap in our regional economy.

The Jackson County School District has been a host for interns from ASU Jonesboro and ASUN for many years. We would be very excited to participate in this new program and provide these interns a place to gain valuable experience. In addition, the Jackson County School District Vocational Agri Program grows about 20 acres of crops each year, which I believe will provide valuable field experience.

Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. The Jackson County School District supports this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

Sincerely,



Chester Shannon, *Superintendent*
Jackson County Schools

NETTLETON HIGH SCHOOL

Brian Carter, Principal
Brian Foster, Assistant Principal
Keith Thomas, Assistant Principal

4207 Race Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401
Phone: 870.910.7805
Fax: 870.910.7804
www.nettletonschoools.net

May 31, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Grant Review Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) implementation grant. Nettleton High School recognizes the impact of agriculture on Northeast Arkansas, and we welcome the opportunity to explore ways to build curriculum and support farming in our area.

A partnership between ASU-Newport and area schools to enhance agricultural curriculum and prepare students for a successful future in agriculture would be invaluable for this geographic area. We are excited about this opportunity.

Please feel free to contact me should you have further questions. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Carter
Principal



Harrisburg School District No. 6

Brandon Craig, High School Principal

207 West Estes, Harrisburg, AR 72432

Phone: 870-578-2417 – Fax: 870-578-2338

May 31, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Grant Review Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) implementation grant.

We agree that there is a need to improve agriculture education in our area, and we are committed to collaborating with ASU-Newport and other partners to help realize that goal. The Harrisburg High School Agriculture Department will use its resources in any way possible to this end.

Sincerely,



Brandon Craig
Principal

May 26, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

Please accept this letter in support of Arkansas State University—Newport's (ASUN) application for an implementation grant for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative.

This grant will allow ASUN and their regional partners to implement the EAT initiative. Agriculture related industries make up the majority of Arkansas' economy and agriculture technology has advanced significantly in the last ten years. There are no two year agriculture programs in the region and many of our high school programs are not able to teach modern agriculture practice. The EAT initiative will help build a program of study at ASUN; enhance technical education at area high schools, and build a pathway for students to a four year degree at ASTATE. This grant will help ensure that we have a collaborative program that addresses the growing skills gap in our regional economy.

This grant would be of great value to McCrory School District our partnership with ASUN. We are located in a rural farming area and we have a lot of kids that would benefit.

Our school administration would be willing work closely with ASUN to help make this a successful program for our area. I as superintendent would be willing to serve on advisory committee and explore options to make this a successful program with the ASUN partnership.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Robert Casteel, Superintendent

McCrory School District.



"INDIANS"

Marked Tree High School

406 St. Francis
Marked Tree, Arkansas 72365
Fax # 870-358-3953

Superintendent
Annesa Thompson
(870) 358-2913

Principal
Matt Wright
(870) 358-2891

August 26, 2015

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 PLANNING GRANT

This letter of commitment is written in support of Arkansas State University-Newport's (ASUN) initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT (Educating Agriculture Technology). I urge you to give serious consideration to their proposal which addresses the very real need to educate agricultural workers and fill the skill gaps in modern agriculture resulting from new and innovative technology.

Marked Tree High School has a successful history of collaboration with ASU-Newport and will support this planning process. Agriculture and Agriculture related industries are very important to our community and our school is committed to helping enhance or create programs to meet this skill gap.

Sincerely,

Matt Wright, Principal
Marked Tree High School

Northeast Arkansas

Career & Tech Center

1727 South Main Street ✕ Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401 ✕ 870.933.5891 ✕ neactc.com

May 31, 2016

Dear Grant Review Committee:

As director of the Northeast Arkansas Career and Technical Center, I wholly support the efforts of ASU Newport in securing funding to develop their Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) program of study. ASUN is our postsecondary college credit provider and offers concurrent credit for NEACTC programs of study through ASUN.

As only Arkansas' second approved pilot school for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) program of study, I am positive that there are endless opportunities utilizing agriculture as this program of study in unmanned aerial vehicles continues to develop.

Several agribusinesses across Northeastern Arkansas have stated their needs in a program of study in agribusiness to ensure that they will have workers with highly specialized skills to hire.

The family farm that once ruled NEA is no more. Today, highly skilled agricultural positions are already the norm in this region; however, workers with those skills are in extremely short supply across this quadrant of the state of Arkansas.

I assure you that the need exists here in the Arkansas Delta region. And, there is no more capable institution to introduce such a program to train and develop individuals with the skills so desperately needed here than ASU Newport.

I am excited about the continued opportunities for our students. However, I am elated that the institution that offers so many postsecondary opportunities for our students, through aggressive efforts, could ultimately provide highly technological skills to promote agricultural efforts so desperately needed in the Arkansas Delta. I wholeheartedly support ASU Newport as it seeks funding to develop its EAT program of study.

Cordially submitted,



Eddie Crain
NEACTC Director

"Your CAREER awaits!"

