



2025 Kansas State Degree

KS

KS0094

604592209

1



Student Approval

Applicant Name

Mason Mitzner

Chapter Name

Prairie View

- I have maintained records to substantiate my supervised agricultural experience program which exhibit comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise and will provide these records to my local and state FFA advisors and staff, or their designated representatives, on demand.
- I have prepared this application and certify that the records are true, complete and accurate, and that I hereby permit for publicity purposes the use of any information included in the application.

3/2/2025 2:59:00 PM

Date

Mason Mitzner

Candidate's Signature

Advisor Approval

- I have reviewed this applicant's supervised agricultural experience (SAE) records and verify they exist and exhibit comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise.
- I have verified the application and find that the statements contained herein match the applicants SAE records and are such that I am able to recommend the applicant for the Degree/Award.
- Furthermore, I verify that the applicant has conducted him/herself in a manner to be a credit to the organization, chapter, school and community.

Date

Chapter Advisor Signature

Parent/Guardian Approval

- I have examined this application and find that the records are true, accurate and complete. We hereby permit for publicity purposes the use of any information included in this application.

2/28/2025 4:00:00 PM

Date

Lesli E George-Mitzner lesligorgemitzner@yahoo.com

Parent/Guardian Signature

Principal or Superintendent Approval

- I hereby certify this applicant has achieved a high school record of "C" or better and has a satisfactory record of scholarship and participation in school activities.

2/28/2025 2:45:00 PM

Date

Kate Gronquist kgronquist@pv362.org

School Principal or Superintendent



2025 Kansas State Degree

KS

KS0094

604592209

1



Applicant Contact Information

Name as you want it to appear on the certificate

Mason Mitzner

Gender

Male

Address

820 Elm St

City

La Cygne

State

KS

Zip Code

66040-3100

Email Address

masonmitzner33@gmail.com

Name on the FFA Chapter Roster (if different)

Name Pronunciation

Home Phone

913-837-0378

Parent/Guardian Name

Jerome Mitzner

Parent/Guardian Name

Lesli George-Mitzner

Parent/Guardian Occupation

Firefighter

Parent/Guardian Occupation

Front Desk Worker

Chapter Information

FFA Chapter Name

Prairie View

School Name

Prairie View

School Address

13731 KS HIGHWAY 152

School City

La Cygne

School State

KS

School Zip Code

66040

School Phone

(913)757-4447

Chapter Advisor(s)

Melisa Bertz; Trenton Smedley

FFA History

Year FFA Membership Began

2021

Year Received Greenhand Degree

2021

Year Received Chapter Degree

2022

Had continuous active FFA membership for the past 24 months?

Yes

Have your State and National FFA Dues been paid?

Yes

Education Information

High School Graduation Year

2025

If not, give date left school

Years of Ag Education Offered (grades 7-12) in high school last attended

4.50

Ag Education completed in High School

Years: 3.50 Hours: 630

Postsecondary/Vo-Tech Education Completed

Semesters: Quarters:

Four-year College Completed

Semesters: Quarters:

Major

School Attended

Military Duty - Dates of Full-Time Active Military Duty

World Experiences in Agriculture - Date of International Placement





2025 Kansas State Degree

Basic Award Setup Information

I. Application Dates

Began Agricultural Education
8/19/2021

Application Ending Date
12/31/2024

II. SAE Types

- ☐ Exploratory, Supplemental, or Improvement
- ☐ Research
- ☒ Placement
- ☐ Entrepreneurship

III. Assets

1. Current/Operating Assets	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Cash on hand, checking and savings	\$702	\$8,341
b. Cash value - bonds, stocks, life insurance	\$0	\$0
c. Notes & Accounts Receivable	\$0	\$0
d. Current Inventory (Entrepreneurship Experiences)		Itemized ending inventory values are reported on "Ending Current Inventory" page.
1. Investment in harvesting and growing crops	\$0	
2. Investment in feed, seed, fertilizer, chemical, supplies, prepaid expenses, and other current assets	\$0	
3. Investment in merchandise, crops and animals purchased for resale	\$0	
4. Investment in raised market livestock & poultry	\$0	
2. Non-Current Inventory	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Investment in non-depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	Itemized ending inventory values are reported on "Ending Non-Current Inventory" page.
b. Investment in depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	
c. Investment in depreciable machinery, equipment, and fixtures	\$0	
d. Investment in depreciable land improvements, buildings, and fixtures	\$0	
e. Investment in land	\$0	

IV. Liabilities	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Accounts and notes payable	\$0	\$0
b. Current portion of non-current debt (the portion of non-current debt during this calendar year)	\$0	\$0
c. Real Estate Mortgages (total real estate mortgages minus current portions)	\$0	\$0
d. Other non-current liabilities (total other non-current liabilities minus current portions)	\$0	\$0

V. Personal Cash Income & Expense	Total Value
a. Sources of cash gifts	\$2,129
b. Sources of cash from Ag related (non-SAE) and personal earnings	\$20
c. (Deduct) Total Personal Expense/Draw	\$15,065
d. (Deduct) Education Expenses Taken Out	\$1,271





2025 Kansas State Degree

Supervised Agricultural Experience - Placement and Exploratory

2021

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Power, Structural and Technical Systems	Sam George Farms This is my placement SAE where I was imployed for Sam George Farms. This year I gained skills in the areas of operating tractors, working on equipment, and performing routine maintenance. I earned a total of \$64 and worked a total of 8 hours.		8	8	\$64	
	TOTAL		8	8	\$64	

2022

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Power, Structural and Technical Systems	Sam George Farms My SAE project started in the month of June this year, and my SAE is based on hours. In this year, I learned specific skills such as combining. My project is ongoing into next year. This year, important outcomes such as money earned were used to measure my success.		509	509	\$3,287	
Agribusiness Systems	CJ Feed My SAE project started in the month of September this year, and my SAE is based on hours worked. I was hired as a feed store clerk with a responsibility to help customers. In this year, I learned skills such as carrying the correct feed out to customers' vehicles, putting together orders for specialty customers, and running the cash register with the computer program. My project is ongoing into next year. This year, important outcomes were \$2,105 earned and 212 hours worked.		211	211	\$2,105	
	TOTAL		720	720	\$5,392	

2023

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Power, Structural and Technical Systems	Sam George Farms My SAE project started in the month of July this year, and my SAE is based on hours. In this year, I learned specific skills such as framing interior walls. My project is ongoing into next year. This year, important outcomes such as framing walls with minimal supervision were used to measure/track my success.		49	49	\$622	
Agribusiness Systems	CJ Feed My SAE project was continued from last year, with the same title am responsibilities. In this year, I learned specific skills such as digitally entering inventory and what products to suggest to customers based on their needs. My project is ongoing into next year. This year, important outcomes such as a \$1.50 pay increase were used to track my success. I earned \$7,232 and worked 785 hours.		775	775	\$7,233	
	TOTAL		824	824	\$7,855	

