

Farmer is a regulated profession

Formal training to become a farmer consists of a three-year dual programme. The first year is full-time vocational school, followed by a two-year apprenticeship, usually working for two different employers. In addition to this, trainees also complete courses at schools for agricultural machinery and animal husbandry.

Bavaria differs from other regions in that this agricultural qualification, unlike other professions, leads to self-employed activity in the majority of cases.

What are the requirements?

Trainees should be motivated and able to perform and develop stamina, mental agility, organisational skills and a high degree of manual dexterity and technical understanding. Independent, entrepreneurial thinking and a sense of responsibility are important. Having your own farm, however, is not necessarily a requirement. The share of trainees who do not come from an agricultural background is increasing. The same is true for the share of women who decide to go into the profession.

Training on broad range of topics

Trainees acquire knowledge in the fields of business administration, plant cultivation, animal husbandry and agricultural technology. The topics include arable and grassland management, crop growth control and harvesting, livestock husbandry and animal health, energy production,

How do you become a farmer?

machine operation and maintenance, organisational and procedural aspects of business management, and maintenance and preservation of cultivated landscapes.

Possibilities for continuing professional education

- Agricultural schools or specialised schools for organic farming
- Major agricultural colleges with a focus on business administration
- Mastership examination for farm managers and training supervisors
- Technical school for service providers
- Agricultural business administrator (as speciality qualification)



Source: www.stmelf.bayern.de

Agriculture is also an academic field

There are three university-level institutions in Bavaria, and many across Germany, which offer programmes in the field of agriculture, focussing on different areas. A relatively new aspect is the dual study programme, which combines university-level teaching with practical training on the ground.



Image: Production

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