Holden Conner Company
2301 McLain Street
Newport, AR 72112
Office: 870-523-6576
Fax: 870-523-8765

May 19, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: GRANT for NORTHEAST ARKANSAS EAT (Educating Agriculture Technology)

Dear Members of the Workforce Initiative Act Review Committee:

This letter of commitment assures that as an agribusiness partner with Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) in their initiative, Northeast Arkansas EAT (Educating Agriculture Technology), we will actively collaborate with the college and other partners in our area in a regional workforce alliance to support this Workforce Initiative Act grant program. We have already participated in preliminary discussions and agree that the targeted pathway in agricultural technology will support critical workforce needs in Northeastern Arkansas-Delta and create a pool of potential employees from the credentialed graduates.

In the agriculture industry, we are struggling to fill our labor needs from the current pool of available workers. With the trend toward more complex technology in agriculture, our agribusinesses need to be able to hire people with a higher level of skill than was required in the past. If this initiative is funded, our partnership with ASUN will begin to solve the labor shortage problem we are facing at this time. The training potential employees will receive through the Northeast Arkansas EAT curriculum will enable these individuals to be viable workers in our farms and agribusinesses upon completing the program. This would help reduce unemployment in our area as well keep young people from leaving the Northeast Arkansas-Delta to pursue other opportunities, bringing more funds into these rural communities and making their very existence more sustainable over the long term.

ASU-Newport desperately needs a one million dollar implantation grant to get this Northeast Arkansas EAT program in place. We are fully committed to bringing this initiative to fruition, look forward to being part of it, and urge you to support this project that will critically impact the farming future of Northeast Arkansas-Delta.

Sincerely,



Ryne Dubach

G&G Farms
P.O. Box 956
Tuckerman, Arkansas 72473
870-349-2607

May 19, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

The benefits of precision agriculture and data management are widely agreed upon, but the generation gap in terms of technology adoption is a significant barrier. The average age of a farmer now is 58 years old. With farming businesses getting bigger every year, there is a big need for knowledge and learning.

A class that would orientate a person to learn the basics and the computer skills needed in the agriculture industry would be a big asset to the farming community, either on the farm or in the agriculture business.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gus Graham III", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gus Graham III
Farm Owner/Operator
Since 1980

Dennis Haigwood

Owner D and M Farms

Newport, AR

May 11, 2016

Dear committee personnel;

I want to offer my support for the new efforts at ASUN. As a lifelong resident of Jackson County, I have always supported every effort to promote the educational process for our students. My family farms about twelve-thousand acres around Newport. We are always searching for better trained employees, who will be able to operate our equipment. I have supported the efforts to make STEM training, available to all our Ag students.

It is critical to develop a seamless educational process that is highly geared toward technical training. We are now using farm machinery that has 4 to 16 onboard computers. The machines are guided by RTK satellite, receivers and require a higher level of expertise than our work force is capable of using. I recently was able to celebrate the development of the first Advanced Ag Course in Arkansas and hope to see this begin to raise the bar for our Ag students at the high school level.

I am currently President of the Newport School Board. We are excited to have the opportunity to work with higher education in any way possible. Hopefully we will see Ag education raised to a higher level that will be more closely aligned to the industry needs as well as the need of our students as they progress through the education system. This is truly a unique opportunity to align our system seamlessly.

My family and I will support ASUN in all their efforts.

Thank you,



Dennis Haigwood

May 23, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

Please accept this letter in support of Arkansas State University—Newport's (ASUN) application for an implementation grant for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative.

This grant will allow ASUN and their regional partners to implement the EAT initiative. Agriculture related industries make up the majority of Arkansas' economy and agriculture technology has advanced significantly in the last ten years. There are no two year agriculture programs in the region and many of our high school programs are not able to teach modern agriculture practice. The EAT initiative will help build a program of study at ASUN; enhance technical education at area high schools, and build a pathway for students to a four year degree at ASTATE. This grant will help ensure that we have a collaborative program that addresses the growing skills gap in our regional economy.

My support of this program will include access to my farm property of about 4000 acres, equipment I have available, grain storage facility and my willingness to serve on an advisory committee. I consider this partnership to be of vital importance for the agricultural based economy of the region and its future success.

I support this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process. Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal.

Jeff Rutledge

Rutledge & Rutledge Partnership

1113 Highland Dr.

Newport, AR 72112

870 217-1875

May 23, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

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Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. I support this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Connie J. Waters". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Connie J. Waters

Generation Three Partnership Farms & Young's Irrigation & Equipment. LLC
P.O. Box 996
Tuckerman, AR 72473

May 27, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Attn: Arkansas State University Newport Campus Agriculture Initiative

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Young Family located in Tuckerman, Arkansas. We are a diverse family that owns land and farms row crops in Jackson County, Arkansas as well as owning and operating a Agricultural Center Pivot Sprinkler and Grain Hopperbottom Trailer Dealership. Our family farming operation spans three generations and our Irrigation dealership is approaching its 30th anniversary. Our businesses have evolved over the years to need more highly skilled employees. It is becoming harder and harder to find suitably trained personnel. We have started hiring raw, untrained high school graduates and have attempted to mold them into what we are needing for our farm and dealership but with limited success. We are very much encouraged that a program such as the one being sought after by ASU-Newport might become a reality. This would provide us with reasonably trained employees and also allow these prospects to begin working for us at a much higher pay scale than the raw untrained ones.

