

CERTIFICATION & TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Pre-registration is required for the workshops below. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis with limited participants. The last day to register, change, or cancel your registration is **June 30, 2025**. **Please note the location of the workshops, several are off-site, and transportation is not provided.** Please review the location information before registering for a workshop. Questions can be directed to michelle@texasagteachers.org or by calling the ATAT office at 512-472-3128.

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Floral Design-When Passion and Career Collide

(transportation not provided)

6:00 pm – 10:00 pm | Holiday Inn Corpus Christi Downtown Marina

Event Fee: \$35 (dinner provided)

Presenter(s): Donald Yi AIFD PFCI

This dinner and floral design presentation will reinvigorate, educate, and entertain as renowned floral design expert Donald Yi AIFD PFCI from the Smithers-Oasis Design Team shares innovative tips, trendy ideas, and proven techniques to help you maximize your impact in the classroom and beyond. In this session, Yim will reveal numerous tricks of the floral trade.

Monday, July 21, 2025 Workshops

A Deep Dive into the Tractor Tech CDE

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Justin Pulley- Tarleton State University

This workshop will provide teachers with a hands-on explanation of the Tractor Tech CDE by examining various components and their analysis. We will also examine hands-on bugging and debugging procedures for the team activity portion of content.

Advanced Leatherworking Skills for Teachers-Full

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Aaron Heizer- Makers Leatherwork and Monica Patrick

Presenters will help guide teachers through an advanced skillset. This will be a hands-on class with a project completed at the end of the class.

Balloons in the Classroom: How to Make and Make it Work

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$80 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Mable Jordan, Bailee Owen, and Katlyn Bolf-Moo's Balloons

Join a panel of teachers who use Balloon art in the classroom. Increase your knowledge and skills to develop more elaborate designs for important events held on and off your campus. Walk away with basic and new techniques, new skills, and a to-go kit ready to use in your classroom on the first day of school!

Blowing up Balloon Fundraisers Advanced Techniques & Trending Designs

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$60

Presenter(s): Lindsay Vest and Samantha Calhoun - All American Balloon and Shawn T Coyle

This workshop will begin with a quick refresher on beginning techniques and then move on to advanced techniques and current trends in balloon decor. The skills learned in this class provide an unlimited range of options for fundraising efforts for the school/department and the future academic endeavors of the students they support.

Boater Education Instructor Certification

1:00 pm-5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$10

Presenter(s): Kimberly Sorensen - Texas Parks and Wildlife

Teachers gain certification to teach TPWD Boater Education. The course will review the content in the Boater Education student course, how to set up a course in the TPWD online registration system, and how to certify students obtaining a boater education certificate that allows them to drive a boat over 15hp, a sailboat over 14ft, or a jet ski. A Boater Education certificate is required for people born after 9/1/93.

Building Your Chapter Promotional Toolbox

1:00 pm-5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$10

Presenter(s): Ashley Dunkerley - Texas FFA Association

A strong promotional strategy helps showcase your FFA chapter's impact and engage your community. In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn how to create eye-catching graphics, flyers, and social media content using Canva and Adobe Illustrator. Whether you're designing event promotions, chapter newsletters, or sponsorship materials, this session will equip you with the skills to craft professional and effective materials.

Disaster Management Planning for FFA Programs

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): David Sessum- TAMU Veterinary Science Program

Disaster management plan development for FFA programs should include all disasters and how to develop plans to manage them. All hazards (fire, flood, tornado, hurricane, etc) will be discussed.