2024

Pathway	Employer or Project Name Job Title, Responsibilities, or Project Description	Unpaid Hours	Paid Hours	Total Hours	Gross Earnings	Current Expenses
Power, Structural and Technical Systems	Sam George Farms My SAE project started in the month of June this year, and my SAE is based on hours worked. In this year, I expanded on my skills of operating machinery. I continued my skills in fabricating structures with rebuilding a barn after storm damage. This year, important outcomes were hauling grain independently and acted as a foreman assistant to lead multiple groups in the barn rebuild.		448	448	\$6,268	



Agribusiness Systems	CJ Feed My SAE project continued from the previous year until late May. In this year I learned important skills such as marketing and sales strategies. I learned how to build rapport with customers, successfully close sales, and advertise different products based on popularity. This year, important outcomes were increased customers due to digital marketing. I earned \$2,246 and worked 145 hours.		149	149	\$2,247	
	TOTAL		597	597	\$8,515	





2025 Kansas State Degree

Financial Balance Sheet Statement - Assets & Liabilities

A. Assets	Beginning Value	Ending Value
1. Current Assets		
a. Cash on hand, checking and savings	\$702	\$8,341
b. Cash Value - Bonds, stocks, life insurance	\$0	\$0
c. Notes & Accounts Receivable	\$0	\$0
d. Current Inventory (Entrepreneurship Experiences)		
1. Investment in harvesting and growing crops/plants	\$0	\$0
2. Investment in feed, seed, fertilizer, chemical, supplies, prepaid expenses, and other current assets	\$0	\$0
3. Investment in merchandise, crops, and animals purchased for resale	\$0	\$0
4. Investment in raised market animals	\$0	\$0
e. Total Current Inventory	\$0	\$0
f. Total Current Assets	\$702	\$8,341
2. Non-Current Assets		
a. Non-Current Inventory		
1. Investment in non-depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	\$0
2. Investment in depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	\$0
3. Investment in depreciable machinery, equipment, and fixtures	\$0	\$0
4. Investment in depreciable land improvements, buildings, and fences	\$0	\$0
5. Investment in land	\$0	\$0
b. Total Non-Current Assets	\$0	\$0
3. Total Assets	\$702	\$8,341
B. Liabilities		
1. Current Liabilities		
a. Accounts and Notes Payable	\$0	\$0
b. Current Portion of Non-Current Debt (the portion of non-current debt during this calendar year)	\$0	\$0
c. Total Current Liabilities	\$0	\$0
2. Non-Current Liabilities		
a. Real Estate Mortgages	\$0	\$0
b. Other Non-Current Liabilities	\$0	\$0
c. Total Non-Current Liabilities	\$0	\$0
3. Total Liabilities	\$0	\$0





2025 Kansas State Degree

Financial Balance Sheet Information - Personal Contribution & Net Worth

C. Summary of Contributed Capital (Personal Finances in Balance Sheet)

1. Beginning Value	\$702
2. Sources of Cash Gifts	\$2,129
3. Sources of Cash from Ag Related (non-SAE) and personal earnings	\$20
4. Sources of Non-Cash Contributions (Current and Non-Current)	\$0
5. (Deduct) Non-Cash Sales for "Used at Home"	\$0
6. (Deduct) Total Personal Draw	\$15,065
7. (Deduct) Education Expenses Taken Out	\$1,271
8. Net Personal Contribution	-\$13,485

D. Net Worth	Beginning Value	Ending Value
1. Contributed Capital (Represents the value of personal contribution)	\$702	-\$13,485
2. Retained Earnings (Represents the value of SAE net income, entrepreneurship, placement, research)		\$21,826
3. Total Net Worth	\$702	\$8,341
4. Total Liabilities & Net Worth	\$702	\$8,341

E. Accuracy Check for the Balance Sheet (Assets = Liabilities + Equity) & Growth

1. Beginning Value	MET	
2. Ending Value		MET
3. Difference (met = \$0)	\$0	\$0
4. Total Growth in Equity		\$7,639

F. Financial Management Ratios

1. Current Ratio (Measure of Liquidity) (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)		
2. Working Capital (Measure of Liquidity) (Total Current Assets minus Total Current Liabilities)	\$702	\$8,341





2025 Kansas State Degree

Financial Balance Sheet Statement - Earnings & Productively Invested

G. SAE Earnings

1. Placement SAE Earnings (Cash)	\$21,826
2. Entrepreneurship SAE Earnings (Cash & Non-Cash)	\$0
3. Total SAE Earnings (Retained Earnings)	\$21,826

H. Productively Invested

1. Change in Net Worth (Productively Invested from Operations)	\$7,639
2. (Add) Total Educational Expenses (Personal Use)	\$1,271
3. (Deduct) Net Sources of Assets from Gifts or Non-SAE	\$0
4. Total Growth in Productively Invested	\$8,910

I. Unpaid Hours

1. Total Unpaid Hours	0
2. Factor Per Hour	3.56
3. Unpaid hours allowance (hours x rate)	0

J. Qualification Check

	Your Value	Condition
Qualified under at least one option (Details of each option are listed below)		Met
Option 1 Conditions - Qualification on Finances		
a. Productively Invested at least \$2000	\$8,910	Met
b. SAE Earnings at least \$2000	\$21,826	Met
Option 2 Conditions - Qualification on Unpaid Hours		
a. Unpaid Hours at least 600	0	
Option 3 Conditions - Qualification on Combination		
a. Unpaid Hours/600 + Productively Invested/\$2000 is at least 100%	445%	Met
b. Unpaid Hours/600 + SAE Earnings/\$2000 is at least 100%	1,091%	Met