Generation Three Partnership Farms is willing to support this program in the following ways:

1. Offer to intern students during various farming operations to assist in their understanding of classroom subject matter.
2. Offer to allow students to utilize various areas of the farm and give permission for them to enter the farm to conduct individual projects.
3. Offer to hire selected students as temporary labor during off periods of their course study. This would allow them to get a hands-on experience of farm operations.
4. Offer to be Guest Lecturers as need by faculty to provide a real-world perspective of day to day operations on the farm.
5. Offer to facilitate and teach a mini-irrigation course as related to Center Pivot Irrigation
6. Offer to provide, display and/or demonstrate various pieces of farm equipment needed by the instructor in order to teach the proper use of it.
7. We are very much interested in the hiring of completed course graduates as our needs arise.

We feel that the Arkansas State University - Newport Initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT can be a tremendous asset to Northeast Arkansas agriculture by providing a dependable source of skilled, trained and prepared employees to the agricultural employers of Northeast Arkansas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tommy Young', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tommy Young

Generation Three Partnership Farms

Young's Irrigation & Equipment, LLC

Eagle Lake Farms

2800 Lynn Street
Newport, Arkansas 72112
kenny@eaglelakefarm.com

August 27, 2015

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

Dear Members of the Workforce Initiative Act Review Committee:

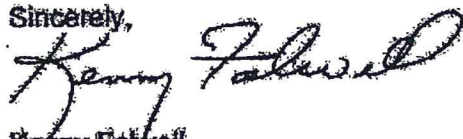
This letter of commitment assures that as an agribusiness partner with Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) in their initiative, Northeast Arkansas EAT (Educating Agriculture Technology), I will actively collaborate with the college and other partners in our area in a regional workforce alliance to support this Workforce Initiative Act grant program.

As an agricultural producer, I see first-hand the skills gap that exists in the labor pool for jobs in the industry. Having a source for trained employees will be invaluable to me and will, I believe, be advantageous to the regional economy.

I have already participated in preliminary discussions, served as an adviser to this initiative, and agreed that the targeted pathway in agricultural technology will support critical workforce needs in Northeastern Arkansas-Delta.

I am fully committed to bringing this initiative to fruition, look forward to being part of it, and urge you to support this project that will critically impact the farming future of Northeast Arkansas-Delta.

Sincerely,



Kenny Felwell

May 31, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

Please accept this letter in support of Arkansas State University—Newport's (ASUN) application for an implementation grant for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative.

This grant will allow ASUN and their regional partners to implement the EAT initiative. Agriculture related industries make up the majority of Arkansas' economy and agriculture technology has advanced significantly in the last ten years. There are no two-year agriculture programs in the region and many of our high school programs are not able to teach modern agriculture practice. The EAT initiative will help build a program of study at ASUN; enhance technical education at area high schools, and build a pathway for students to a four-year degree at ASTATE. This grant will help ensure that we have a collaborative program that addresses the growing skills gap in our regional economy.

I, Randy Currier would be willing to serve on an advisory committee, give guest lectures in Agricultural Sales and help prepare students for the interview process.

Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. I support this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Currier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Randy Currier

Ag Business & Sales Development

E-mail: randycurrier@resultseller.com



phone 870 358 1886 office 10 Elm Street, Marked Tree, AR 72365 www.ritterag.com

August 27, 2015

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

This letter of commitment is written in support of Arkansas State University-Newport's (ASUN) initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT (Educating Agriculture Technology). I urge you to give serious consideration to their proposal which addresses the very real need to educate agricultural workers and fill the skill gaps in modern agriculture resulting from new and innovative technology.

Founded by Ernest Ritter in Marked Tree, Arkansas, in 1886, Ritter Agribusiness—a division of E. Ritter & Company—has grown to be one of the most respected farm management and grain service providers in Eastern Arkansas. Ritter Agribusiness will collaborate with ASUN throughout the planning process and hope to create or enhance programs that will meet this critical skills gap.

I urge you to support this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Woody Ray".

Woody Ray
Ritter Agribusiness

Farmers Supply Association

General Office
16240 Highway 14E
Harrisburg, AR 72432
578-2468



Cherry Valley 588-3379
Hamlin 238-7895
Harrisburg 578-2468
Hickory Ridge 697-2288
Tuckerman 349-1317
Waldenburg 579-2203
Wynne 238-8501

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

To Whom It May Concern:

Farmers Supply Association highly supports Arkansas State University – Newport’s Initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT. With over 21,000 jobs tied directly to agriculture in Jackson County and the seven adjoining counties along with a total market value of agricultural products of approximately 1.5 billion dollars in these eight counties, agriculture is clearly an extremely important segment of the economy in this area. With today’s technology, the need for a skilled, trained, and prepared workforce has never been greater and will be critical for the continued success of this industry.

