



ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATION
TEACHER GRANT
PROGRAM

LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION TEACHER HONORED THROUGH
BEGINNING TEACHER GRANT PROGRAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2021

CONTACT: Susan Moore
Director, IAA Foundation
309-531-2225
smoore@ilfb.org

Armstrong, Ill.—

As Illinois continues to face an agricultural education teacher shortage, one group is tackling the issue through a grant program for beginning ag teachers.

This week, *Destiny Swalve* was selected as one of four new Agriculture Teachers in Illinois to receive recognition as a recipient of this teacher grant. Ms. Swalve applied for the grant program and was selected based on excellent efforts in the classroom as well as strong short and long term personal and agriculture program goals.

Representatives from Vermilion County Farm Bureau and the Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE) were on hand to announce the award to Ms. Swalve and her students.

Illinois agricultural education teachers completing their first year in the classroom are eligible to apply for this grant. The amount of the grant payment will increase over the course of the teacher's first five years in the classroom, up to \$10,000 total, if they meet the re-application process confirming they remain active as an agricultural education teacher in the state of Illinois

The Illinois Farm Bureau, through its charitable arm, the IAA Foundation, created the Illinois Agricultural Education Teacher Grant Program. Illinois Farm Bureau provided seed money to begin the program, and the IAA Foundation seeks additional funding partners to continue adding new first year teachers into the grant program, with a goal of funding 32 teachers over a twelve-year timeframe.

More program information can be found online at www.iaafoundation.org under "Our Mission at Work".

###