2025 Kansas State Degree

Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge

A. Skills, Competencies, Knowledge

AFNR Performance Indicator		Contributions to Success
1	ABS.01.01 Apply micro- and macroeconomic principles to plan and manage inputs and outputs in an AFNR business.	In my second year of working for CJ Feed & Supply, I took an agribusiness class to help the business run better. I learned skills in making sales which transferred over to building rapport, assessing customers' needs, and closing sales at the feed store. I learned how different factors affected what products were being bought, and I used this knowledge to know what products needed to be sold more heavily or be ordered.
2	ABS.01.03 Devise and apply management skills to organize and run an AFNR business in an efficient, legal and ethical manner.	The agribusiness class I took also polished my soft skills and introduced management skills to better my abilities at CJ Feed & Supply. It polished by ability to speak effectively with coworkers to communicate the needs of myself and customers. I learned how to delegate work to other coworkers when needed, while also leading by example to get work done.
3	ABS.02.01 Apply fundamental accounting principles, systems, tools and applicable laws and regulations to record, track and audit AFNR business transactions (e.g., accounts, debits, credits, assets, liabilities, equity, etc.).	I used the QuickBooks program to track sales. This program recorded who made the sale, what customer made the purchase, and how much of each product they bought. This program automatically tracked the inventory, but new products being put out had to be entered manually. We would use a paper inventory sheet to cross examine the inventory and track any changes in the computer program.
4	ABS.05.01 Analyze the role of markets, trade, competition and price in relation to an AFNR business sales and marketing plans.	As the demand of different products changed throughout the year, so did the arrangement of the store. We would place popular products in more accessible places. We would put ice melt up front during the winter, or fly mineral on shelves close to the counter. We would have sales on seasonal products to bring in customers away from competition.
5	ABS.05.03 Assess marketing principles and develop marketing plans to accomplish AFNR business objectives.	In order to bring in more customers, we would make advertisements on social media, like FaceBook, for new products or items on sale. New or seasonal products would be heavily advertised. We would set up signs and displays for chicks and fly medication, which brought in massive amounts of business,
6	AS.03.02 Analyze feed rations and assess if they meet the nutritional needs of animals.	My main task when customers came into the store was to help them find the right feed. There were many factors to consider when suggesting feed. I had to consider the type of livestock, special circumstances of the livestock, and price range of the customer. I would ask questions to get the details of these factors. Depending on their situation I could recommend different feeds based on nutrient content compared to the price.
7	PST.02.02 Operate machinery and equipment while observing all safety precautions in AFNR settings.	When I would operate the forklift, I would always make sure there was not anyone or anything in the way, which I might hit. I made sure not to have too heavy of a load on the forklift. I would make sure I was driving at a reasonable speed, so I would not hit anything and be able to brake easily.
8	CRP.01.01 Model personal responsibility in the workplace and community.	Within my first six months of working at the feed store, I had a key to the store because of my responsibility. I often would clean up after other employees and stay late to finish tasks they did not complete. When I made mistakes, I held myself accountable. I would ask questions about things I did not have knowledge on to prevent future mistakes, and I made sure to always be busy.
9	CRP.02.02 Use strategic thinking to connect and apply technical concepts to solve problems in the workplace and community.	I took an agribusiness class to better understand the functions of the feed store. In this class we learned how to interact with customers and make sales. I applied this to my interactions with customers in the feed store. I always tried to build rapport with customers by making cordial conversation and offering a smile when they walked into the store.



10	CRP.04.03 Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.	Customer service was highly important to my work at the feed store. When customers were in the feed store, I always talked with them clearly and respectfully. I would try to remember details about returning customers, so I could reiterate personable details into conversation to make them feel welcome. I would talk to both customers and coworkers with a positive and friendly demeanor to make the feed store a warm and welcoming environment.
----	---	--





2025 Kansas State Degree

Leadership/FFA Activities

Activity	Chapter	Area, District or Region	State	National Finals Multi-State	National
August Meeting / Back to School	22				
Back to School August	24				
Back to School Meeting	23				
Back to school night	21				
Blue & Gold/Seitz Chapter Fundraising	21				
Border War Food Drive			23		
CDE: Agricultural Communications - Ag Communications		23			
CDE: Agricultural Communications - Agricultural Communications			24		
CDE: Agricultural Sales - Agricultural Sales		24	24		
CDE: Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems - Ag Mechanics		23			
CDE: Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems - Farm Equipment CDE		23			
CDE: Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems - State Ag Mech			23		
CDE: Extemporaneous Speaking - Extemporaneous Speaking		24			
CDE: Extemporaneous Speaking - Public Speaking		23			
CDE: Farm Business Management - Farm & Agribusiness Management		24			
CDE: Farm Business Management - Farm Business Management			24		
CDE: Farm Business Management - Fort Scott Aggie Days		24			
CDE: Junior Quiz - ECD Greenhand Knowledge Test		21			
CDE: Opening and Closing Ceremonies - Leadership School		24			
Chapter FFA Banquet	22				
Chili Feed Donations	22				
Concordia Leadership Training			24		
December Degree Ceremony	22				
December meeting	24				
December Meeting/ Greenhand Ceremony	21				
December Monthly Meeting	23				
ECD Banquet		23			
ECD Greenhand Conference		21			
ECD Star Placement Interview		23			
Economic Development	22				
Fall Fundraiser	22				
February - Breakfast	22				
February Monthly Meeting - FFA Week	23				
FFA Week	23				
Greenhand Conference		23			
Hay bale decorating	21				
Haybale Decorating	24				
Human Resources Meeting	22				
January FFA Mtg/Kickin Chicken	22				
January Monthly	23				
January/February Monthly Meeting	24				
Kincaid Fair		24			
March Meeting/ Chapter Degree Ceremony	22				



March Monthly Meeting	23,24				
May Chapter Meeting XLT	23				
May Monthly - XLT	22				
May Monthly Meeting	24				
National FFA Week Hat Day	22				
National FFA Week T-Shirt & Jacket	22				
National FFA Week XLT Kahoot	22				
November Meeting	24				
November Monthly Meeting	21,23				
October FFA Meeting/ Cowboy Night	21				
October Meeting / Haybale Decorating	22				
October Monthly Meeting	23				
October XLT Meeting	24				
Office: Treasurer	24				
September FFA Meeting	22				
September Monthly Meeting	23				
September XLT meeting	24				
State Fair			24		
XLT Meeting	21				





2025 Kansas State Degree

Community Service

2021

Individual / Group / Organization to whom service was PROVIDED	Service performed and whom you performed the service with if applicable	Hours
La Cygne Food Pantry	I purchased and donated canned goods for the Block The Door Event.	1.00
Operation Christmas Child	I shopped for toys for Operation Christmas Child	3.00
TOTAL		4.00

2022

Individual / Group / Organization to whom service was PROVIDED	Service performed and whom you performed the service with if applicable	Hours
Linn County Veteran's Day	I assisted with the program that honored our local veterans. This included setting up for the program and playing in the band.	4.00
Little Buffs Basketball	I helped with the Little Buffs Basketball clinic.	2.00
TOTAL		6.00

2023

Individual / Group / Organization to whom service was PROVIDED	Service performed and whom you performed the service with if applicable	Hours
Community Blood Center	I donated blood	2.00
La Cygne Fire Department	I purchased gifts for families in need in LaCygne for the Christmas holiday. I also spent several hours wrapping and delivering the gifts to the coordinator of the project	11.00
Parker Days	I supervised the rides at the annual Parker Days.	3.00
TOTAL		16.00

2024

Individual / Group / Organization to whom service was PROVIDED	Service performed and whom you performed the service with if applicable	Hours
Angel Tree	As an FFA chapter we shopped for 8 children in need during the holidays.	2.00
Community Blood Center	I donated blood	1.00
Community Blood Center	I gave blood	1.00
La Cygne Food Pantry	I donated 180 points worth of cans for the "Block the Door" food drive and helped with collection and distribution of the cans.	2.00
Linn County Veteran's Day	I helped put out flags and made gift bags for veterans	3.00
White River State Park	We cleared out brush at the White River State Park during the FFA National Day of Service.	4.00
TOTAL		13.00

Qualification Check

	Your Value	Condition
At least 2 different activities	13	MET
At least 25 hours	39.0	MET





