Agricultural Education Waiver for Introduction to Agriscience Prerequisite

SUBJECT: State policy clearly states that Introduction to Agriscience (Agriscience I) is a prerequisite for all other agricultural education courses except the eighth grade agricultural opportunities class.

RATIONALE: A quality agricultural education program is one which has every student that is enrolled in the program actively involved in:

1. Classroom and laboratory instruction in and about agriculture
2. FFA/leadership activities
3. A Supervised Agricultural Experience program (SAE).

The Introduction to Agriscience curriculum is the only curriculum designed to orient students to all three phases of the agricultural education program. Without it, a student may not understand the importance of, or want to be involved in, all three phases. In such cases, the quality and standards of the total program are in jeopardy.

WAIVER: To waive the Introduction to Agriscience prerequisite, the following conditions must be met:

1. A letter of request from the local school administration to the state program specialist in agricultural education stating the need to waive the Introduction to Agriscience requirement.
2. Permission granted in writing from the district program specialist in agricultural education, Oklahoma Department of Careertech.
3. A signed agreement on file in the local school system signed by the school's agricultural education instructor, school administrator, the student involved in the waiver, and the student's parent specifying plans for FFA/leadership activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAEs).

Example Form

Agreement to Waive Introduction to Agriscience (Agriscience I) Prerequisite

This agreement is for high school students who have not previously had Introduction to Agriscience but wish to enroll in an advanced agricultural education course such as Introduction to Horticulture, Ag Power & Technology, Environmental Science & Natural Resources, Forestry, etc. No credit shall be awarded for the course, unless, the criteria are met.

This agreement is not valid unless the local school administration has requested and received permission for the waiver from the state program specialist in agricultural education.

COURSE TITLE:_____

Example Requirements:
Within the first nine weeks of the school year the student agrees to the following:

1. Learn the basic history of the FFA organization
2. Learn about the FFA Creed, FFA mission and goals, FFA emblem, FFA motto, etc.
3. Develop an SAE program related to the course through either: ownership, wage earning, or laboratory experience.
4. Become actively involved in the local FFA chapter and participate in FFA activities related to the course.
5. Pass the Introduction to Agriculture Competency Test at 70% pass rate.
6. Additional requirements for the Introduction to Agriculture Waiver:

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_____

Date:_____

Signature of Ag Ed Instructor_____

Signature of Student_____

Signature of Parent _____

Signature of Administrator_____