

Ag Robotics and Automation Technologies (ARAT) Field Test

About ARAT

The *Agricultural Robotics and Automation Technologies (ARAT)* curriculum will introduce students to concepts in automation and robotics in three systems: animal, plant, and food. The first unit introduces core concepts in automation and robotics, while the last unit guides students through an open-ended design project. Between these two units, there are three modules - animal, plant, and food applications. Teachers can incorporate these units independently or together to meet local curricular needs.

Course Content

The *Agricultural Robotics and Automation Technologies* areas of study include:

- Unit 1 – Foundations of Agricultural Automation
- Unit 2 – Automation in Plant Systems
- Unit 3 – Automation in Animal Systems
- Unit 4 – Automation in Food Processing
- Unit 5 – Automated Solutions

What is a Field Test?

The introduction of a new CASE 4 Learning course requires several steps. After course development, the curriculum is field-tested to check for appropriateness, accuracy, and flow. In addition, field-testing a course provides an opportunity to validate the course and to inform the curriculum designers about potential areas of concern missed during the development stages. Each field test comprises a group of teachers who agree to teach the course following the draft curriculum and provide feedback for necessary changes.

Call for Field Test Applicants

CASE 4 Learning is seeking 32 participants for two regional *AHVS* field tests. Potential participants must complete the [ARAT Field Test Application](#) by **March 15**. Selection is not a traditional first-come, first-serve style. CASE 4 Learning will notify applicants of their selection status on March 18 via the personal email they provide. At that time, they must complete the provided registration link before April 15. Alternates are selected to fill additional seats as needed.

The *ARAT* field test is three days long and will have no costs. The National Science Foundation will fund participant expenses, including room, board, transportation, and materials needed to implement the curriculum. However, schools selected must place a \$500 downpayment to hold their reservation. AgCentric will reimburse the school \$500 after you attend the first day of the Field Test.

Field Test Location

- Staples, MN – July 28th – 30th
- Staples, MN – July 30th – August 1st

Questions? Contact Carl Aakre at carl.aakre@case4learning.org.