

# NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF TECHNICAL AGRICULTURE

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Welcome to the 2018-19 Course Catalog for the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture!

NCTA is an outstanding college, known for its small classes, friendly faculty, successful students, and safe campus environment. The college is highly focused on its mission – preparing students for lifelong careers in agriculture and veterinary technology.

Our programs have been recognized nationally for academic quality and return on educational investment. Analyses based on federal government data have ranked NCTA among the nation's top two-year colleges for graduate employment, graduate salaries, and graduate career success.

We work hard to provide students opportunities for maximum success. Whether in the classroom, field laboratory or on a competition team or club, Aggie students gain technical skills and develop their leadership potential.

NCTA is open admissions and low cost. Extensive government support allows the college to offer high-quality technical programs while keeping tuition costs low for students and their families. A generous scholarship and financial aid package attracts students from Nebraska and across the U.S. More than 73 percent of NCTA students receive grants and scholarships covering the cost of tuition and fees. In addition, work-study is available to provide supplemental income. Check with the business office for on-campus jobs.

NCTA is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and federally authorized for international students.

Our Aggie faculty focus on tangible learning activities and hands-on education. These applied technical skills lead to high-quality learning and best prepare students for the workforce. Nebraska employers are hiring NCTA graduates in agribusiness, livestock and equine management, agronomy and crop production, veterinary technology and animal health, and trades such as irrigation technology, welding and agricultural mechanics. Our faculty keep the NCTA curriculum current and relevant to the latest agricultural trends. You will find new classes and programs such as commercial poultry production available for 2018-2019.

The NCTA campus is small, easy to navigate, and very welcoming. Curtis residents and surrounding communities are highly supportive of NCTA students. Businesses and rural producers hire Aggie students for part-time jobs. They value the work ethic, integrity, kindness, and respect which are key strengths of our campus population.

Before students even arrive at NCTA for classes, our faculty and staff are ready to help each individual achieve success. We provide opportunity academically, financially and socially. Our campus culture embraces critical analysis, diversity, leadership development, and robust academic enrichment initiatives such as judging teams, campus clubs and student senate.

NCTA intercollegiate athletics focus on sports associated with agriculture and the rural lifestyle. Aggie students can join student clubs, participate in exciting programs, or compete with peers on traveling teams. NCTA Aggies often achieve success when competing nationally. Our crops judging team has won national titles, the livestock and agribusiness academic teams repeatedly rank in top placings, and local partners take

pride as they mentor Aggie students in our shotgun sports and stock dog teams.

These NCTA clubs, teams and organizations provide students with opportunities for leadership development, skill development and linkages through a vast network of industry contacts,

NCTA hosts more than 20 clubs, organizations and intramural sports opportunities such as Agribusiness Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Student Technicians of Veterinary Medicine and Women in Ag. Check out the campus fitness center for your daily physical fitness workouts.

Explore a broad array of academic programs in agriculture and veterinary technology. New this fall, students can enroll in a poultry production option of Agricultural Production Systems. In a partnership with Mississippi State University, students take three semesters of coursework here in Curtis with one semester of hands-on work at MSU in Starkville.

Expanded welding courses in our agricultural mechanics program prepare students for testing and certification through the American Welding Society. Our partnership with Reinke Irrigation trains irrigation technicians in a 1-year certification format. Newer programs in agricultural chemical application, equine management and dairy production add to our outstanding, traditional strengths in veterinary technology, animal science, crop production, and agribusiness.

We celebrate agriculture and a rural lifestyle. You'll see students riding horseback across campus and wearing spurs in the dining hall. Our 580-acre working farm north of campus is easily accessible for classwork. Livestock management students work with cattle, sheep, horses and swine, and veterinary technology species range from dogs, birds and cats to snakes, rodents, and exotics.

About 20 percent of NCTA graduates go on to four-year programs. Graduates can take a University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bachelor of Applied Science program and remain here at Curtis. While earning that BAS degree, students have full availability to NCTA services including residence hall living, college advising and financial aid assistance, library and computer access, and campus athletics. This BAS degree is through UNL's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. Campus career fairs and industry outreach link our students with employers.

It's a great time for NCTA students to enter the field of agriculture. With increasing demands on agricultural industries to provide even more food for a growing world, NCTA is committed to educating future producers and workforce leaders.

Let us help advance your career path here today, living and learning at NCTA.

Ron Rosati, Dean