



Lake Area Technical College and **South Dakota State University**

Dual-Degree Option

A.S. degree in Agricultural Science (SDSU) and A.A.S. degree in Agriculture (LATC)
at Lake Area Technical College

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is a dual-degree?** This option is designed to allow students to earn credits for an A.S. degree in Agricultural Science from SDSU while working on an A.A.S degree in Agriculture from LATC.

2. **What are the benefits of earning both degrees simultaneously?** This option will allow students to save time and earn two degrees at an overall lower cost. Students will also experience a teaching and learning environment which provides a breadth and depth of content and experiences in support of students' career goals. Students who wish to continue their education by earning a bachelor's degree at SDSU will begin as juniors with 60 credits completed of the 120 credits required for the B.S. degree in Agricultural Science.

3. **Can the A.S. degree credits be applied to any SDSU bachelor's degree programs other than Agricultural Science?** The A.S. degree program is designed specifically to account for half of the 120 credits required for the B.S. in Agricultural Science at SDSU. If a portion of the of the A.S. credits are to be applied toward a bachelor's degree program other than General AG Sciences, 60 additional credits would likely be needed for degree completion.

4. **How do I apply?** Applicants need to apply to both LATC and SDSU. To participate in this program, students must first be accepted to the LATC Agriculture program. However, students do need to be enrolled in both degrees at both colleges.

For LATC go to: [Click Here](#)

For SDSU go to: [Click Here](#)

5. **What are the requirements of the degree?** For the A.A.S. in Agriculture from LATC, students have multiple tracks/options to choose from that coincide with the Dual-Degree. For details go to www.lakeareatech.edu. For the A.S. in Agricultural Sciences from SDSU, students will be required to complete 18 credits of general education courses work (English, speech, mathematics, social and behavioral sciences, humanities and arts and natural sciences), 18 credits of Agricultural Sciences major requirements and 24 credits of electives.

6. How do I access the required courses? All courses are offered either at LATC in Watertown, SD or online.

7. How much does it cost? Since you will be a full-time Lake Area Tech student enrolled in the Agriculture program, you will pay the normal tuition and fees for that program as outlined on the LATC website. When you take the SDSU Agricultural Science classes from the SDSU main campus (either in person or online), SDSU will accept the LATC Special Status student rate. Check with your advisor or admissions representative for the current Special Status tuition and fees rate per credit (as a dual enrolled student you will have already paid your department fee). Additional expenses may include student fees, tools (if needed), books, laptop, etc. For more information contact the admissions or financial aid office at Lake Area Technical College.

8. Will Financial Aid cover both degrees? It is a little complicated, but yes. You will need to work with both the LATC and SDSU Financial Aid offices for further clarification, information and processes.

9. Will I earn my degree(s) from LATC, SDSU or both?

You will earn your degree from both institutions. The A.A.S degree will be awarded by LATC and the A.S degree will be awarded by SDSU.

10. What if I decide to pursue the A.S. degree in Agricultural Sciences a semester or more after I start the A.A.S. degree in Agriculture? Can I still pursue the 2nd degree?

Yes, you can add the 2nd degree option at a later date.

11. Can I complete only the A.S. in Agricultural Sciences at LATC? No, you will need to be enrolled in and complete the A.A.S degree in Agriculture at LATC for your courses to transfer to SDSU to meet some of the A.S. degree requirements.

12. Who will serve as my academic advisor? Will I have one at each institution?

You will be assigned an academic advisor at both institutions – one for the A.A.S. degree at LATC and one for the A.S. degree at SDSU.

13. When I earn both degrees, can I attend commencement ceremonies at both institutions?

Yes, you may participate in both ceremonies.

14. Who do I contact if I have questions?

At Lake Area Technical College: Greg Miller, Department Supervisor, Agriculture Division, Box 730, 1201 Arrow Avenue, (605) 882-5284 (Ext. 470); Greg.miller@lakeareatech.edu.

At South Dakota State University: Bradley Blaha, Recruitment & Academic Services Coordinator, College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences, Box 2207, Berg Agricultural Hall 156, (605)-688-5133; Bradley.Blaha@sdstate.edu