

# Animal Science Major

## CAREERS

### Strategies & Tips for Success

- Participate in research programs and internships sponsored by government organizations and private corporations.
- Consider a certificate program or specialized master's program to qualify for research technician positions.
- Earn a master's degree for greater variety and autonomy on the job. Earn a Ph.D. to work on high-level research projects, direct research programs, enter high levels of administration, and teach at four-year post-secondary institutions.
- Join professional associations and community organizations. Read related journals to stay abreast of current issues in the field and to develop networking contacts.
- Actively participate in student organizations, competition teams, research laboratories, and other related activities.
- Secure strong relationships and personal recommendations from professors and/or employers.
- Learn federal, state, and local government job application process. The federal government is the largest employer of scientists.



Transform the Industry and Your Career

### Agriculture Animal Science Associate Science for Transfer (AST)

*Animal production for food, fiber, recreation, and companionship requires knowledge in a variety of areas including: diet, genetics, habitat, anatomy, physiology, nutrition, production, behavior, health, and welfare of large, small, and specialty animals. Animal Science degrees develop skills in management and production to prepare students for work in animal nutrition, reproduction, health, marketing, meats, and other areas in the livestock industry.*

### Core Major Courses

(in addition to GE and depending on your college):

- Intro to Animal Science
- Agriculture Accounting
- Two Animal Production Classes (Beef, Dairy, Equine, Poultry, Small Ruminant, Swine)
- Statistics
- Livestock Feeding and Nutrition
- Animal Health and Sanitation

### Career Examples

For the past three years—nationally—there has been twice as many career opportunities in agriculture as there are agriculture graduates. Popular jobs include:

- Dairy Nutritionist - \$80,000
- Range Manager - \$60,000
- Poultry Processing Production Manager - \$50,000

### More Information

If you would like more information about careers in animal science, visit [www.calagcc.org](http://www.calagcc.org).



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### Job Outlook and Salary Data

Ag Sector	2013 Jobs	5-Year New Jobs	% New Job Growth	Avg. Annual Salary
Support	500,088	46,522	9.3%	\$76,067
Production	382,833	720	0.2%	\$33,089
Processing	214,484	9,459	4.4%	\$58,717
Distribution	546,127	75,942	14.0%	\$46,645
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,643,532</b>	<b>132,643</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>\$53,630</b>

The Agriculture Value Chain is comprised of jobs in Agriculture Support, Agriculture Production, Agriculture Processing and Packaging, and Agriculture Distribution.

# OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND. FIND YOURS.

The table below highlights the many different paths graduates can take towards a successful career in animal science.