2025 Kansas State Degree

Checklist of Minimum Qualifications

Item	Value
Candidate has been an active FFA member for at least 24 months.	MET
Candidate has the Chapter and Greenhand FFA Degree.	MET
Applicant must have completed at least 2 full years (360 hours) of agriculture, or all of the agriculture offered at the school last attended.	MET
Non-cash income and expense is balanced each year on the Income/Expense Report.	MET
Accuracy Check for the Balance Sheet (Assets = Liabilities + Equity) & Growth	MET
Candidate has recorded of at least 25 hours community service and at least 2 different activities. (Organizations and activities must be manually reviewed in records.)	PENDING REVIEW
Student qualifies for the Degree with earnings, productively invested, and hours.	MET
Student has done at least 8 activities above the chapter level. Activities must be manually reviewed in records.	PENDING REVIEW
Candidate has obtained the required electronic signatures and approvals.	MET





2025 Kansas State Degree

State Degree Manual Review Sheet of Qualifications

Circle	Initial
Y N	

1. Has the candidate been a chapter officer or serve on a major committee as listed below.

_____ Chapter FFA Officer: _____
_____ FFA Committee Chairman: _____
_____ FFA Committee Member: _____

Circle	Initial
Y N	

2. Has the candidate performed at least 10 Parliamentary Procedure abilities?

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Circle	Initial
Y N	

3. Has the candidate given a six-minute agricultural related speech or demonstration? Please provide details below.

1. (Title) _____ (Length) _____

Circle	Initial
Y N	

4. Has the candidate attached signed SAE agreements (or SAE plans) for all SAEs listed in the application?
(Attached to this application)

Circle	Initial
Y N	

5. Are all the Skills, Competency, and Knowledge listed in the application complete and accurately represents the student's experiences.

Circle	Initial
Y N	

6. As the advisor, I have reviewed the complete application and information listed in this manual review sheet and confirms the candidate's information is accurate and meets all qualifications.

All information is accurate and represents the work of the student.

Signature of FFA Advisor

Date



State Star in Agricultural Placement

KS

KS0094

604592209



Applicant Information

Candidate Name

Mason Mitzner

FFA Chapter Name

Prairie View

Star Type

Application Type

Star in Agricultural Placement

Application Level

State

Primary Pathway

Agribusiness Systems

Submission Order

Organize and print your entire application in the following order:

1. FFA Degree Application
2. FFA Star Application
3. Additional Application Attachments





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Performance Review A

1. Describe the SAE project(s) included in this application as completely and specifically as possible in the space allowed.

During my freshman year of high school, I started working at a local diversified farm as a farm hand. I started by performing preventative maintenance, like oil changes or replacing flat tires. In times where I was more of a general laborer, I moved resources and fetched tools. Now I operate more complicated equipment, perform repairs more independently, have assisted in the construction of a new barn. I started out earning \$8 an hour, but I was rewarded with another \$2 an hour every year. I was active in this SAE during breaks from school and in the summer. Eventually Sam George Farms became my secondary SAE. During my sophomore year of high school, I wanted a job which was closer to where I live, so I started at CJ Feed & Supply as a feed store clerk where I was responsible to clean the store, stock the inventory, and take feed out to customers' cars. As time went on I began to assist customers to make sales. I began operating the forklift and other equipment more efficiently while maintaining all safety precautions. I helped with recording transactions by tracking our inventory and reconciling transactions on a daily basis. I started at a rate of \$9.75 an hour, but quickly rose to \$10 an hour after one month, and \$11 an hour in one year. While working at CJ Feed & Supply I learned about the different nutritional needs of a variety of livestock, received first hand experience of the innerworkings of agribusinesses, and enhanced my soft skills needed for future careers.

2. Briefly explain how your roles, responsibilities, and/or management decisions related to this award area changed.

When I started working at Sam George Farms, my duties consisted of greasing every grease zerk I can find, and bush hogging open pasture under close supervision. As time went on, I began running various equipment independently, being more active in repairs, and constructing parts of new barns with supervision. Now I can operate most equipment on the farm, make repairs by myself, and lead other employees through various stages of the construction process. After a tornado hit my grandfather's farm, I led a group of my family members in pouring concrete on the posts of the new barn. The old barn fell on a combine header, and I was able to repair it in time for harvest. When I began working at CJ Feed & Supply, my duties consisted of carrying out feed to vehicles and cleaning the store. I gradually took on more responsibilities as I learned new skills. I started ringing up customers, operating the forklift, tracking inventory and suggesting products to customers. I developed these skills by asking questions. I asked detailed questions about how the forklift runs, I watched closely when coworkers rang up customers, and I asked a variety of questions about all of our products in order to better serve our customers. Because I was eager to learn and ask questions I went from sweeping the floors for hours to being able to recommend products to customers who needed assistance and using my knowledge from my agribusiness class to close new sales.

3. Briefly explain what is the single greatest challenge you faced in this award area and how did you overcome that challenge?

In my SAE at CJ Feed & Supply, the greatest challenge I faced was becoming familiar with all the different products that were offered for sale. This knowledge was crucial to developing my customer service skills and making it possible for me to close sales with customers. I had to pay close attention to what my more experienced coworkers said about various feeds, medicines, and other products. I spent slow periods researching specific products using the internet, product brochures, and labels on the bags. I often would have to ask coworkers questions about different features, benefits and formulas of the products and how they compared to similar items we had for sale. I also took an agribusiness course at Prairie View High School to be able to deepen my knowledge of business, sales and economics in agriculture. Through this journey, became better able to assist customers in finding livestock feed. This new skill, which was challenging for me to learn, helped me grow the business and increase sales through my interactions with customers.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Performance Review B

Briefly explain your two greatest accomplishments or findings in this award area.

Accomplishment/Finding #1

When I started at CJ Feed & Supply I could carry out one 50 lbs. feed bag for customers. As my time at the feed store went on, I gradually started carrying more than one feed bag. By the end of my time at CJ Feed & Supply I was able to safely carry out 200 lbs. of feed at one time. With me being only 150 lbs. myself, it was not easy to carry this much weight, but it improved efficiency. This accomplishment allowed me to carry more bags out in less time which resulted in satisfied customers and more time to work on other tasks.

Accomplishment/Finding #2

During the harvest of 2024, I accomplished one of my greatest feats in my SAE. This harvest season was my first year of hauling grain independently. In former harvest seasons, I have felt as if I had not contributed enough to the harvest. My main tasks were to move equipment from field to field and help repair equipment. There would be times when I could not contribute to the operation, because I was not experienced enough to run the combine. This year I was able to haul grain to the elevator independently, which gave me a task while the combines were running. This accomplishment gave me a sense of purpose, while helping the entire operation run more efficiently.

Name one issue, trend, technology or public policy that has impacted your SAE project or the industry your SAE project falls in and describe the specific impact on your SAE project.