Farmers Supply Association is willing to support this program in 3 ways as it begins:

1. Agronomy Intern: At least one intern from the Northeast Arkansas EAT program will be employed each crop season. This person will work under the direct supervision of the company agronomist to learn about all aspects of rice, soybean, corn, grain sorghum, and wheat production.
2. Guest Lecturer: Randy Chlapecka, Farmers Supply Agronomist, is willing to instruct students on various aspects of crop production both in the field and in the classroom. The content and frequency of these guest lectures will be determined by consultation with the program director and instructors so as not to interfere with his regular duties at Farmers Supply Association while still providing valuable training to students.
3. Equipment Training: Students will be brought into a Farmers Supply Association facility to receive training on the basic operation of several pieces of equipment utilized regularly by Farmers Supply Association and other seed, fertilizer, and chemical dealers. Equipment utilized will include fertilizer blenders, fertilizer applicators, sprayers and seed treaters. The total value of this equipment is approximately 1.5 million dollars.

We feel that the Arkansas State University – Newport Initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT can be a tremendous asset to Northeast Arkansas agriculture by providing a dependable source of skilled, trained, and prepared employees to the agricultural employees of Northeast Arkansas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Brent A. Bowie'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brent Bowie



HELENA CHEMICAL COMPANY

2100 Hwy 69
Newport, AR 72112
Telephone: (870) 217-0240
Facsimile: (870) 217-0241

May 23, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

Please accept this letter in support of Arkansas State University—Newport's (ASUN) application for an implementation grant for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative.

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Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. Helena Chemical Company supports this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Cooper".

Randy Cooper

Branch Manager

Newport, AR

May 23, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

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Greenway Equipment will support the ASU implementation of the EAT initiative in the following manner.

- Use of Equipment - Greenway will meet on a semi-annual basis with the instructors and administration to determine equipment needs for different classes that will be conducted. Greenway will work with John Deere Corporate to provide loaner equipment of tractors, combines, planters, and other farm equipment that might be needed during the training.
- Precision Ag Equipment – Greenway will provide current precision ag technology on a demonstration basis each semester and year. ASU Newport will be able to educate their students with the most current technologies with this equipment and will not be burdened with systems that become outdated as technology changes.
- Internships – Greenway Equipment routinely hires between 3 to 6 interns annually, primarily during the summer months between spring and fall semesters. Greenway will commit to interview ASU Newport students for any internships. Internships have primarily been in the technology field and emphasis utilization of precision ag technology in farming operations.
- The leadership of the Greenway Precision Ag Department, Jeff Barnes, will be available to serve as a guest lecturer for different agronomy or precision ag classes. Additionally, Jeff Barnes will

facilitate other members of the Precision Ag Team at Greenway to also be guest lecturers and/or assist with different laboratory or field exercises.

- Jeff Barnes will commit to serve on any advisory boards that ASDU Newport needs him to serve on. His specialties are agronomy and precision agriculture.

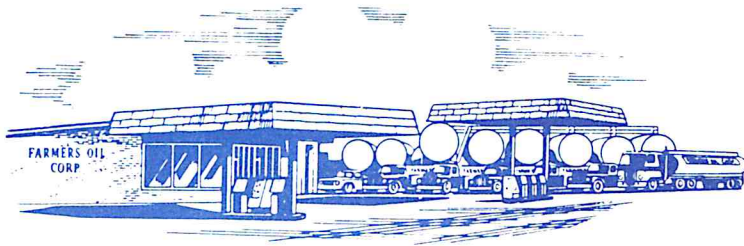
Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. Greenway Equipment supports this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Barnes

Greenway Precision Ag Department Manager



FARMERS OIL CORP.

101 3RD STREET
NEWPORT, ARKANSAS 72112
TELEPHONE (870) 523-6511
FAX (870) 523-6513

May 31, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

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Farmers Oil Corporation & Greenway Oil & Gas recognizes the need for this program in our area. We would consider offering an internship and be willing to serve on an advisory committee and give guest lectures.

Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. Farmers Oil Corp., & Greenway Oil & Gas supports this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

Sincerely,

Randy Currier

Farmers Oil Corp., & Greenway Oil & Gas

101 3rd St.

Newport, AR 72112

BrASE LLC
Terry Brase, Educational Consultant
110 E. Center St.
Madison, SD 57042
Terry@BrASEGIS.com
319 855 2887



May 11, 2016

Arkansas State University - Newport
Attn: Dr. Robert Summers
7648 Victory Blvd,
Newport, AR 72112

Dear Dr. Summers:

The precision agriculture industry has a great need for technicians that understand emerging technology, advanced equipment, and data analytics. I am pleased to learn that Arkansas State University - Newport is applying for a state grant that will focus on providing a pathway to these agricultural careers.

Colleges must stay current with emerging technology in order to meet the employment needs of local industry. Lack of qualified and field ready employees can restrict economic development in an area. Agriculture especially has been undergoing a major change in the use of geospatial and information technology. For these reasons, it is important that Arkansas State University – Newport serves as a leader in developing these programs.

I highly encourage the conferring of this grant award to support precision agriculture in the State of Arkansas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry Brase".

Terry Brase
Educational Consultant, BrASE LLC



Warren Carter
Executive Vice President

May 26, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Arkansas State University—Newport's (ASU-N) application for an implementation grant for the Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative.

