

Workforce Education Required for Certain Businesses, Jobs

- Due to the critical role of certain occupations, state and federal regulations require certification, licensing, or continuing education in order to maintain minimum competency standards.
- High-quality training and continuing education is essential for service providers and employees in the occupations with these requirements.

AgriLife Extension's Response

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offers numerous educational programs that are recognized by state and industry accreditation authorities for meeting continuing education and certification requirements.

- These programs serve thousands of people who render important community services, enabling them to obtain or keep a job, start a business, or stay in business.

Economic Impacts

The following provides a brief description of selected programs and highlights the number of jobs and the wage base supported in 2015.

- By providing high-quality education to the state's child care industry, AgriLife Extension's *Child Care Conferences* directly support 563 child care businesses and 3,819 jobs. These child care provider businesses represent estimated annual revenues of \$226 million and an annual wage base of \$77.2 million.
- By conducting the federally designated *Pesticide Safety Education Program* in Texas, AgriLife Extension directly supports 69,497 pesticide applicators in Texas, with a salary and time value of \$941.1 million.

- Through its *School of Irrigation* and *EPA Water Sense* programs, AgriLife Extension directly supports over 1,214 jobs in the landscape irrigation industry, with an estimated annual wage base of \$29.3 million.
- By delivering quality education to the state's septic system maintenance providers and to homeowners, the *Onsite Wastewater Systems Management* program directly supports 43 industry jobs, with an estimated annual wage base of \$1.4 million.
- Through outreach education and training, AgriLife Extension's *V. G. Young Institute of County Government* directly supports 908 county officials, with an annual salary base of \$45.2 million.
- Through its *Food Protection Management Program*, AgriLife Extension provides certification training to 3,884 food service managers and other employees, with a collective annual wage base of \$84.0 million.
- Through a *Teacher Certification Program*, AgriLife Extension provides accredited training to 10,860 school employees, with an annual wage base of \$627 million.
- By delivering quality education to the state's ginning managers and hourly employees, the *Cotton Ginners Schools* directly support 174 ginning jobs, with an estimated annual wage base of \$4.0 million.
- Through the *Beef Quality Assurance* program and training for cattle handlers, AgriLife Extension directly supports 86 cattle feedyard employees, who have an annual wage base of \$3.5 million.

In total, through its workforce-related continuing education and certification programs, AgriLife Extension directly supports 90,485 jobs in Texas, with an estimated annual wage base of \$1.8 billion.