GOAT (Greatest Of All Time) Veterinary Science Teacher Contest and Clinic

1:00 pm-5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$110

Presenter(s): David Sessum- TAMU Veterinary Science Program

Want to see how all those hours preparing your Vet Science CDE team compare to your colleagues? Want to satisfy your competitive nature and win a Vet Science CDE Championship Belt? Join Judging Card and TAMU VSCP for a teacher-only contest followed by sessions on how a contest is scored, using e-Rubrics and e-Scantrons, and tips for the written exam, ID, and practicum for the veterinary science contest. Skills kit for practicum included

Homecoming 101 - Spirit Wear from Start to Finish-AM

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$80 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Abel Gonzalez Mencia AAF, AIFD, CFD, PFCI, TMF

Make and take while you learn professional tips and techniques to effectively and productively create Texas Homecoming Mums and Garters. In this class, you can learn and participate in an immersive HANDS-ON experience. Focus on budget planning, material purchasing, visual merchandising, and successful sales will be covered.

Homecoming 101 - Spirit Wear from Start to Finish-PM

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$60

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Hydroponics in the Classroom-Full

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$70

Presenter(s): Megan James

Learn what I did to take my classroom from having one-two tabletop hydroponics to now having a grow room with a greenhouse built out in our new building. Let me walk you through ways to bring hydroponics on board and how it can tie into community outreach and fundraisers. Attendees will take home a hydroponic tabletop system to accompany learned skills and lessons.

JudgingCard's 'Score Like the ScanMan

8:00 am – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Alyssa Ewell- JudgingCard, The AET, and Tarleton State University

A full version of JudgingCard's "Score Like the ScanMan" series is designed to develop proficiency in the entire JudgingCard scoring and registration system. This workshop equips both new users and those with years of experience to score any type of event. A scanner is NOT required to attend. Anyone can benefit from knowledge of CDE scoring. Leave this workshop with a highly marketable skill. This workshop will also cover e-rubrics and e-scansheets.

Leaf and Flower Manipulation Magic Tricks

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$40 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Iulia Wells-Prokhorova- Wild Veggie Bouquet and Scott Marasckin and Susan Weatherford- Southern Floral Company

This intensive, hands-on workshop presented by Southern Floral Company will be focused on practical techniques for manipulating both leaves and flowers. The importance of leaf and flower artistry by folding and manipulating to elevate floral design value at no additional cost.

Level 1 Hands-on Workshop Teacher Review

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$60

Presenter(s): Cassie Sanders AIFD CFD TMF-Texas State Florists Association

The Level One Floral Design hands-on workshop will equip floral teachers with the necessary skills and experience to effectively engage their students in the TSFA Level 1 Floral Design Certification process. This workshop is not a Teacher Certification class; please bring basic floral tools.

Level 2 Hands-on Workshop Teacher Review

9:00 am – 11:00 am | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$80 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Cassie Sanders AIFD CFD TMF-Texas State Florists Association

The Level Two Floral Design hands-on workshop will equip floral teachers with the necessary skills and experience to effectively engage their students in the TSFA Level 2 Floral Design Certification process. This workshop is not a teacher certification class; please bring basic floral tools.

Managing Animal Projects in AET

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$20

Presenter(s): Vanessa Kirby-The AET

Come learn how to manage market and breeding animals using the managers in AET. We will share a case study with specific examples you can take with you as a reference. It will apply to all species, but if you have students with animal projects (Entrepreneurship SAEs), this workshop is for you! Please bring your laptop and any animal SAE questions!

Mark Your Card With Confidence

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): G.W. Krasucky, Bill Treptow, Chase Carroll, Craig Melton, Graham Borden, and Troy Oliver

Learn from the legends! Here, you will learn methods from a panel of coaches to build your confidence in scoring and training a Chapter Conducting team. Leave feeling more confident in judging and scoring a Chapter Conducting contest using the Texas FFA scorecard and rubric.

Pesticide Applicator Recertification Workshop

8:00 am – 11:00 am | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Corrie Bowen- TAMU AgriLife Extension

Completing this workshop will increase one's knowledge of plant and animal pest control and Pesticide Laws and Regulations associated with School IPM.

Private Pesticide Certification

9:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Corrie Bowen- TAMU AgriLife Extension

This workshop will complete the required training before applying for a Texas TDA Private Pesticide Applicators License and taking the Private Applicator Exam at PSI exams.