This grant will allow ASU-N and their regional partners to implement the EAT initiative. Agriculture related industries make up the majority of Arkansas' economy and agriculture technology has advanced significantly in the last 10 years. There are no two year agriculture programs in the region and many of our high school programs are not able to teach modern agriculture practice. The EAT initiative will help build a program of study at ASU-N; enhance technical education at area high schools, and build a pathway for students to a four year degree at ASTATE. This grant will help ensure that we have a collaborative program that addresses the growing skills gap in our regional economy.

Arkansas Farm Bureau offers summer internships which ASU-N students would be welcomed applicants. In addition, Arkansas Farm Bureau has various agriculture professionals that would be honored to guest lecture, if time allowed, depending on staff commitments.

Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. Arkansas Farm Bureau supports this proposal and will continue to partner with ASU-N throughout the implementation process.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren Carter", written over a white background.

Warren Carter

WC/kw

May 16th, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee

Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education

423 Main Street, Suite 400

Little Rock, AR 72201

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee:

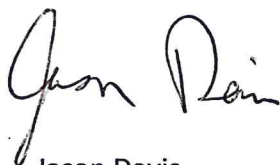
It is my pleasure to write this letter and pledge my support of the Arkansas State University Newport's Initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT (Educating Agriculture Technology).

I have been an agriculture educator in both secondary and post-secondary education primarily in the rural Arkansas delta. I currently work directly with producers and technology specialists in Northeast Arkansas to navigate the challenges of application technology in an increasingly more complex industry. There is a great need for a skilled workforce with expertise in precision agriculture applications. Many of the producers in the Arkansas Delta are beginning to adopt precision agriculture equipment into their production systems. This is creating a unique opportunity for those with the proper training in the region to either be attractive employees or to become entrepreneurs. One major limiting factor halting this progression is the lack of training opportunities to develop this skilled service industry. The proposed project will provide the agriculture technology training necessary to allow students of Northeast Arkansas to access these opportunities.

In support of this initiative, the agriculture technology resources of the University of Arkansas Application Technology program will be made available for demonstrations and instruction. In addition to program resources, I am willing to be a guest lecture for the program to bring a hybrid industry/ higher education view to coursework.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of Arkansas State University Newport's initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT. This program will provide much needed educational opportunities in the area of agriculture technology in the Arkansas Delta. The profitable careers that this initiative has the potential to create will serve a growing need in the agriculture industry and make a positive economic impact on the communities in a struggling region.

Sincerely,



Jason Davis

Application Technologist

University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

jdavis@uaex.edu

Cell (501) 749-2077

May 23, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

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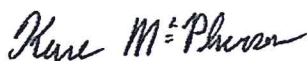
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CPS is willing to support the program in the following ways:

1. Offer to do guest lectures throughout the semester
2. Offer in-field learning pertaining to equipment use and consulting
3. Offer assistance from outside suppliers
4. Willing to serve on advisory board

Thank you for your positive consideration for this proposal. CPS supports this proposal and will continue to partner with ASUN throughout the implementation process.

In appreciation,



Kane McPherson

MAYOR
DAVID STEWART, EXT. 112

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
RITA COOPER, EXT. 112

CLERK/TREASURER
DEBORAH K. HEMBREY, EXT. 117

615 THIRD STREET
NEWPORT, AR 72112

PHONE: (870) 523-6568
FAX: (870) 523-4365

www.newportar.org

City of Newport

May 11, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

To whom it may concern:

Please consider this letter as the City of Newport supporting any efforts in having a new agriculture program at Arkansas State University-Newport.

We are still in an agriculture based community and anything we can do to keep our youth in Newport and Jackson County, we support.

We have many youth graduating from our High School with a farming background who would consider our local college first if we were able to offer an agriculture program.

As with most important programs this will not be possible without grants financially supporting ASU-N.

Please consider ASU-N for grant funding for this very important agriculture program.

Sincerely,

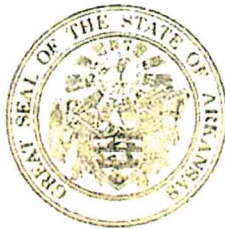


David Stewart
Mayor



Proud Past. Bright Future

RONALD CALDWELL
SENATOR
23RD DISTRICT
OFFICE: 870-238-5421
ronald.caldwell@senate.ar.gov
120 CR 393
WYNNE, ARKANSAS 72396



THE SENATE
STATE OF ARKANSAS

CHAIR:
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
VICE-CHAIR:
RULES, RESOLUTIONS & MEMORIALS
MEMBER:
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
JOINT ENERGY
JOINT BUDGET
TRANSPORTATION, TECHNOLOGY & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

August 27, 2015

Arkansas Department of Higher Education
ATTN: Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Grant Review Committee:

Please accept this letter on behalf of Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) as it applies for a Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Planning Grant to support its Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) initiative. This initiative is designed to educate area agricultural workers about the latest industry technologies and prepare them to be successful employees.

ASUN will partner with area schools, workforce agencies and employers to equip workers with the skills needed to meet agricultural industry needs in northeast Arkansas. This project has my full support, and I would ask those with the power to do so to give ASUN's proposal every possible consideration.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ronald Caldwell".

