

Crop Producer/Farmer

Description

A crop producer or farmer plants and harvests traditional row crops—such as corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, potatoes, canola, sunflowers, flax, sugar beets, field peas, etc.—independently or for a large farm or company.

Education/Training Requirements

- High School Diploma (required)
- Associate's or Bachelor's degree in agribusiness, plant science, agriculture or other relevant field (helpful)
- CDL, pesticide applicator license, or other certifications (often desired)

Recommended High School Coursework

- Agriculture Education
- Agriculture Mechanics
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Horticulture Science
- Plant Science
- Mathematics

Common Responsibilities

- Purchase seed from an area dealer or company prior to beginning planting seasons
- Perform tillage tasks in spring and fall seasons
- Operate farm equipment, such as tractors, sprayers, loaders, discs, cultivators, planters, grain carts and harvesters
- Scout and inspect crops for the need of pesticides, fungicides or herbicides and spray as needed
- Manage fertility levels and treat with appropriate product
- Harvest crops once ready in the growth cycle
- Perform routine and minor maintenance on equipment; prepare equipment for busy seasons
- Manage bills/paperwork and maintain accurate records, if in a business or leadership role

Typical Employers

Crop producers may work independently on their own farm or for large farms and agricultural companies that produce crop products.

Additional Resources

[American Farm Bureau Federation](#)

[National Farmers Organization](#)

[Crop Science Society of America](#)