Intended attendees, please call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension AES Unit to order your Private Applicator Training study materials at (979) 845-3849. You will need the Private Applicator manual (AES-1648) and the TDA Laws and Regulations manual (AES-5056) for the Pesticide Certification Workshop. These manuals are \$45.00 before shipping and tax.

Range Judging CDE

(transportation not provided)

8:00 am – 5:00 pm | Welder Wildlife Foundation

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Terry Baize

This workshop will present basic information on the range judging CDE. It is designed for teachers contemplating training the team and teachers currently training a team but are in their beginning years. The presenters have collectively won several state and national range judging CDEs.

So You are an Ag Teacher...Now What?

8:00 am – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$40 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Jennifer Gilbreath, Traci Broom, other guest classroom and industry professionals

This workshop is geared towards early career ag teachers with between one and three years of experience as well as Alternatively Certified Teachers. You have been hired as an ag teacher, but you may be changing teaching fields, coming from industry, just graduated, or an early career teacher. So now what? Join for a comprehensive day of all topics that ag teachers need to know to survive & thrive.

Stock Trailer Use, Management, and Safety

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$40 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Mary Wilson-Sam Houston State, Chris Jones, Cindy Easley, Josh Shafer, and Stephanie Jones

Learn essential skills and safety protocols for hauling livestock and students. Due to time constraints, we will focus on key areas: pre-trip checks, the safety of students and livestock in situations that will come up, truck and trailer maneuvering, and livestock loading protocols.

TEA IBC Welding Certification Updates and Refresher Training-AM

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Richard Depue- American Welding Society Senior Inspector

Reviewing the current list of welding IBCs and choosing the best fit for an AG Mech program. Looking ahead to proposed changes in IBCs and increasing the rigor of ag welding IBCs.

TEA IBC Welding Certification Updates and Refresher Training-PM

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$10

Presenter(s): Richard Depue- American Welding Society Senior Inspector

GMAW Modes of Transfer and understanding today's MIG machines.
Which MIG machines are best for an Ag mech program? A look at all the brands.

Teaching the Art of Sympathy Arrangements

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$85

Presenter(s): Ashlyn Childress

In this hands-on workshop, participants will learn to design beautiful and meaningful sympathy arrangements, including casket sprays, standing easels, sympathy baskets, and dressing plants. With guidance on flower selection, design principles, and elements, attendees will create personalized pieces that convey comfort and remembrance.

Texas Tech Cooperating Teacher Training

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Krysti Kelley and John Rayfield- Texas Tech University

This workshop will equip agricultural educators who will serve as cooperating teachers during Spring 2026 with the necessary skills to provide high-quality mentorship to student teachers. This training will focus on effective feedback strategies, helping cooperating teachers guide student teachers in their instructional development and professional growth.

TPWD Hunter Education Instructor Workshop

(transportation not provided)

8:00 am – 5:00 pm | AM: American Bank Center PM: TBA Gun Range

Workshop Fee: \$30 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Brock Minton, Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.

TPWD regional training specialists will conduct this one-day, two-part workshop, which is required of individuals desiring to certify as volunteer TPWD Hunter Education Instructors authorized to conduct the Texas Hunter education student certification curriculum. Successful completion is required of every hunter in Texas born on or after September 2, 1971.

Unlocking Data Insights with AI for Agriculture Educators

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$55 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Sheryl Roehl, Ed.D, Joseph Vega, and Lily Werst- The University of Texas at Austin - WeTeach_CS

Join us for a session to introduce you to the basics of AI, machine learning, and data literacy. We will use the Teachable Machine to identify plants with nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium deficiencies. We will assemble the FarmBeats Student Activity Kit to measure the soil moisture of various soil textures. Data will be collected, graphed, and analyzed. The workshop fee includes a kit to use and take home.