Ronald Caldwell
State Senator
District 23

RC:lag

RICK CRAWFORD
1ST DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
CHAIRMAN OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON FARM
COMMODITIES AND RISK MANAGEMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS
AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER
RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
1711 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

May 16, 2016

☐ WASHINGTON, DC
1711 LONGWORTH HOB
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: 202-225-4076
FAX: 202-225-5602

☐ JONESBORO
2400 EAST HIGHLAND
SUITE 300
JONESBORO, AR 72401
PHONE: 870-203-0540
FAX: 870-203-0542

☐ CABOT
112 SOUTH FIRST STREET
CABOT, AR 72023
PHONE: 501-843-3043
FAX: 501-843-4955

☐ MOUNTAIN HOME
1001 HIGHWAY 62 EAST
SUITE 9
MOUNTAIN HOME, AR 72653
PHONE: 870-424-2075
FAX: 870-424-3149

WWW.CRAWFORD.HOUSE.GOV

Arkansas Department Of Higher Education
Attn: Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201-3828

Dear Grant Review Committee,

It is with pleasure that I write on behalf of Arkansas State University-Newport (ASUN) officials who have applied for a Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Implementation Grant to support its Northeast Arkansas Educating Agriculture Technology (EAT) Initiative.

Funding for this grant will allow ASUN officials and their regional partners to implement the EAT Initiative, a two year agriculture program centered around technical training for the agriculture industry. Technological advancements have increased the complexity to skills requirements for agricultural workers, and the demand for this type of training is significant. Agriculture is the top industry in our State, and it's critical that we develop and maintain a superior training system of our agricultural workforce.

I am proud to support this grant application as it part of an on-going plan to improve our regions workforce and ultimately our quality of life. I fully support Arkansas State University-Newport's grant application and urge your serious consideration of this worthy project.

Sincerely,



Rick Crawford
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

RC/cl



STATE OF ARKANSAS

House of Representatives

REPRESENTATIVE

Michael John Gray

MINORITY LEADER

P. O. Box 360

Augusta, Arkansas 72006-0360

870-347-6000 Business

michael.gray@arkansashouse.org

DISTRICT 47

Counties:

Part Jackson

Part Independence

Part White

Woodruff

COMMITTEES:

Education

Higher Education Subcommittee

City, County and Local Affairs

Local Government Personnel

Subcommittee

Vice Chairperson,

Joint Committee on Advanced

Communications and Information

Technology

May 11, 2016

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee

Attn: Department of Higher Education

423 Main Street, Suite 400

Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Grant Review Committee:

I am writing in support of Arkansas State University's application for a grant to fund the Arkansas State University-Newport's Initiative: Northeast Arkansas EAT (Educating Agriculture Technology).

The grant is for one million dollars with the opportunity for another one million after two years. These funds will be used to get ASU-Newport's agriculture program up and running. It will allow them to purchase precision agriculture equipment and other resources.

I support this project and respectfully ask for your favorable decision. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MJG", written over a horizontal line.

Michael John Gray
State Representative
District 47

MJG/sc



May 24, 2016

Ms. Lindley Gilliaum
Arkansas State University-Newport
7648 Victory Boulevard
Newport, AR 72112

Dear Ms. Gilliaum:

Please accept this letter as an indication of support from the Newport Economic Development Commission for the creation of a Precision Agriculture Technology Program at Arkansas State University-Newport and feel free to share it with anyone who is involved in the decision making process for this project. Agriculture, as a sector, is still the primary employer in northeast Arkansas and offers an increasing base salary for young people seeking a profession in our area. Local farmers are requiring a higher skilled workforce that is more and more difficult to find. In less than five years, agricultural businesses in our area will be facing a workforce crisis.

These skills also reach to the heart of a rural community. The programs would enable many of the young people who desire to stay in their home counties an ability to get the skills that would allow them to remain. A core of young people that have grown up in a community, become highly skilled employees and remain in that same community would form a base for growth in rural towns around the state.

Finally, we believe that the skills taught in precision agriculture classes would be easily transferrable to the high paying jobs in manufacturing that are growing in northeast Arkansas. Ideally, a student would take the curriculum and remain in the agriculture field. However, if they found they did not like that field or circumstances dictated that they leave the field, most of the skills offered by such a certification would be the same ones highly sought by the manufacturing sector.

The Newport Economic Development Commission strongly supports the establishment of this program. We have offered to provide grant funding to assist with the development of the curriculum if necessary. If you have further questions about our commitment or support of this program, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Chadwell".

Jon Chadwell
Executive Director

201 Hazel Street
P.O. Box 766
Newport, Arkansas 72112

Proud Past. **Bright Future**

Phone 870-523-1009
Fax 870-523-1055
www.newportaredc.org



White River Planning & Development District, Inc.

(870) 793-5233 P.O. Box 2396 Batesville, Arkansas 72503-2396
Van C. Thomas – Executive Director
Fax (870) 793-4035

August 18, 2015

Workforce Initiative Act Grant Review Committee
Attn: Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 GRANT

This letter of commitment assures that as a Workforce Development Board partner with Arkansas State University – Newport (ASUN), we will actively work with ASUN to support the Workforce Initiative Act grant program. We have participated in preliminary planning processes with ASUN and agree that the targeted pathways will support critical workforce needs in North Central Arkansas, based on employer and labor market demand.

