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August 1, 2018

To: Illinois Agriculture Education Teachers

Fr: John Edgar, IAVAT Executive Director

Re: Annual Dues Statement

In response to numerous requests, the IAVAT Board of Directors has developed an annual dues billing statement suitable for submission to school administration. It is the Board of Director's belief the payment of professional dues not only provides benefit to teachers, but the payment of dues brings an advantage to the local school district. While membership is an individual right and responsibility, many schools are paying all or a portion of their local Agriculture Instructor's dues package. The following paragraphs provide information that may assist you in securing reimbursement for your dues.

Membership in the IAVAT is available through two dues packages. Option 1 provides membership in the Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers, National Association of Agricultural Educators and Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education, at the cost of \$235 (first year member rate - \$178). Option 2 dues package includes the three organizations mentioned previously and the Association for Career and Technical Education, at a total cost of \$315 (first year member rate - \$258). The dues are used to conduct the business of the association, which includes the planning and implementation of professional improvement workshops; planning and conducting the career development events for students; conduct meetings for teachers at the section, district, and state levels; and provide representation to state agencies on agricultural and educational issues affecting the profession.

Membership in the IAVAT allows instructors a reduced rate when they register their students in the career development events sponsored by the IAVAT. The list on the following page shows the rates for both a team registered by a non-member and an IAVAT member. (over)

	Non-member fee	Member Fee
Dairy Cattle Handlers	\$ 48	\$ 12
Job Interview	48	12
Ag Communications	192	48
Agriculture Sales	192	48
Agronomy	192	48
Food Science	192	48
Horse	192	48
Land Use	192	48
Vet Science	192	48
Agriculture Business Management	240	60
Agriculture Mechanics	240	60
Dairy Cattle	240	60
Dairy Foods	240	60
Forestry	240	60
Horticulture	240	60
Livestock	240	60
Meats Evaluation & Technology	240	60
Poultry Evaluation	240	60
Ag Issues	300	75
Livestock Reasons	400	100

If a school chooses to participate in any career development event offered by the IAVAT, it makes financial sense to consider membership in the association for their agriculture instructor. Beyond the benefits in career development event registration and the many professional improvement activities that are offered by the IAVAT, schools receive the benefit of additional funding through the Incentive Funding quality indicators. Membership in the IAVAT, IACTE and NAAE (Option 1) will generate 3x for the school and membership in the IAVAT, NAAE, IACTE and ACTE will generate an additional 4x for the school. Typically, the value of an "x" ranges between \$25-30. If this continues to be the case, a school may expect to receive at least \$75 in incentive funding if their instructor chooses Option 1 membership package and \$100 in incentive funding if they choose the Option 2 dues package. **IAVAT dues must be received by October 31 of each year for members to receive Incentive Funding credit and to remain in good standing with IAVAT.**

When one considers the increased incentive funding and reduced registration fees for career development events, IAVAT membership becomes a financially sound and professionally wise investment. Obviously, I have not spelled out all the programs and benefits of IAVAT membership. Complimentary insurance options are included as a part of some of the affiliate dues, and members are also notified of special credit and health savings opportunities on a regular basis. The Association also offers a reduced IAVAT dues rate for first year members.

If I can provide further information about the IAVAT or its affiliate organizations, please contact our office at your convenience.