As prices increase and the need for livestock feed does as well, farmers seek ways to reduce costs. This includes the trend of buying feed in bulk to achieve a lower per unit cost. When selling bulk feed, I had to operate a forklift to make better use of employee and customer time. Unloading orders, filling bulk totes, and loading pallets onto customers' trailers all required the forklift. Oftentimes, I was tasked with operating the forklift in tight spaces and lifting broken pallets, which made it difficult to move product. This required me to learn different techniques in order to perform certain tasks. I learned how shifting the forks to different sides or picking up pallets at a different angle could help me accomplish this task.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Performance Review C

Specify your career objective and describe the career exploration and research steps you performed to select this career.

After high school, I plan to pursue a career in firefighting. My time in the FFA taught me the value of serving others, which made me want to pursue a career where I could continue this. One of my coworkers at the feed store worked in the fire service and encouraged me to pursue a career in wildfire firefighter. I researched the skills and education required for this line of work. I have a basic understanding of fire safety from the agriculture mechanics courses in school. Through the FFA, agriculture education, and my work at the feed store, I learned leadership skills which will help me succeed in the fire service.

Describe two experiences, activities, or opportunities provided by this SAE project and explain how they have helped you explore this career choice.

Experience/Activity/Opportunity #1

At CJ Feed & Supply, I would carry the feed out to customers' vehicles. This was part of my job, but it was not common practice in many surrounding feed stores. Even though this was just one of my tasks, many customers saw it as going above and beyond what they expected. Their gratitude showed how helping others can be beneficial to yourself as well. With many of our customers being near retirement age, I was proud to be able to help. This showed me how serving others, in a line of work like firefighting, can reimburse you in more ways than financial compensation.

Experience/Activity/Opportunity #2

I spent most of my hours at Sam George Farms doing some type of land management, because these tasks require the most time. Besides bush hogging, I managed land through burning pastures and disking fields. Bush hogging and burning pastures have prepared me directly for some of the responsibilities of a wildfire firefighter. Bush hogging keeps vegetation from becoming overgrown, and burning pasture clears the undergrowth. Both of these tasks benefit the farm agriculturally, but more importantly prevents future wildfires. This knowledge and these skills relate directly to my future career plans of becoming a firefighter.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Learning Outcomes & Efficiency Factors

Learning Outcome or Efficiency Factor		Beginning Level	Level Attained	Description
1	Bush hogging	<u>2021</u> 2.5 Acre	<u>2024</u> 4 Acres	Bush hogging is extremely time consuming, so the more bush hogging I could do the more Sam could make money elsewhere. When I started, I could only bush hog 2.5 acre in an hour of wide open pasture. By the end I was able to bush hog 4 acres in an hour, and in deep brush.
2	Filling orders	<u>2022</u> 45 minutes	<u>2024</u> 20 minutes	When I began filling orders it took 45 minutes, I often did not know where certain items were placed and struggled with placing items in an efficient order. As I learned where each item was and how they should be stacked, I was able to fill orders more efficiently in 20 minutes.
3	Installing tin	<u>2022</u> 20 minutes	<u>2024</u> 10 minutes	In my first experience of putting on tin for a new barn, I took 20 minutes to secure one section because I often dropped screws or missed studs. As I gained more experience, I can now secure a section of tin in half the time.
4	Stocking Inventory	<u>2022</u> 75 minutes	<u>2024</u> 35 minutes	Starting out, inventory took me 75 minutes to complete, but by the end I was able to do inventory in 35 minutes. I started not knowing where most items were, but through many hours and questions, I gradually learned where all the items on the inventory list were located.
5	Unloading semitrucks	<u>2022</u> 45 minutes	<u>2024</u> 20 minutes	The first time I unloaded a truck, it took 45 minutes and I put all of the pallets in the back. As I got more comfortable and more experienced, I was able to unload trucks faster and smarter. I would put certain pallets in their aisles for easy setup, and I could unload the truck in 20 minutes.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge

A. Five Primary Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge within your Pathway

AFNR Pathway Standard		Description of Activity
1	ABS.01.01 Apply micro- and macroeconomic principles to plan and manage inputs and outputs in an AFNR business.	During my second year of working for CJ Feed & Supply, I took an agribusiness class to help the business run better. I learned skills in making sales which transferred over to building rapport, assessing customers' needs, and closing sales at the feed store. I learned how different factors affected what products were being bought, and I used this knowledge to know what products needed to be sold more heavily or be ordered.
2	ABS.01.03 Devise and apply management skills to organize and run an AFNR business in an efficient, legal and ethical manner.	The agribusiness class I took allowed me to polish my soft skills and introduced management skills to better my abilities at CJ Feed & Supply. It polished my ability to speak effectively with coworkers to communicate the needs of myself and customers. I learned how to delegate work to other coworkers when needed, while also leading by example to get work done.
3	ABS.02.01 Apply fundamental accounting principles, systems, tools and applicable laws and regulations to record, track and audit AFNR business transactions (e.g., accounts, debits, credits, assets, liabilities, equity, etc.).	I used the QuickBooks program to track sales. This program recorded who made the sale, what customer made the purchase, and how much of each product they bought. This program automatically tracked the inventory, but new products being put out had to be entered manually. I would use a paper inventory sheet to cross examine the inventory and track any changes in the computer program.
4	ABS.05.01 Analyze the role of markets, trade, competition and price in relation to an AFNR business sales and marketing plans.	As the demand of different products changed throughout the year, so did the arrangement of the store. I would place popular products in more accessible places based on seasons. I would put ice melt up front during the winter, or fly mineral on shelves close to the counter during the summer. I helped promote sales and discounts on seasonal products to attract customers away from competitors.
5	ABS.05.03 Assess marketing principles and develop marketing plans to accomplish AFNR business objectives.	In order to bring in more customers, I would make advertisements on social media, like Facebook, for new products or items on sale. New or seasonal products would be heavily advertised. I set up signs and displays for chicks and fly medication, which brought in many customers.

B. Two Supporting Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge from any Pathway

AFNR Pathway Standard		Description of Activity
6	ESS.03.05 Apply ecology principles to environmental service systems.	One task I was given on the farm was to get rid of invasive plants and noxious weeds. I was taught how to identify and remove specific plants to keep them from crowding the other plants. All of the bush hogging I had done also helped to allow new growth and equalize the ecosystems in the pastures.
7	PST.02.02 Operate machinery and equipment while observing all safety precautions in AFNR settings.	One of my responsibilities on the farm was to learn how to operate all of the equipment. I can comfortably operate all three tractors, both grain trucks, and the service truck. Although I was comfortable with all of this equipment, I remained cautious when operating. I made sure everything I did with the equipment would not harm myself, the equipment, or someone else.

