# CAREER PATHS IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD INDUSTRY

IN SW/SC MN

## 4-YEAR OR MORE COLLEGE DEGREE AND/OR EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE

Food Scientists and Technologists \$33.69

Veterinarians \$44.83

## 1-2 YEAR COLLEGE DEGREE (OR CREDENTIAL)

Diesel Engine Specialists \$23.42

Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians \$25.11

Agricultural Inspectors \$29.53

Heavy & Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers \$21.89



Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers \$44.07

Slaughterers and Meat Packers \$15.31

Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse \$14.58

Agricultural Equipment
Operators
\$18.71

These jobs are in demand in Southwest and South Central Minnesota and these are SW/SC Minnesota Median wages. Data collected from Department of Employment and Economic Development.

## WHY CHOOSE A CAREER IN AG?

The Agriculture and Food Industry is the 2nd largest employer in Minnesota which includes 367,000 jobs that are directly and indirectly related to the industry.











View videos of career paths in the agriculture and food industry: www.careeronestop.org/Videos/CareerVideos/career-videos.aspx



## 4-YEAR OR MORE COLLEGE DEGREE AND/OR EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE

#### Food Scientists and Technologists \$33.69

Work with agricultural and food scientists in food, fiber, and animal research, production, and processing; and assist with animal breeding and nutrition. Conduct tests and experiments to improve yield and quality of crops or to increase the resistance of plants and animals to disease or insects. Includes technicians who assist food scientists or technologists in the research and development of production technology, quality control, packaging, processing, and use of foods.

**Veterinarians \$44.83** Diagnose, treat, or research diseases and injuries of animals. Includes veterinarians who conduct research and development, inspect livestock, or care for pets and companion animals.







### 1-2 YEAR COLLEGE DEGREE (OR CREDENTIAL)

Diesel Engine Specialists \$23.42 Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul buses and trucks, or maintain and repair any type of diesel engines. Includes mechanics working primarily with automobile or farm equipment and construction diesel engines.

Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians \$25.11 Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul farm machinery and vehicles, such as tractors, harvesters, dairy equipment, and irrigation systems. Agricultural Inspectors \$29.53 Inspect agricultural commodities, processing equipment, and facilities, and fish and logging operations, to ensure compliance with regulations and laws governing health, quality, and safety.

Heavy & Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers \$21.89 Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license.

#### HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED AND/OR EXPERIENCE

Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers \$44.07 Plan, direct, or coordinate the management or operation of farms, ranches, greenhouses, aqua cultural operations, nurseries, timber tracts, or other agricultural establishments. May hire, train, and supervise farm workers or contract for services to carry out the day-to-day activities of the managed operation. May engage in or supervise planting, cultivating, harvesting, and financial and marketing activities.

Slaughterers and Meat Packers \$15.31 Work in slaughtering, meat packing, or wholesale establishments performing precision functions involving the preparation of meat. Work may include specialized slaughtering tasks, cutting standard or premium cuts of meat for marketing, making sausage, or wrapping meats.

Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse \$14.58 Manually plant, cultivate, and harvest vegetables, fruits, nuts, horticultural specialties, and field crops. Use hand tools, such as shovels, trowels, hoes, tampers, pruning hooks, shears, and knives. Duties may include tilling soil and applying fertilizers; transplanting, weeding, thinning, or pruning crops; applying pesticides; or cleaning, grading, sorting, packing, and loading harvested products. May construct trellises, repair fences and farm buildings, or participate in irrigation activities.

Agricultural Equipment Operators \$18.71 Drive and control farm equipment to till soil and to plant, cultivate, and harvest crops. May perform tasks, such as crop baling or hay bucking. May operate stationary equipment to perform post-harvest tasks, such as husking, shelling, threshing, and ginning.



