



Dear Georgia Teachers:

I am writing today to tell you about a special opportunity to receive a \$1000 educational grant from the Georgia Agribusiness Council. The 2026 Dr. Joe B. Crane Classroom Grant Program will award up to two Georgia teachers this money to teach agriculture in the classroom.

"Dr. Joe" joined the Georgia Agribusiness Council Board of Directors in 1986. On this board, he served on the education committee for many years and always championed the Council's educational efforts. Education was always very important to Dr. Joe, as he served thirty-one years on the Valdosta City Board of Education. The Dr. Joe B. Crane Classroom Grant program was initiated by him and later named in his honor. He passed away in October 2006.

The Georgia Agribusiness Council is pleased to offer up to two \$1000.00 grants to help fund special classroom projects through this program. We want to provide you the resources needed to bring agriculture to your students in an interesting and thoughtful way.

Agribusiness is Georgia's largest industry, providing a \$73.3 billion economic impact in 2016. The Georgia Agribusiness Council is made up of over 1,200 agribusinesses across the state and we work through our membership to ensure that this industry continues to grow in the years ahead. This is an excellent opportunity for two Georgia teachers, and I hope you will consider applying this year. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,
Jake Tench
Georgia Agribusiness Council
jtench@ga-agribusiness.org | 706.336.6830 | C: 706.768.4770

- **PURPOSE:** *To provide grant assistance to Georgia teachers in order to fund special classroom projects aimed at teaching agriculture.*
- **FUNDS:** *Proceeds are derived from the Georgia Agribusiness Council Foundation and donations from other agricultural businesses.*
- **AWARD:** *Two at \$1000; Grant recipient to be awarded money in December 2026.*
- **JUDGING:** *The selection of the scholarship winner is made by the Education Committee of the Georgia Agribusiness Council and is based on the criteria listed below.*
- **DEADLINE:** *Applications are due by email or faxed or postmarked by October 16, 2026. Winners will be announced in November and receive their award before the end of the year.*
- **CRITERIA:** *Applicant must be a Georgia teacher, public or private. You do not have to be an agriculture teacher to apply. Any Georgia teacher is eligible to receive funding.*
- **REQUIREMENTS:** *Please mail, e-mail or fax page 2 of this application along with separate page answers for the five questions on page 3 to our office.*



DR. JOE B. CRANE CLASSROOM GRANT APPLICATION

IDEAS FOR PROPOSALS

- Environmental stewardship of farming practices (safe use of fertilizers & chemicals)
- Food & Fiber production and processing (how crops make it from the farm to the table)
- Environmental Impacts on plant/livestock production (Impacts of drought, flooding, disease, etc.)
- How to manage the business of farming (planting, harvesting, marketing, selling, etc.)
- How agriculture is growing the renewable fuels of the future (ethanol and biodiesel sources)
- How laws and regulations have changed agriculture (water use, fertilizer, chemicals, safety, etc.)

PAST WINNING PROJECTS

- Fourth grade students planted gardens in empty school courtyard and learned about fertilizer and chemical use, marketing a product and plant & soil science.
- High school agriculture students introduced an agricultural awareness day to the rest of the student body.
- Kindergarteners participated in "Farm Fridays," using different letters of the alphabet to learn about different types of agriculture.
- Third grade students planted a square foot garden and monitored plant growth and progress, soil levels and water use.

TEACHER NAME _____

PROJECT TITLE _____

SCHOOL NAME _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ GRADE _____

SIGNATURES REQUIRED

SIGNATURE _____
Teacher

Principal

PRINT _____
Teacher

Principal



DR. JOE B. CRANE CLASSROOM GRANT APPLICATION

Please answer the following questions on a separate document and return it with your application.

- **OBJECTIVES:** List at least three learning objectives that will take place as a result of the students' participation in this agriculturally inspired project.
- **PLAN OF ACTION:** What project will accomplish those objectives? How, when and where will the project be implemented?

Please be as detailed as possible by including any community/student/school needs the project will address, why the project is important, the project's target audience, a proposed timeline, etc.

- **IMPACT AND EVALUATION:** How will you measure what students have learned?
- **BUDGET:** Provide a brief, itemized list of materials required for the project along with the estimated costs.
- **BONUS:** Please provide any other useful information that will help the selection committee better evaluate the potential impact of this grant application.

Selected projects will be required to submit a progress report with photo documentation both during the project and after the project's completion. The project should be completed within twelve months of receipt of funds.

Send page 2 of this application packet along with the answers to the above questions to the Georgia Agribusiness Council office by mail*, e-mail or fax by October 16, 2026.

Mailing Address

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***APPLICATIONS ARE DUE POSTMARKED BY OCTOBER 16, 2026.**