C. Three Career Ready Practice and/or Cluster Skills standards



AFNR Pathway Standard		Description of Activity
8	CRP.01.01 Model personal responsibility in the workplace and community.	During my time at Sam George Farms, I made plenty of mistakes, many of which were costly. When I did make a mistake, I did my best to fix what I had done. When the mistake was more costly than what I could fix, I took all accountability. Whether it was a broken tractor window from a limb smashing into it or losing a cheap bolt, I took all accountability and took the necessary steps to fix whatever had been broken.
9	CRP.02.02 Use strategic thinking to connect and apply technical concepts to solve problems in the workplace and community.	On the farm, many tasks involve some type of troubleshooting. After years of observing the operations of the farm, I was able to provide some ideas to help assist in our troubleshooting. I was also able to fabricate new ideas to solve problems which may occur.
10	CRP.04.03 Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.	Later in my time at Sam George Farms, many of my tasks were briefly explained before hand with little room for questions. I had to listen attentively to ensure I understood every aspect of my task. Because of my attentive listening, I was able to perform my tasks efficiently with little time wasted during an explanation.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Resume

Objective

As I progress through the workforce, I plan to toil expeditiously and rapidly elevate through the ranks of wild land firefighting and management. Through this career, I wish to support myself and future by providing the financial needs to buy and operate the family farm.

Agricultural Classes/Coursework

- Aug 2024-May 2025 - Advanced Ag Mechanics (1)
- Aug 2023-May 2024 - Agribusiness
- Aug 2022-May 2023 - Agriculture Mechanics (1)
- Aug 2021-May 2022 - Agriscience (3)

SAE

- 2022-2024 Sales (Employment) 1 project
- 2021-2024 Fabrication (Employment) 1 project

FFA Leadership

- 2024 Chapter Treasurer
- 2021-2024 FFA Committee Involvement - 5 committees

FFA Activities

- 2021-2025 Meeting (Chapter; District)
- 2024 Invitational FFA Competitions - 1 event (Farm Business Management)
- 2024 Project Show or Stock Show (Area; State)
- 2023-2024 State FFA Competitions - 4 events (Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems; Agricultural Sales; Agricultural Communications; Farm Business Management)
- 2021-2024 District FFA Competitions - 8 events (Junior Quiz; Extemporaneous Speaking; Agricultural Communications; Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems; Agricultural Sales; Farm Business Management; Opening and Closing Ceremonies)
- 2023 FFA Award/Proficiency Interview (District)
- 2023 Regional FFA Competitions - 1 event (Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems)
- 2021-2023 Conference (District)

Community Service

- 2024 Community Blood Center; Linn County Veteran's Day; White River State Park; La Cygne Food Pantry; Angel Tree
- 2023 Parker Days; Community Blood Center; La Cygne Fire Department
- 2022 Linn County Veteran's Day; Little Buffs Basketball
- 2021 Operation Christmas Child; La Cygne Food Pantry

School and Extracurricular Involvement

- 2021-2024 Prairie View FFA
- 2021-2024 Prairie View Band
- 2021-2024 Prairie View Scholar Bowl
- 2021-2024 Prairie View Basketball
- 2022-2024 Prairie View Mathletes
- 2022-2024 Prairie View Track & Field
- 2023-2024 Prairie View Cross Country
- 2023-2024 Prairie View Student Council
- 2023-2024 Prairie View Class Office
- 2024 Prairie View Chess Club



Awards and Honors

- 2021-2024 Good Recordkeeping AET Badge - 4 badges
- 2021-2024 SAE Project AET Badge - 2 badges

Certifications

- 2021 Kansas Class C Drivers Permit
- 2021 Kansas Hunter Safety Certification

Skills

I possess leadership skills, which are exemplified by my everyday interactions. I delegate work to others while leading by example. I help resolve conflicts among colleagues by interjecting with solution based approaches. I set an example to younger people of how to be successful, while maintaining a humble demeanor.

References

Trenton Smedley, Agriculture Teacher, Prairie View High School, (620) 305-8329, tsmedley@pv362.org
Doug Nelson, Head Boys Basketball Coach, Prairie View High School, (913) 461-7283, delson@pv362.org
Dan Nasalroad, Fire Chief, City of La Cygne, (913) 285-0500, lacygnefire@yahoo.com
Jeff Russell, Band Director, Prairie View High School, (785) 204-2422, jrussell@pv362.org





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Personal History

Provide a narrative story of your personal achievements. Work within the character count and review your PDF to limit your final report to a maximum length of 3 pages.

Being brought up in a rural town, agriculture has been a large portion of who I am and the paths I choose to follow as I grow. I experienced some distance between myself and agriculture, because my parents chose not to live or work on a farm of their own. In my upbringing, I would only experience the farm life when I would visit my grandfather's second-generation farm. This left me yearning to experience farm life in later stages of my life. Although they were not in the agriculture industry, my parents' occupations led me to pursue success in the FFA. My father worked as a firefighter and city councilman, which taught me the value of service and being active in the community. With both occupations of my family members, I became active in my school being captain of the basketball team, scholars bowl captain, band president, and most importantly FFA chapter treasurer. As I start to complete my educational journey, I hope to continue my engagement in my community and agriculture by working as a wildland firefighter and leading the operation of my grandfather's farm.

My journey in the FFA and agriculture education started my freshman year of high school with an agriculture science course. In this class, I learned the basic skills and knowledge of plant science, animal science, and agriculture mechanics. Beyond knowledge of the individual spheres of agriculture, we learned the history and significance of the FFA. My teacher for this class, Mrs. Bertz taught me how engaging agriculture education can be, and encouraged me to continue my agriculture education. The following year, I enrolled in an agriculture mechanics course with Mr. Smedley. He taught me important skills such as, welding, residential wiring, and small gas engine theory. These were skills I was able to use later in my SAEs. In my junior year of high school I took an agribusiness course with Mr. Trenton Smedley, and learned important soft skills for any workforce. I learned employment skills, rudimentary accounting practices, and a multitude of sales techniques, which were key to one of my SAEs and further career options. In my final high school year, I enrolled in an advanced agriculture mechanics course and became Mr. Smedley's teacher's aid for his agriculture explorations course. In the agriculture mechanics course, we enhanced our knowledge on the skills learned in the original agriculture mechanics course through electrical diagnostics, small gas engine repair, and hydraulic theory. In my time as Mr. Smedley's teacher's aid, I was able to generate interest in agriculture education in younger students. Mr. Smedley's agriculture explorations class is a quarter long course for 8th grade students to learn the basics of agriculture. In their last week of the quarter, I get to teach the class about the agriculture mechanics portion of the course. This gives me an opportunity to give back to agriculture education, and provide a legacy for these young students who are seeking a future in agriculture.

