




MAELC
Minnesota Agricultural Education
Leadership Council

Sarah Dornink
Executive Director
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House Agriculture & Food Finance & Policy Division



Who are we?

- 17-member legislative council created in 1997
- Mission Statement: MAELC provides leadership to expand and grow agricultural education in Minnesota
- Staff includes Sarah Dornink, Executive Director and Kari Schwab, Program Coordinator



MAELC's Scope of Work

Advocacy - Engagement - Support

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resource Education (AFNR) Sectors

- Agricultural Literacy
- School-Based Agricultural Education
- Post-Secondary Education
- Teacher Preparation
- Farm Business Management (FBM)


www.mn.gov/maelc



2025 AFNR Blueprint




- A statewide strategic vision for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resource (AFNR) Education in Minnesota through 2025
- Accomplished through:
 - Listening Sessions
 - Committee Work
 - MAELC Board



MAELC Goals

- Increasing the **quality of instruction** to prepare strong graduates from diverse backgrounds for current and future careers in agriculture, food and natural resources (AFNR)
- Increasing the **numbers and types** of students, graduates, teachers, and community members involved in AFNR education to meet present and future needs
- Making accurate and complete information widely available to students, parents, school administrators, teachers, and employers to **improve understanding** of AFNR systems
- Ensuring AFNR education programs at all levels are **fully supported** locally and statewide

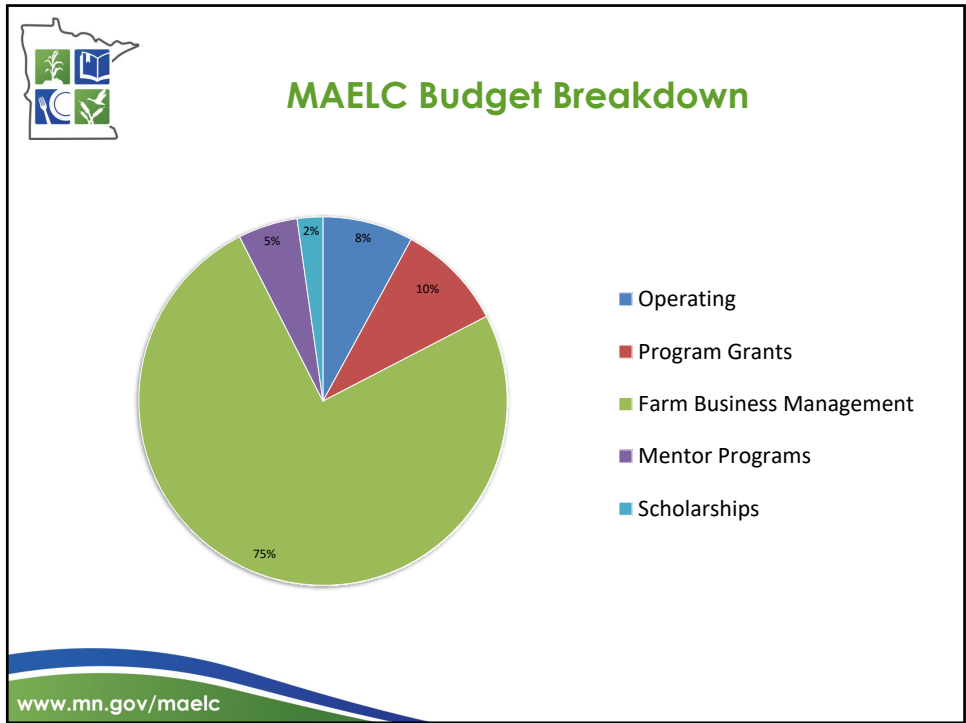


MAELC Funding

In 1997 the Minnesota Legislature provided a biennial special appropriation to the University of Minnesota base level funding for the enhancement of agricultural education programming. Original allocation was \$300,000

MAELC Operations & Scholarships	\$248,990
MAELC Grants, Special Initiatives & New Programming	\$235,000
Farm Business Management & Mentor Program Grants	\$2,000,000
Total Budget:	\$2,483,990/year

MAELC is housed at the University of Minnesota – St. Paul




Scholarship Funds

- Freshman & Continuing Undergraduate**
\$30,000
- Masters of Education-Initial Licensure**
\$21,000
- Diversity Fellowship**
\$10,000 (\$5,000 MAELC/\$5,000 donor match)

Since 2000, MAELC has provided 559 scholarships for over \$670,000 to students studying Agricultural Education at the post-secondary level.

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Program Grant Funds

\$235,000
**Passes through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture*

Two programs – Due November 15 and April 1

- Common Fund Grants (Statewide Projects)
- Strategic Initiative Grants

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Recent MAELC Common Fund Recipients

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project Description</u>
MN Agriculture in the Classroom	\$21,900	Food for Thought (Geography Mapping)
MN Association of Agricultural Educators	\$31,100	Professional Development for Agriculture Teachers
MN Department of Education	\$19,500	AFNR Curriculum Review
Minnesota FFA Association	\$7,760	Strategic Planning
University of Minnesota	\$11,240	Jr. MANRRS (<i>Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences</i>) Leadership Institute
University of Minnesota	\$14,670	Securing the Future of Agriscience Literacy: Communication Pedagogy in the Agriscience Classroom



MAELC Strategic Initiatives Grants

Focus Areas

Access


- New or expanding programs
- Experiences that grow understanding of AFNR
- Career exploration programs that recruit and retain future workforce

Program Improvement

- Integration of science, math and economic standards
- Securing equipment and technology
- Developing or improvement of AFNR courses


