

You have expressed an interest in completing a Supervised Agricultural Experience. With this decision, you will become eligible for more scholarships, life lessons, friendships, and your Texas FFA Lonestar Degree before you graduate. Committing to an animal project also means taking on a lot of responsibility. It is important that you know exactly what you are getting into. Read the following information regarding various species, the length of the project, the financial responsibility, and housing.

#### Housing:

All SAE livestock projects are eligible to be housed at the Gainesville ISD Agricultural Facility (upon completion) until the completion of the project. Project dates vary. After the project is completed, the FFA advisor(s) will assist the student with relocating or selling the animal project. All premium or market earnings will be held by the FFA advisor(s) until all thank you notes have been completed and the animal's area has been completely cleaned in the Ag facility.

Students renting a space at the Ag facility will be required to sign an expectation form and expected to meet the requirements of the school district with a feeding routine and animal hygiene. Students who do not meet the expectation will be asked to remove their animal from the facility at the discretion of the FFA advisor(s) and/or school administrators.

Students are also welcome to house animal projects at their home if the necessary equipment and space is provided. Students will not be provided with equipment such as fencing, cages, feeding equipment, grooming equipment, etc if the animal project is kept at home.

#### Transportation:

Transportation for the student/animal project will be provided to and from the county livestock show, any major livestock shows deemed necessary by the FFA advisor(s), and any jackpot shows scheduled by the FFA advisor(s). Transportation will also be provided to and from the veterinarian when necessary and to county and state validation events. Transportation for equine projects will not be provided. Transportation for parent/guardians will not be provided.

#### Recognized shows:

The FFA advisors encourage students to participate in the Cooke County Junior Livestock Show. Students exhibiting certain species will also be encouraged to enter the Fort Worth Livestock Show. Students are allowed to enter any junior livestock show, but trips sponsored by the school (attendance and transportations) will be selected by the FFA advisor(s).

Students will be required to enter all livestock shows through the FFA advisor(s). Animals must be approved by the advisor(s) prior to purchase. Entry deadlines, fees, and paperwork will be communicated in advance. Students and parents will be asked to attend a fall entry meeting in order to complete all necessary paperwork for various livestock shows.

Description of projects:

| <b>Species</b>       | <b>Category</b>                   | <b>Description</b>  | <b>Length of Project</b>  | <b>Average Purchase Cost</b> | <b>Avg cost/month (feed/medical)</b> |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Cattle- Steer        | Market                            | Male animal that has been castrated (no intact males will be allowed)   | June-February   | \$2,000-10,000               | \$150-200                            |
| Cattle- Heifer       | Breeding                          | Female between the ages of 6 months & 20 months   | Span of 2 school years (animals over 20 months will not be shown) | \$2,000-6,000                | \$150-200                            |
| Sheep- wether        | Market                            | Male animal that has been castrated (no intact males)   | July/August- February   | \$400-1,000                  | \$100                                |
| Sheep- Ewe           | Breeding                          | Female of any age   | Varies  | \$400-1,000                  | \$100                                |
| Goat- wether         | Market                            | Male animal that has been castrated (no intact males)   | July/August- February   | \$400-\$1,000                | \$100                                |
| Goat- Doe            | Breeding                          | Female of any age   | varies  | \$400-\$1,000                | \$100                                |
| Swine- barrow        | Market                            | Male animal that has been castrated (no intact males)   | October/November- February  | \$300-800                    | \$150                                |
| Swine- Gilt          | Breeding                          | Female born between July & Sept   | October/ November- February                                       | \$300-800                    | \$150                                |
| Rabbit (pen of 4)    | Market                            | 4 rabbits that match in age and confirmation; selected by advisor(s), must be of the Californian or New Zealand breed | December- January   | \$125-300                    | \$50                                 |
| Rabbit (individual)  | Breeding                          | A rabbit of any recognized breed  | Year round  | \$50-150                     | \$25-50                              |
| Poultry (pen of 25)  | Market                            | 25 chicks purchased from CCJLS and raised to market weight  | Order deadline*<br>October<br>Pick up- December<br>Show- January  | \$60                         | \$50-100                             |
| Poultry (individual) | Breeding                          | A pullet, hen, cockrel, or cock of any recognized breed (bantam or standard sized)                                    | Year round  | \$50-100                     | \$25-50                              |
| Equine               | Western, English, or Speed events |   | Year round  | N/A                          | N/A                                  |
| Shop                 | Wood or Metal projects            | Projects not sponsored by the school may be entered individually in the shop show at CCJLS                            | Show date: January  | Expenses vary by project     | Expenses vary by project             |