Area	Employer	Information/Strategies
<p><b>Farm Range Production and Management</b></p> <p><b>LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beef and Dairy Cattle, Swine, Poultry, Sheep, Horses</li> </ul> <p><b>LIVESTOCK FEED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production, Development, Quality Control, Distribution/Marketing</li> </ul> <p><b>MEAT AND DAIRY FOODS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production, Development, Quality Control, Distribution/Marketing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farm and Ranch Operations</li> <li>• Feed Companies and Operations</li> <li>• Meat and Dairy Processors</li> <li>• Processing Plants</li> <li>• Inspection Services</li> <li>• Extension Services</li> <li>• Government Agencies, including: U.S. Department of Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop physical stamina, outdoor skills, and comfort being in close proximity with large and small animals.</li> <li>• Gain work experience in area of interest through internships, summer jobs or part-time work.</li> <li>• Certificate in ag business if interested in management or self-employment.</li> <li>• Participate in related clubs and competition teams.</li> <li>• Become familiar with federal job application procedure for government work.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agribusiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sales <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Livestock</li> <li>- Feed</li> <li>- Pharmaceuticals</li> <li>- Agriculture Chemicals</li> <li>- Livestock Supplies</li> <li>- Equipment: Farm and Feedlot</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Management</li> <li>• Marketing</li> <li>• Public Relations</li> <li>• Customer Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Livestock and Feed</li> <li>• Pharmaceutical Companies</li> <li>• Equipment and Supply Companies</li> <li>• Food and Meat Processing Companies</li> <li>• Animal Health Firms</li> <li>• Breed Organizations</li> <li>• Food Distributors</li> <li>• Financial Institutions</li> <li>• Livestock Publications</li> <li>• Professional Associations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain relevant experience through internships.</li> <li>• Earn a certificate in ag business.</li> <li>• Join related student organizations and seek leadership roles.</li> <li>• Develop a strong commitment to customer satisfaction.</li> <li>• Practice excellent written and verbal communication skills.</li> <li>• Develop computer skills especially with spreadsheet, presentation, and database software.</li> <li>• Learn to work well both on a team and individually.</li> <li>• Join related clubs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching</li> <li>• Non-Classroom Education</li> <li>• Extension</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools (Elementary, Secondary, and Post-Secondary)</li> <li>• Extension Services</li> <li>• Agricultural Agencies</li> <li>• Agricultural Communications and Media Firms</li> <li>• Agribusinesses</li> <li>• Government Agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain teacher certification for elementary and secondary school positions.</li> <li>• Secure masters or doctoral degree for post-secondary teaching or other advanced positions.</li> <li>• Exercise strong interpersonal skills.</li> <li>• Practice excellent written and verbal communications skills.</li> <li>• Learn to work well with all types of people.</li> <li>• Seek leadership roles in student organizations.</li> <li>• Become familiar with federal job application procedure for government work.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Veterinary Medicine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas of Specialization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small Animal Care</li> <li>- Large Animal Care</li> <li>- Food Safety</li> <li>- Preventative Medicine</li> <li>- Surgery</li> <li>- Public Health</li> <li>- Laboratory Animal Medicine</li> <li>- Research</li> <li>- Inspection</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group or Private Practice</li> <li>• Federal Government, including: Department of Agriculture and Department of Health and Human Services</li> <li>• Colleges of Veterinarian Medicine</li> <li>• Medical Schools</li> <li>• Research Laboratories</li> <li>• Animal Food Companies</li> <li>• Inspection Services</li> <li>• Pharmaceutical Companies</li> <li>• Zoos</li> <li>• Wildlife Sanctuaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research veterinary programs, take pre-vet courses to meet veterinary school requirements, and prepare for application process.</li> <li>• Maintain an excellent grade point average.</li> <li>• Gain experience through volunteer positions, part-time jobs, or summer work. Work as a veterinary technician.</li> <li>• Secure strong recommendations from professors.</li> <li>• Develop physical stamina, outdoor skills, and comfort being in close proximity with large and small animals.</li> <li>• Practice strong interpersonal skills.</li> <li>• Gain laboratory and research experience for research positions.</li> <li>• Obtain internships at zoos or other wildlife sanctuaries. Become active in pre-vet and other related clubs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Science and Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Product and Process Development</li> <li>• Genetics and Animal Breeding</li> <li>• Animal Nutrition/Health/Disease Control</li> <li>• Animal Behavior, Training, and Caretaking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government and Corporate Laboratories</li> <li>• Colleges and Universities</li> <li>• Livestock Producers</li> <li>• Zoos</li> <li>• Wildlife Sanctuaries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degrees are often required in these positions.</li> <li>• Earn post-graduate certification through the Animal Certification Technician Board.</li> <li>• Gain extensive laboratory and research experience.</li> <li>• Supplement curriculum with additional science courses in relevant areas (e.g., genetics, animal behavior, microbiology).</li> <li>• Become familiar with federal job application procedure for government work.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Quality Control</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Livestock Feed Inspection</li> <li>• Harvest Operation Inspection</li> <li>• Meat and Dairy Inspection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government Agencies including: Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Department of Agriculture</li> <li>• Inspection services</li> <li>• Farm and Ranch Operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop physical stamina, outdoor skills, and comfort being in close proximity with large and small animals.</li> <li>• Become familiar with federal job application procedure for government work.</li> <li>• Gain work experience in area of interest through internships, summer jobs, or part-time work.</li> <li>• Practice strong interpersonal skills.</li> </ul>