Essential Elements Of A Supervised Agricultural Experience

An Introduction to SAEs and Project Types, the focus:
1. Essential Elements of an SAE
2. Types of SAE Opportunities with examples
Essential Elements Of An SAE

- An SAE is an important educational experience for all students in agricultural education. You are the LEADER of YOUR project
- SAEs are mainly experiences that help you build your future career plan
- An SAE is comprised of three essential elements:
  1. Planning
  2. Documenting
  3. Annual Summary & Supervision
Planning Your SAE

A good plan includes:

1. An Introduction
   • Project description/name, your interest, begin/end dates and other basic concepts

2. Needed resources for the project
   • Planned time in excess of your normal classroom time
   • Planned money or inventory (if needed)

3. Who will assist in your project (supervision)

4. Planned learning outcomes
   • How does your project connect to common learning outcomes, which are connected to content taught in agricultural education courses
Documenting Your SAE

SAE record keeping is an educational experience of tracking your investment of resources (time and possibly money) as well as measuring outcomes.

The elements of Documenting include:

- **Use of a record book** that encompasses SAE, FFA and educational experiences
- **Frequently recording entries** of time, and if related, monetary investment
- **Reporting to reflect on outcomes** and organizing records to aid in additional opportunities
Your Project Involves Supervision

Supervision is the final essential element of an SAE and is very important for assessing your work and making new plans for the future.

The elements of Supervision include:

• You would review annual reports, records and develop an annual summary, which helps provide supervisors with information to access
• Assisting you in achieving project objectives
• Grading your SAE project plan, SAE records and SAE outcomes
Level (Types) Of SAE Opportunities

Choose a Focus Area for your SAE project:

1. **Individual** - is student and/or family supported and bears all of the risk and seeks returns (income or paycheck)

2. **School-based Enterprise** - is entrepreneurship in nature and the school manages the risk, but the enterprise is student managed in hopes of creating returns for the school and student(s)

3. **Service Learning Project** - is completed to provide a service to the school, public entity or community. This project must be a stand-alone project and not part of another activity.

NEXT?...categories or types of SAEs help define your experience
Type Of SAE Opportunities - #1 Foundational (Exploration)

1. Foundational SAE (exploration):
   - Designed as a base project to gain experience and is a grouping of experiences
   - Time is the key invested resource
   - This SAE encourages immersion into a more advanced SAE types (Placement, Research & Entrepreneurship)
   - Possibly contributes to FFA awards (State specific)
   - Main focus, projects that assist the student to reach their personal/career goals

Examples could include:
- Career exploration or job shadowing,
- Attending an educational event (an artificial insemination clinic or welding certification event)
- Learning about gardening through a community garden project
Type Of SAE Opportunities - #2 Research

2. Research SAE:

- Applies to using the scientific method to answer a research question, analyze information or develop a new product through invention
- Typically involves research and then develop a report of results
- Time and potentially money are invested resources related to AFNR content
- Typically contributes to State and National FFA awards

Examples could include:

- Measure plant growth with varying light exposure (Experimentation)
- Measure student perceptions of biotechnology (Experimentation)
- Review water quality regulation and develop a summary (Analytical)
- Develop new equipment for smaller horsepower tractors (Invention)
Type Of SAE Opportunities - #3 Placement

3. Placement SAE:

- Paid or unpaid work experience relating to aligned to national/state content standards
- If money is earned, the project is a paid work-based experience
- Time is the invested resource and learning is through work-experience
- Typically contributes to State and National FFA awards

Examples could include:

- Working at school greenhouse
- Working at veterinary clinic caring for small animals
- A management internship at farm supply retailer
- Working at a family farm operation in production and equipment maintenance
Type Of SAE Opportunities - #4 Entrepreneurship

4. Entrepreneurship SAE:
   • A business and for-profit venture that relates to AFNR content areas
   • Time & money are invested resources
   • Must include financial risk by the student
   • Typically Contributes to State and National FFA awards

Examples could include:
- Operate a feed sales business
- Operate a lawn care business
- Raise and sell a market animal at state fair
- Operate a breeding swine business
- Operate a farmers market business
Resources Needed & SAE Opportunities

SAE Monetary Investment $

Risk

Time (RESPONSIBILITY)

Placement SAE (unpaid)

Entrepreneurship (High Risk $ and Time)

Paid Placement (Lower Risk, High Time)

Research

SAE Monetary Investment

little or no risk

Placement SAE (unpaid)

Foundational #1 SAE

Found. #2 SAE

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Summary Of Essential Elements Of An SAE

An SAE requires:

1. Planning
2. Documenting
3. Supervision

SAE Types involve:

1. Foundational (Exploration) - Gaining experiences
2. Research - Learning through applying the scientific method, analyzing or inventing
3. Placement - Learning through a job experience
4. Entrepreneurship - Learning through a business experience through attempting to earn profit.

Explore The Details Of Each SAE To Learn More