

CHAPTER 4-37 AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

4-37-01. Agriculture in the classroom program.

Recognizing the need to promote and foster an understanding of the agricultural economy of the state of North Dakota and the values of rural lifestyles, an agriculture in the classroom program is established. The agriculture commissioner shall administer the program with the advice of the agriculture in the classroom council.

4-37-02. Agriculture in the classroom council.

1. The agriculture in the classroom council consists of seven individuals. The agriculture commissioner shall appoint six council members. The seventh council member is the superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee.
2. The council members may select one from among themselves to serve as the chairman.
3. The council shall meet at least twice each year, at the call of the chairman, for the purpose of providing advice to the agriculture commissioner regarding issues related to agriculture in the classroom.

4-37-03. Purpose - Powers and duties.

1. The agriculture commissioner may award grants and contract with any person for the provision of an agriculture in the classroom program, the development of agricultural curriculum activities applicable to students from kindergarten through grade twelve, and the training of teachers in agricultural curriculum activities.
2. The agriculture commissioner shall work with teachers, the superintendent of public instruction, the department of career and technical education, and the United States department of agriculture to provide and promote an agriculture in the classroom program.
3. In addition to any other powers and duties set forth in this section, the agriculture commissioner may:
 - a. Consult with the superintendent of public instruction, the department of career and technical education, the United States department of agriculture, and any other public or nonpublic entities;
 - b. Prepare instructional, informational, and reference publications on the North Dakota agricultural economy and rural lifestyles;
 - c. Provide training programs for public school teachers in agricultural curriculum activities;
 - d. Encourage research on and identification of new instructional, informational, and reference publications relating to this state's agricultural economy and rural lifestyles; and
 - e. Monitor the quality and condition of the agriculture in the classroom program.

4-37-04. Gifts and grants.

The agriculture commissioner may accept and expend gifts, grants, and donations in support of the agriculture in the classroom program. If any gifts, grants, or donations are designated for a specific purpose, the commissioner shall honor the purpose provided the purpose is consistent with this chapter.

4-37-05. Expenses of council members.

Members of the agriculture in the classroom council may not receive any compensation for their services on the council, but are entitled to be reimbursed for their expenses incurred in performing their duties in the amounts provided by law for state employees.