Teacher Professional Development

- Professional development opportunities at all career lifecycles of agricultural educators
- Programs that recruit, retain and transition agriculture teachers at all levels



MAELC Strategic Initiatives Recipients

- **Braham Area Schools** – UAV Technology, Engineering & Operation
- **Chatfield High School** - Chatfield Agriculture STEM Initiative
- **Crookston Public Schools** - Agriculture Program Initiative
- **Fulda High School** - Incorporating CASE - Natural Resources
- **Greenway High School** - Integration of Agriculture Classes
- **Hills-Beaver Creek High School** - Aquaponics System
- **New Ulm High School** - Eagle Enterprises (classroom equipment)
- **St. Francis-Saints Academy** - CASE Natural Resources & Ecology
- **Vermilion Community College** - High Quality Data Collection in a Tablet World
- **William Kelley High School** - Technology for AgriScience Inquiry


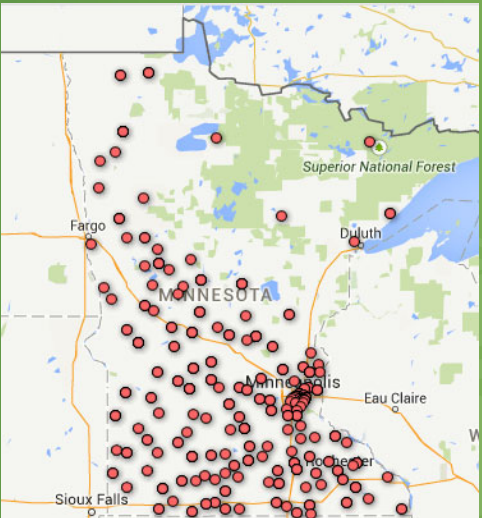


MAELC Grant Recipients

- 44% - Secondary Programs
- 26% - Post-Secondary
- 16% - Support Organizations
- 14% - Agricultural Literacy

Over \$4.1 million in 538 program grants awarded through 2018.

**Does not include FBM Grants and Mentor Programs*

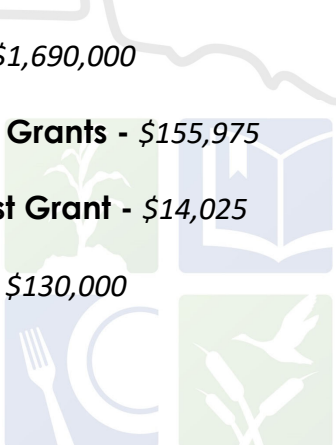


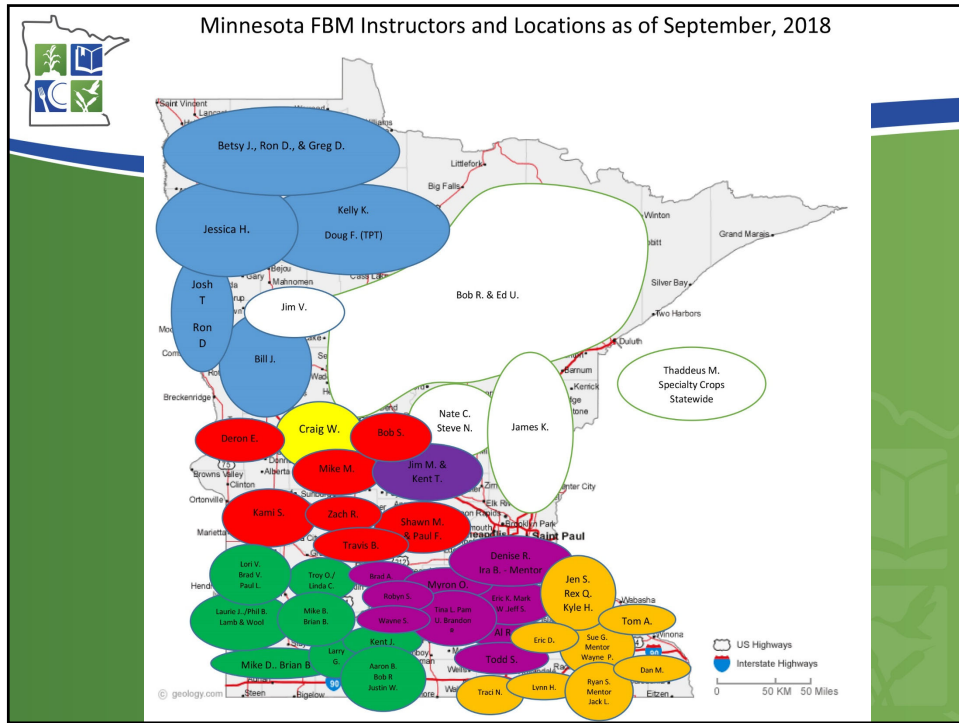
Farm Business Management (FBM) & Mentor Program Grant Funds

\$2,000,000 / year
**Passes through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture*

- FBM Challenge Grants - \$1,690,000
- FBM Additional Instructor Grants - \$155,975
- FBM Succession Specialist Grant - \$14,025
- Mentor Program Grants - \$130,000
- Evaluation - \$10,000

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H.F. 623

- **Additional funding increase for MAELC grants and special projects budget**

Current budget - \$235,000 (original appropriation \$250,000)

Increased funding request - \$265,000

New budget total - \$500,000
- **Focus areas:**

 - Increase MAELC grant program funds
 - Support MAELC programs to assist in the recruitment and retention of students, teachers and programs



MAELC

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Thank you.

For more information, contact Sarah Dornink at:

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