Work-Based Learning

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Bank Center

Workshop Fee: \$80 (lunch will be provided)

Presenter(s): Spenser T. Adams- Region 10 ESC

This course will prepare you to teach Practicum and Career Preparation courses. Teachers will learn what authentic WBL is and how to ensure students learn the knowledge and skills appropriate through collaborative partnerships. We will also discuss current laws and regulations that impact WBL courses. (This course satisfies the TEA training requirements for teachers who teach WBL courses.)

Monday, July 21, 2025

Tours

Hatchery Tour-CCA Marine Development Center- AM

(transportation not provided)

10:00 am-12:00 pm | 4300 Waldron Rd, Corpus Christi, 78418

Tour Fee: \$10

Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the TPWD Marine Development Center saltwater fish hatchery. The hatchery raises red drum, spotted seatrout, and southern flounder, which are returned to the bays and estuaries along the Texas coast as part of a stock enhancement effort. All participants must pre-register and provide their own transportation; limited parking will be available.

Hatchery Tour-CCA Marine Development Center- PM

(transportation not provided)

2:00 pm-4:00 pm | 4300 Waldron Rd, Corpus Christi, 78418

Tour Fee: \$10

Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the TPWD Marine Development Center saltwater fish hatchery. The hatchery raises red drum, spotted seatrout, and southern flounder, which are returned to the bays and estuaries along the Texas coast as part of a stock enhancement effort. All participants must pre-register and provide their own transportation; limited parking will be available.

South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center Tour- AM

(transportation not provided)

10:00 am-12:00 pm | 8545 S Staples St, Corpus Christi, 78413

Tour Fee: \$15

Take a guided tour through the 180-acre botanical garden and nature center. The tour will include visiting the Reptile Room, where you will interact with at least two reptiles (tortoise and snake) and learn about their characteristics, habitats, diets, and more! The Sensory Garden, where you will use your senses, such as taste and smell, to investigate different herbs and native plants in South Texas, is a great concept to take back to your greenhouse. The Orchid & Bromeliad

Houses to learn where vanilla comes from, where pineapples are grown and used, and explore "mini-ponds in plants." Lastly, the Wetlands Boardwalk, Palapa Deck, and Arid Garden, where you will take a short walk to view wetland plants and birds next to the Arid Garden.

South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center Tour- PM

(transportation not provided)

1:00 pm-3:00 pm | 8545 S Staples St, Corpus Christi, 78413

Tour Fee: \$15

Take a guided tour through the 180-acre botanical garden and nature center. The tour will include visiting the Reptile Room, where you will interact with at least two reptiles (tortoise and snake) and learn about their characteristics, habitats, diets, and more! The Sensory Garden, where you will use your senses, such as taste and smell, to investigate different herbs and native plants in South Texas, is a great concept to take back to your greenhouse. The Orchid & Bromeliad Houses to learn where vanilla comes from, where pineapples are grown and used, and explore "mini-ponds in plants." Lastly, the Wetlands Boardwalk, Palapa Deck, and Arid Garden, where you will take a short walk to view wetland plants and birds next to the Arid Garden.

Texas Sea Life Center Tour- AM-Full

(transportation not provided)

9:00 am-12:00 pm | 14220 S Padre Island Dr, Corpus Christi, 78418

Tour Fee: \$10

Visit the Texas Seaside Center, a nonprofit wildlife hospital dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of sea turtles, shorebirds, and raptors. They allow guests to see the rehabilitation process firsthand and the efforts to save our local threatened and endangered species.

Texas Sea Life Center Tour- PM-Full

(transportation not provided)

1:00 pm-4:00 pm | 14220 S Padre Island Dr, Corpus Christi, 78418

Tour Fee: \$10

Visit the Texas Seaside Center, a nonprofit wildlife hospital dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of sea turtles, shorebirds, and raptors. They allow guests to see the rehabilitation process firsthand and the efforts to save our local threatened and endangered species.