In my first year of being an FFA member, I attended nearly every chapter meeting, earned my Greenhand Degree, and placed in the Greenhand Information quiz. Despite having a fairly successful first year, my second year of being an FFA member exceeds the expectations set by my greenhand year. As a sophomore, I was a committee co-chair, and helped connect the FFA to the local fire department for cooperation in our "Angel Tree" event. I placed second in the Intermediate District Ag Mechanics competition, and went on to place sixth in the state competition. At the end of my sophomore year, I won the District Greenhand Star in Placement. In my Junior year, I was the chair of the same committee, but I wrapped all of the presents we bought for the "Angel Tree" event. I competed and placed at the district competitions for Ag Communications, Farm Business Management, and Ag Sales. I participated in these competitions at state where we placed as a team. At the end of the year, I applied for chapter office and became our treasurer. In between my junior and senior year, we traveled to Concordia for Chapter Leadership School as an officer team. The officer team competed at the District Leadership School, and placed second in Opening and Closing Ceremony. I competed at the District Farm Business Management and District Ag Mechanics competitions where I placed sixth place in both competitions. Most recently I placed second in the District Proficiency Award in Ag Sales-Placement and won the East Central District Star in Placement. All of my involvement in FFA has built my character, and I will remember all of the accomplishments I have achieved in FFA because I know it was earned through my hard work and dedication.

My first SAE started the summer before my freshman year, for my uncle, Sam George. This SAE mostly consisted of helping perform maintenance on farm equipment, helping construct or repair AFNR structures, and other odd jobs around the farm or construction site. At the start of this SAE, I mostly observed what my uncle or grandfather did and fetched various items. It started out as me bush hogging my uncle's pasture under close supervision and grabbing tools for my grandfather as he fixed broken equipment. Now I am able to drive loaded grain trucks, frame walls, and replace major components on combine headers practically by myself. My second SAE started in the fall of my sophomore year at CJ Feed & Supply, to give me a chance to earn money during the school year. I started this SAE with little knowledge of the dietary needs of different livestock. My main responsibilities consisted of carrying out feed to customers' vehicles and cleaning the store. As I worked more, I became familiar with the different feeds and their advantages or disadvantages. My capabilities increased further with my knowledge from my agribusiness course. I learned the importance of building rapport with customers, how to address concerns, and how to close a sale. I had to end my time at CJ Feed & Supply at the end of my junior year, because in the span of six months my grandfather broke his back and his farm was hit by a tornado. With all of the damage, it was impossible for me to balance the two SAEs. With these unfortunate events it



became apparent that my grandfather's farming abilities would be limited and soon be gone. It was important for me to come back to make Sam George Farms my primary SAE in order for me to absorb the nearly 70 years of farming knowledge my grandfather had acquired. Both of my main SAEs have prepared me for future career opportunities and my dreams of running my grandfather's family farm.

Ever since I was a small toddler sitting in front of my grandfather on the seat of his four wheeler, I have always dreamed of living and running the family farm. Through my experiences in the agriculture classroom, I have learned necessary skills and knowledge needed for this dream to become a reality. These skills are not only necessary for my involvement in the family farm, but future employment options as well. These future employment options are necessary for me to be able to fund the operations of the farm in its beginning stages. My time in the FFA has built skills not marked by technical abilities. Beyond the skills I display in my many competitions, I have learned important communication and networking skills. These skills can connect me with people in all aspects of the agriculture industry for the progression of myself and my family's farm. My SAEs have given me work experiences in various agriculture related activities needed for me to achieve my dreams. My Sam George Farms SAE has given me experience at the farm I hope to one day own. My time at CJ Feed & Supply has given me experience in customer service and livestock diets, both of which are important to future career opportunities. Everything I have done in relation to agriculture education, FFA, and my SAEs have led me to where I am today and prepared me for where I am going. In the unfortunate time where my grandfather can no longer farm, I am confident I can help take over the family farm, and continue his legacy for generations to come.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Safety Photo #1



When using the forklift, it is important to verify the surrounding area is clear of obstacles, while observing all safety precautions. Additionally, operators should carry less than the maximum load capacity and drive at a cautious speed.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Safety Photo #2



I make sure to carry this with correct posture to ensure no damage is done to myself. I am surveying my surroundings to guarantee there are no obstacles or people in the way.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Project Photo #3



I am operating the forklift while maintaining all safety precautions. When using the forklift, it is important to verify the surrounding area is clear of obstacles. Additionally, operators should carry less than the maximum load capacity and drive at a cautious speed.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Project Photo #4



As short ladder man, I was responsible for installing metal flashing around the windows of the workshop. I used my previous knowledge of installing tin on other AFNR structures to know how to install it. This installation requires the operation of a nail gun to install the flashing, while observing safety standards.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Project Photo #5



When customers buy in bulk I wrap the pallets for the customer, so the customer can transport the pallet without fear of bags falling off. Wrapping the pallet provides additional protection to the product being sold to limit the risk of loss for both the customer and the store.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Project Photo #6



The installation of tin is challenging because a new piece is ready to go as soon as the previous one is installed. I prepare my screws and screw gun to secure the next piece of tin as quickly as possible. This structure of a barn needed the roof installed prior to the beginning of harvest. By having the roof on the barn, equipment could be brought inside and out of the weather.





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Checklist of Minimum Qualifications

- Missing, Error, or Not Met indicates a condition causing the candidate not to qualify for the degree.
- Review indicates a condition that will require additional explanation or documentation.
- Only computer-generated checks are shown here. The PDF application includes additional manual checks.
- Regardless of the qualifications shown here, FFA staff and reviewers may contact the advisor or applicant for additional information and evidence, including, but not limited to, SAE agreements and record books.

Item	Value
Candidate has chosen a Star Type and Primary Pathway.	MET
Candidate has fully described and selected one to five Learning Outcomes or Efficiency Factors.	MET
Candidate has fully described all ten Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge.	MET
All pictures include captions.	MET
All pictures include a digital upload.	MET
Required attachments have been uploaded.	MET





State Star in Agricultural Placement

Application Attachments

The following are attachments to include at the end of your application.

Attachment 1 - SAE Agreements

Attach a copy of your most recent SAE partnership, rental, Family Corporation or occupational training agreement.

Attachment 2 - Student Recommendations

Attach three one-page recommendations

1. Agriculture instructor recommendation
2. Two other recommendations (if your SAEs include placement, please include at least one employer recommendation)





KS - Prairie View
Mason Mitzner 604592209
SAE Agreement - Sam George Farms

Generated:
3/13/2025 11:48

SAE Information

Name:	Sam George Farms
SAE Type:	Placement
AFNR Pathway/Category:	Power, Structural and Technical Systems - Fabrication

SAE Plan - Sam George Farms

Description
<p>My interest and motivation for this project is to earn money while improving my agricultural knowledge.</p> <p>My project started May 26, 2021 and end when I find a different job.</p> <p>My project goals are earn money, gain the necessary skills to operate a successful farm, and start the basic knowledge of metalworking.</p> <p>My project will be evaluated/supervised by my employer, which is an industry professional.</p> <p>In terms of project safety, important areas of safety include safely operating large machinery, limiting the weight I carry, and by using the proper protective equipment when necessary.</p>

Time Investment
<p>My project time will vary from month to month, but common activities are building or repairing fence, tilling soil, and repairing barn roofs.</p> <p>I am getting payment for my time, which is \$13 per hour.</p> <p>My project time does not relate to my career plan, but will build my work ethic and give me the skill to repair many things.</p>

Learning Objectives (SAE Skills):

Skill Area	Planned Activities	Results or Outcome
PST.02.01 Perform preventative maintenance and scheduled service to maintain equipment, machinery and power units used in AFNR settings.	Maintain fluid levels and overall cleanliness of equipment.	I made sure the tractor is full on all necessary fluids before operating.
PST.02.02 Operate machinery and equipment while observing all safety precautions in AFNR settings.	Drive the tractor and truck safely.	I used the tractor in a safe manner to move gates.
PST.04.03 Follow architectural and mechanical plans to construct, maintain and/or repair AFNR structures (e.g., material selection, site preparation and/or layout, plumbing, concrete/masonry, etc.).	Help to construct buildings during all stages of development.	I framed the exterior and interior walls of a house and tinned the exterior walls.