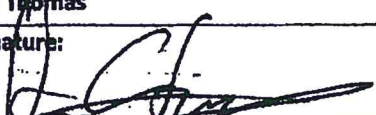
Our role as the Workforce Development Board partner will include the items checked below:

Eligibility Not Required:

- ☒ Participation in partner meetings and/or phone conferences
- ☒ Promotion of targeted pathways to job seekers through Arkansas Workforce Centers
- ☒ Employment services available through AWCs, including access to computer labs, resume preparation, and referrals to eligible programs
- ☒ Job search assistance through Arkansas JobLink
- ☒ Basic skills (soft skills) workshops
- ☒ Referrals to other WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) partner resources
- ☒ Availability of Career Readiness Certificate testing processes to all job seekers ages 18 and over
- ☒ Participation in job fairs with employers who recognize Career Readiness Certificates
- ☒ Student tours of Arkansas Workforce Centers

Eligibility Required:

- ☒ Career advising (combination of mentoring and job coaching)
- ☒ Tuition, books, and/or fees (if not available from other resource)
- ☒ Childcare, transportation, and/or housing (if not available from other resource)
- ☒ Paid or unpaid work experience

Workforce Development Board		Counties Served
North Central		Jackson, Woodruff, White, Cleburne, Independence, Stone, IZard, Sharp, Fulton, Van Buren
Contact Name	Title	Date
Van Thomas	Ex. Director, White River PDD	August 18, 2015
Signature: 		

Ag Leader®

Educational Solutions

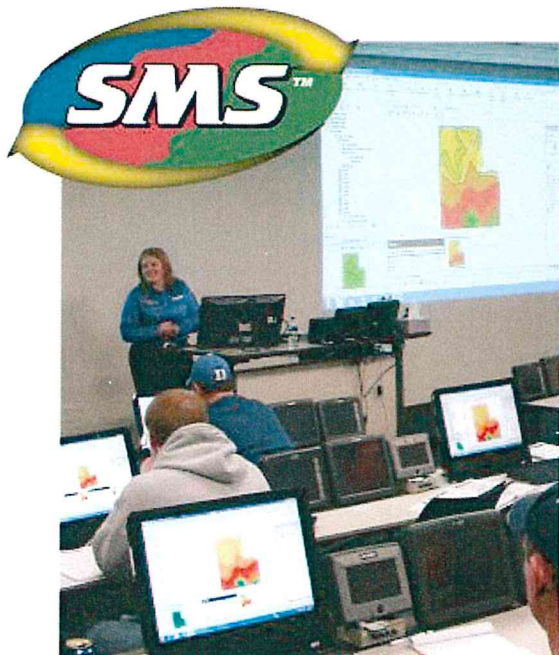
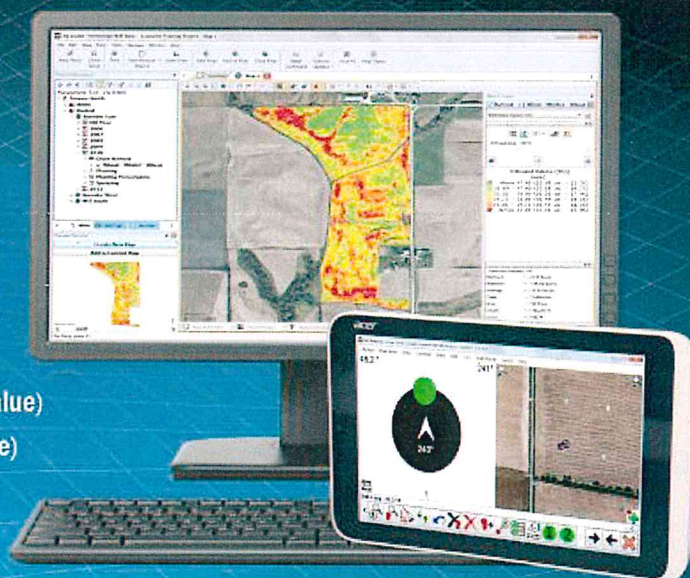
SMS™ Educational Lab Package \$1,995

- Up to 30 SMS™ Advanced Software Unlocks (\$59,850 Value)
- Up to 30 SMS™ Mobile Software Unlocks (\$14,850 Value)
- 1 Ag Leader® Educator's Training Session (\$200 Value)
- 2 Printed SMS Certified Manuals (\$100 Value)
 - Additional manuals may be purchased at \$50 per manual
- One year dedicated software support

Precision Display Simulator Package \$4,000/package

Simulate real life field activities in the classroom, including yield monitoring, planting, spraying and more.

