



STATE OF MISSOURI
 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - AG BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
MISSOURI AGRIBUSINESS ACADEMY – APPLICATION
 Class of 2025 (Due: February 1, 2025)

APPLICATIONS MUST BE EMAIL TIMESTAMPED NO LATER THAN 11:59 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 1, 2025.

PLEASE TYPE - ALL RESPONSES MUST BE 10 POINT FONT AND FIT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Eligible students must be high school sophomores, and an active member of a 4-H club, FFA chapter or from a Missouri farm family.

APPLICANT INFO:

STUDENT NAME (First, Middle, Last)	PRIMARY EMAIL (Student Email)	
STUDENT ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP CODE
STUDENT PHONE NUMBER	Can this phone receive text messages? Yes No	
PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) NAME	SECONDARY EMAIL (Parent/Guardian Email)	
HIGH SCHOOL NAME	HIGH SCHOOL FFA DISTRICT	
Are you currently enrolled in FFA? Yes No	FFA CHAPTER NAME	
FFA ADVISOR NAME	ADVISOR EMAIL	
Are you currently a 4-H member? Yes No	4-H CLUB NAME	
4-H YOUTH SPECIALIST NAME	SPECIALIST EMAIL	

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT:

If selected to participate in the Missouri Agribusiness Academy, I hereby agree to adhere to all rules and guidelines as established. The rules and regulations are as follows:

1. I agree not to use or possess any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during the Academy functions.
2. I agree to attend and actively participate in the meetings, group discussions and tours for all Missouri Agribusiness Academy related sessions.
3. I agree to dress and conduct myself in a manner which reflects credit to myself, my family, my school, and the Missouri Department of Agriculture.
4. I agree to adhere to established time schedules. Example: arrivals, departures, meetings, wake-ups and lights out.
5. I agree to complete all work assigned in conjunction with the Missouri Agribusiness Academy.
6. I agree to be compassionate to fellow participants and to aid in the unity of the Missouri Agribusiness Academy.
7. I agree that, upon completion of the Missouri Agribusiness Academy, I will help promote the Academy by presenting programs to my classmates, area FFA chapters, 4-H clubs and other civic groups as my work and school schedules permit.
8. I certify that I am a high school sophomore, am active in a 4-H club, FFA chapter or from a Missouri farm family.

By signing below, the applicant declares they have read the information above and agree to adhere to all rules and regulations. Failure to abide by these rules will result in unsatisfactory completion of the Academy with official notification going to your parent/guardian, high school principal, and the Director of Agriculture.

_____ Applicant Signature

_____ Date

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1. Why would you like to participate in the Missouri Business Academy? What personal qualities make you a good candidate?

2. Briefly explain your educational and career goals. How do you feel participation in the Missouri Business Academy will help you reach your personal and professional aspirations?

3. What do you believe is the greatest challenge facing Missouri Agriculture? What can agriculturalists do to resolve the issue?

4. What is something you recently learned about the agriculture industry that deeply impacted your thinking? Why?

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5. Describe your 4-H or FFA projects and highlight any part-time jobs or responsibilities you have. If you come from a family farm, please describe the farm, and detail your specific responsibilities.

6. In the section below, indicate your past and current membership and offices held in four organizations including high school, agricultural, community, church, or youth groups. Also, briefly describe one way that your active participation and/or leadership contributed to the success of the organization.

Organization	Length of Membership (Include Dates)	Office Held (Include Dates)
a.		

How did the organization benefit from your membership? (i.e. Initiative taken, projects completed, etc.)

b.		
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How did the organization benefit from your membership? (i.e. Initiative taken, projects completed, etc.)

c.		
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How did the organization benefit from your membership? (i.e. Initiative taken, projects completed, etc.)

7. List awards and honors you have received in the space below.

Organization/Grantor	Award/Honor	Date

Applicant No.

MISSOURI AGRIBUSINESS ACADEMY RELEASE

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Business Development Division sponsors the Missouri Agribusiness Academy for selected high school sophomores.

WHEREAS, the undersigned desires to participate and engage in the Missouri Agribusiness Academy.

WHEREAS, I/we hereby consent to and support his/her participation in the Missouri Agribusiness Academy. I/we understand that he/she will be required to travel at his/her expense to and from Jefferson City, Missouri, to attend the Springfield tour on June 2 – June 6, 2025.

THEREFORE, in consideration of allowing said student to participate and engage in the Missouri Agribusiness Academy with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, I/we the undersigned fully realizing the possible results of said participation, either directly or indirectly, nevertheless, do release and forever discharge the Missouri Department of Agriculture, its Director, employees and designated chaperones, from all damages or causes of action either at law or equity, which I/we may have or acquire, or which may accrue to me/him/her, my/his/her heirs, administrators, executors or assigns, as a result of participation in the Missouri Agribusiness Academy.

I/we intend this to be a complete release and discharge and I/we intend hereby to release and forever discharge said person, and the Missouri Department of Agriculture, from all liability whatsoever. It is clearly understood by all parties to this instrument that no representations have been made to me/us regarding the safety of participants of the Missouri Agribusiness Academy. Furthermore, I/we do hereby expressly stipulate and agree in consideration of the right to participate in such program and hold forever harmless the Missouri Department of Agriculture, its Director, employees and designated chaperones and its/their successors and assigns, heirs, executors, and administrators, against loss from any and all claims that may arise from participation in the Missouri Agribusiness Academy.

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

To be considered for the 2025 MAbA Class, the Missouri Department of Agriculture must receive your application no later than **February 1, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.**

NEW FOR 2025: MAbA applications will be accepted by EMAIL ONLY! Please do not mail your application.

Completed applications and 3 letters of recommendation must be submitted to:

maba@mda.mo.gov

Subject: MAbA Application – *First Name Last Name*

Letters of recommendation should be attached as scanned PDF documents.

Late or incomplete applications, or applications without 3 letters of recommendation will not be accepted.

Applicants will be emailed about the result of their application by March 1, 2025.

Semi-finalists will be required to attend an in-person interview in March.

Please visit www.agriculture.mo.gov for more details about how to submit and the selection process.