

07 Colleges of agriculture and forestry

Colleges, add-on courses

Educational objectives

In addition to sound general education, colleges of agriculture and forestry provide intensive vocational education and training which qualifies graduates to exercise **occupations in agriculture and forestry** in the respective area specialisation as well as related areas. Priority is given to qualifications that meet the **multifunctionality of agriculture and the requirements of nature, the economy as well as academic and technical progress**. Graduates are to be open for the concerns of people in rural areas and display quality awareness. By involving them in major, cross-curricular projects, graduates are taught the knowledge and skills which ensure **implementation in professional practice**.

The major **educational objectives** include: personal growth and development, capacity for professional mobility and flexibility, creativity, ability to take criticism, social involvement, teamwork, cooperation skills and communicative skills in German and other languages.

The five-year colleges of agriculture and forestry and the three-year add-on courses are completed with the matriculation and diploma examination and provide graduates with the higher education entrance qualification.

Area specialisations

- Agriculture
- Wine and Fruit Production
- Garden and Landscape Design
- Horticulture
- Agricultural Engineering
- Forestry
- Agriculture and Food Supply Management
- Food and Biotechnology

Specific focuses

- Information and Environmental Management
- Product Marketing and Regional Tourism
- Nutrition Management
- Nutrition Ecology
- Business Management
- Business and Production Management
- Project and Regional Management
- Environmental Technology
- Agrarian Management
- Agrarian Marketing
- Agricultural Quality Management

Educational content

Depending on the area specialisation, colleges of agriculture and forestry convey the content of the following subject areas: Human Sciences and Language; Natural Sciences; Management and Law; Arts and Culture; Physical Exercise and Sport; Agriculture and Forestry; Biochemical and Technological Basics; Production and Technology; Garden and Landscape Design; Horticulture; Technical Sciences and Computer Science; Technology, Forestry Production and Nature Management; Forestry Engineering; Food, Technology and Laboratory.

Within the individual area specialisations in agriculture and forestry, individual locations offer **specific focuses** which lead to further job-related specialisations (such as Environmental Technology, Agrarian Marketing, Agrarian Management, Information and Environmental Management, Product Marketing and Regional Tourism, Nutrition and Business Management, Health and Product Management, Business and Production Management, Project and Regional Management).

The curricula of the colleges of agriculture and forestry provide for mandatory work placements of a total of 18 or 22 weeks.

Career opportunities for graduates

Graduates work in the areas of agricultural and forestry production as well as horticultural production, landscape design, wine and fruit production, the food industry and nutrition, tourism and the catering industry as well as agricultural machinery technology at administrative, management and marketing level and in agricultural and forestry advice and consulting services.

Pursuit of regulated professions on a self-employed basis:

Relevant occupations with proof of professional practice: gardener, flower arranger, agricultural machinery engineer.

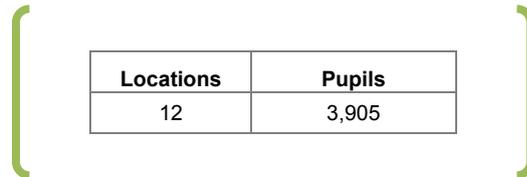
Due to the liberalisation of the Trade, Commerce and Industry Regulation Act, access to nearly all master craftsperson examinations and professional diploma examinations is possible provided the general conditions for exercising a craft or trade and for completion of practical periods, if appropriate, are satisfied. (waiving of entrepreneurial examination).

Specific features

Graduates of five-year colleges of agriculture and forestry and of three-year add-on courses are awarded the professional title **Ingenieur/Ingenieurin** following completion of at least three years of relevant professional practice.

The **diploma project** is a separate project which must be carried out by pupils in the final two semesters as part of the matriculation and diploma exam outside regular classes and has to deal with a topic related to agriculture, forestry or another relevant area. The diploma project is carried out in **cooperation with a non-school partner**. Apart from tasks and analyses relevant to the sector, environmental issues, aspects related to business administration, and marketing are also included. Another part of the diploma project is a summary written in a modern foreign language.

Another element of the diploma project is its **documentation and presentation**, which have to be as professional as possible and include the use of state-of-the-art technologies as media for visualisation. In the diploma project, candidates must furnish proof of their cross-curricular problem-solving ability and methodological skills by using working methods analogous to the profession and, where possible, involving businesses from the respective area specialisations.



Locations	Pupils
12	3,905

Source: BMBF Zahlenspiegel 2013, school year 2012/2013