Signatures

_____	_____	_____	_____
Student	Date	Parent / Guardian	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Ag Science Teacher	Date	Supervisor / Employer	Date

The school, individuals or businesses participating in this educational program will not discriminate against participating students with regards to race, sex, creed, color, national origin, age or handicap as defined by law.

Trenton Smedley
Agricultural Education Instructor/FFA Advisor
Prairie View High School
13731 KS Hwy 152
La Cygne, KS 66032
(913) 757-4447



Kansas FFA Star Selection Committee:

I am pleased to recommend Mason Mitzner for the Star Placement Award. I am one of Mason's agriculture teachers and FFA advisors at Prairie View High School. Star Awards recognize FFA members who have gone above and beyond in their attitude, involvement, community service and supervised agricultural experience (SAE). In my work with FFA members, I guarantee that Mason does indeed go above and beyond in each of these areas. It has been my pleasure to be his FFA advisor! I look forward to seeing all he achieves in his future.

Mason has an attitude that embraces challenge and welcomes new knowledge. Mason has taken several agriculture courses throughout highschool and has been open to learning new information with each one. He truly desires to learn and excel in his academics. This is evident in his impressive scholastic record and his leadership on our school's scholars bowl team. Mason is dedicated to personal growth and continuous learning both inside and outside of the classroom.

In regards to involvement, Mason is among the most active FFA members in our chapter. He serves as our chapter treasurer, which requires him to give monthly reports at meetings and lead Program of Activities (POA) committees. Beyond our FFA chapter, Mason competes in several career and leadership development events (CDE/LDE), and has been recognized as a district and state medalist. Mason's example and encouragement has led several other young men to become active in FFA and agricultural education. His involvement in FFA covers a wide range of activities, demonstrating just how well-rounded he is.

Mason has a desire to serve his community and those around him. Mason built a relationship between our FFA chapter and the local fire department that has enabled us to purchase roughly \$2,000 in gifts for local families at Christmas time. He has led students in veteran appreciation activities and volunteered at the local fire department as his schedule allows. Mason's commitment to service is evident in the way he engages with others, always seeking to support individuals in need.

Mason's supervised agricultural experiences have helped him develop technical and soft skills necessary for the workforce. He works as a farm hand for his family operation and has also been an associate at a feed store. These experiences have given him real-world experience in various sectors of the agriculture industry. He is a model employee in these endeavors, working to grow his responsibilities, increase his earnings and maintain accurate records of these experiences. His employers and his agriculture teachers appreciate this dedication.

Although there may be several qualified candidates, selecting Mason Mitzner as the Kansas FFA Star in Placement is the correct choice. Mason is committed to personal success in all areas of agricultural education: classroom, FFA and SAE. He works to achieve his goals and desires to make his community a better place through his service and leadership. I am proud to call him a Prairie View Buffalo! Without hesitation, I support Mason Mitzner as a candidate for this prestigious award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trenton Smedley', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Trenton Smedley

Sam George

Sam George Farms

March 4, 2025

I am writing to recommend Mason Mierner for the FFA State Star award. As Mason's employer and mentor over the past four years, I have had the privilege of working closely with him and helping him develop the skills needed to be successful. I was blessed to witness first-hand his incredible work ethic, leadership, and commitment to agriculture, which has led him to grow as a person and agriculturalist. In his time employed by me, he has shown tremendous growth in his skills and knowledge through hard work and dedication to his craft. His dedication to agriculture, as well as his contributions to our community, make him a deserving candidate for this prestigious recognition.

Mason has developed exceptional skills and a genuine passion for agriculture during his time working with me. His hands-on experience in farm maintenance and fabrication has proven his ability to tackle challenges head-on and consistently produce high-quality results. He takes initiative in his work and shows great attention to detail, whether it's greasing grease trucks, leading efforts to improve efficiency, or contributing innovative ideas to solve problems.

Beyond his technical knowledge and skills he has learned, Mason possesses outstanding leadership qualities. He works well with colleagues, is always eager to help others and share his knowledge. His strong interpersonal skills have allowed him to forge positive relationships with coworkers, contributing to a collaborative and productive work environment. Mason's reliability and passion for agriculture are evident in everything he does, and I have full confidence in his ability to continue making an impact in the industry.

In all the time I have worked with Mason, I have consistently been impressed by his dedication, character, and ambition. He is a hardworking, driven young man who is destined to make a lasting impact in the field of agriculture. I wholeheartedly support his candidacy for the FFA State Star award and am confident he will continue to exemplify the values and spirit of the FFA.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Sam George



La Cygne Fire Department

STATION #300

La Cygne, Kansas

Fire Chief: Daniel Masalroad - Assistant Fire Chief: Thomas Cape

P.O. Box 600 • La Cygne, KS 66040 • 913-285-0500 • lacygnefire@yahoo.com

January 16, 2015

Mason Milner
820 Elm Street
La Cygne, KS 66040

RE: Letter of Recommendation

ATTN: Review Committee

This letter of recommendation is an opportunity to recognize Mason Milner for his abilities and talents he has displayed through the years while maturing in to the young man he is today. Mason is built with a mind for adventure, a competitive drive for knowledge, and a heart for creativity. His diverse personality allows him to be comfortable in a variety of settings, such as: Sports, including Cross Country, Basketball and Track; Marching Band; FFA; Chess Club; and Scholar Bowl.

Mason expresses his skills in a humble manner, whether he is on stage performing with the band, studying his chess board, racing around the track or down the court. His comedic personality is the source to his ability to build camaradery amongst his peers and co-workers. He has displayed his abilities for leadership, desire for organization, and respectful customer service skills through his work experiences at local businesses.

Mason's qualities are not a surface image, they come from within which makes him a strong candidate for this state star award, and many other honors. As the La Cygne Fire Chief, I have great respect for his abilities and truly believe he is a deserving candidate.

I am familiar with his goals, as well as the challenges he will face in all of his future plans and endeavors. I cannot think of anyone more deserving and I can wholeheartedly recommend his application of the state star.

If you have any questions regarding Mason Milner's submission, please feel free to contact me (913) 285-0500 or lacygnefire@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,


Daniel Masalroad
La Cygne Fire Chief
Station #300