- 1 Ag Leader® InCommand™ 1200 (\$5,495 Value)
- 1 CAN-Simulator program (\$320 Value)



Ag Leader Technology® offers *Educational Solutions* to any school for use in a lab-based classroom setting. This solution exposes students to the precision agriculture industry through mapping, data collection and analysis. With the agriculture industry embracing new high tech precision tools, students with knowledge on the subject will be highly valued in today's competitive job market. Ag Leader understands the demand for knowledge that stems from all of the new technology, and continues to provide hardware and software solutions to customers as well as all interested educational institutions.

The Educational Package provides you access to not only the latest precision technologies, but also the resources to assist in teaching. It guarantees you help from our dedicated software support team and learning materials, such as training manuals, video tutorials and documentation. Each participating institution is also invited to attend our annual Educator's Training, where you will learn more about our hardware and software solutions, but also have the opportunity to interact with your peers to learn about teaching methods. Please visit sms.agleader.com to learn more about the SMS Desktop and Mobile Software and review the resources available to you.





Quote Id: 13138192

Prepared For:
Arkansas State Univ Newport



Prepared By: **Michael Osier**

Greenway Equipment, Inc.
304 Hwy 367 North
Newport, AR 72112

Tel: 870-523-2781
Fax: 870-523-1059
Email: mosier@gogreenway.com

Date: 13 April 2016

Offer Expires: 29 April 2016

Confidential



Quote Summary

Prepared For:

Arkansas State Univ Newport
7648 Victory Blvd
Newport, AR 72112
Business: 870-512-7800

Prepared By:

Michael Osier
Greenway Equipment, Inc.
304 Hwy 367 North
Newport, AR 72112
Phone: 870-523-2781
mosier@gogreenway.com

Quote Id: 13138192
Created On: 13 April 2016
Last Modified On: 13 April 2016
Expiration Date: 29 April 2016

Equipment Summary	Selling Price	Qty	Extended
2016 JOHN DEERE 825I MY16 SPECIAL EDITION PR - 1M0825GEAGM111394	\$ 15,000.00 X	1 =	\$ 15,000.00

Equipment Total	\$ 15,000.00
------------------------	---------------------

Quote Summary

Equipment Total	\$ 15,000.00
SubTotal	\$ 15,000.00
Total	\$ 15,000.00
Down Payment	(0.00)
Rental Applied	(0.00)
Balance Due	\$ 15,000.00

Salesperson : X _____

Accepted By : X _____

Confidential



JOHN DEERE

Quote Summary

Prepared For:

Arkansas State Univ Newport
7648 Victory Blvd
Newport, AR 72112
Business: 870-512-7800

Prepared By:

Michael Osier
Greenway Equipment, Inc.
304 Hwy 367 North
Newport, AR 72112
Phone: 870-523-2781
mosier@gogreenway.com

Quote Id: 13138356
Created On: 13 April 2016
Last Modified On: 13 April 2016
Expiration Date: 20 April 2016

Equipment Summary	Selling Price	Qty	Extended
AMS Integration Kit	\$ 308.16 X	1 =	\$ 308.16
JOHN DEERE GreenStar 3 2630 Display	\$ 5,433.84 X	1 =	\$ 5,433.84
JOHN DEERE Surface Water Pro Plus Activation - GS3	\$ 2,993.57 X	1 =	\$ 2,993.57
JOHN DEERE StarFire 3000 Receiver	\$ 2,949.48 X	2 =	\$ 5,898.96
JOHN DEERE SF1 to SF2 Ready Upgrade Activation - StarFire 3000 Receiver	\$ 3,680.00 X	2 =	\$ 7,360.00
JOHN DEERE StarFire 3000 RTK Activation	\$ 3,220.00 X	2 =	\$ 6,440.00
JOHN DEERE John Deere RTK Radio 900	\$ 1,351.29 X	2 =	\$ 2,702.58
Base Station Kit for RTK Radio 900 with Tripod	\$ 1,085.60 X	1 =	\$ 1,085.60
Equipment Total			\$ 32,222.71

Quote Summary

Equipment Total \$ 32,222.71
SubTotal \$ 32,222.71
Total \$ 32,222.71
Down Payment (0.00)
Rental Applied (0.00)
Balance Due \$ 32,222.71

Salesperson : X _____

Accepted By : X _____

Confidential



JOHN DEERE

Quote Summary

Prepared For:

Arkansas State Univ Newport
7648 Victory Blvd
Newport, AR 72112
Business: 870-512-7800

Prepared By:

Michael Osier
Greenway Equipment, Inc.
304 Hwy 367 North
Newport, AR 72112
Phone: 870-523-2781
mosier@gogreenway.com

Quote Id: 13441692
Created On: 27 May 2016
Last Modified On: 27 May 2016
Expiration Date: 31 May 2016

Equipment Summary

2014 JOHN DEERE 6125M Cab
Tractor - 1L06125MPEH805467

Selling Price	Qty	Extended
\$ 80,000.00 X	1 =	\$ 80,000.00

Equipment Total

\$ 80,000.00

Quote Summary

Equipment Total	\$ 80,000.00
SubTotal	\$ 80,000.00
Total	\$ 80,000.00
Down Payment	(0.00)
Rental Applied	(0.00)
Balance Due	\$ 80,000.00

Salesperson : X _____

Accepted By : X _____

Confidential

