



Farm Business Manager/Accountant

A Farm Business Manager/Accountant is responsible for administration of management accounts, organizational budgeting and administration of accounting processes. They must analyze, report and give advice on the financial dealings for the company/farm and associated record keeping and compliance requirements.



Inspiring Minds to Grow


Funded by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity


career profile

Name: Derinda Arnold
Job Title: Farm Business
Manager


Employer: The Atkins Group

Education: BS in Agribusiness, with a minor in Business
Administration, University of Illinois: Champaign-Urbana

 During college, I discovered an interest in agriculture finance and planning. I grew up on a farm and always looked forward to planting season. Combining both interests led to my career choice as a farm manager.

 I started as a farm manager right after my college graduation. I was employed by a bank and worked my way up the corporate ladder as the department head in farm management. I left the bank atmosphere after 12 years to take my current position with The Atkins Group. Still a farm manager and almost 15 years later, I manage the day-to-day operations for landowners of 18,000 acres. I am involved in the decisions to grow and sell corn, soybeans,

and wheat. I enjoy discussing hybrids and planting techniques with the landowners and farmers. I provide information about taxes and government programs to the landowners. I encourage the use of GPS and other technology advancements to improve performance and yields.

 The best part of my job is the interaction with both farmers and landowners on a day-to-day basis in order to meet their goals. I love the business of farming and working with people. I am truly living a dream.



Farm Business Manager

overview



A **farm business manager** works closely for the company or farm by advising management and providing financial and administrative information while analyzing records, budgets and compliance requirements.

suggested high school courses



[Introduction to the Agricultural Industry](#), [Agricultural Business Management](#), [Mathematics](#), [Economics](#), and [Accounting](#)

experience needed



Seek experience while in school and/or job shadowing to gain working knowledge of agriculture business processes, issues, and terminology. Participate in agriculture business management events. Plan and implement a related Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program.

degree(s) required



A bachelor's degree with emphasis in agriculture business, economics, or accounting is required. Other possible majors are business administration or finance.

potential employers



Farm Credit Services, Growmark, POET, Farm Business Farm Management Association (FBFM)

salary range



\$60,800 to \$65,500

employment outlook and trends



The future outlook for farm business managers is predicted to be **good**.

professional organizations



American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers www.asfmra.org/
Illinois Agribusiness Council www.agribusinesscouncil.org/illinois.htm



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