

News Release for Immediate Use or Next Issue
K-State Research and Extension
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Tractor safety classes offered by K-State Research and Extension Districts for 2022

This summer, thousands of Kansas teenagers will begin their first job working for a farmer or rancher. For those that are ages 14 or 15, they must complete a tractor safety course in order to be legally employed. A thirteen-year-old may enroll in the training if turning 14 before the next year's class is offered, but the certificate will not be issued until their fourteenth birthday.

To help prepare some of those youth for the upcoming work season, several K-State Research and Extension Districts are collaborating and will be hosting three in-person tractor safety classes scheduled for Saturdays, March 5 (Salina), April 9 (Beloit), and May 14 (Great Bend).

This course will meet the requirements of the U.S. Department of Labor's Hazardous Occupations Order for Agriculture (HOOA). The HOOA regulations state that youth 14 and 15 years of age, who wish to work as a hired employee for someone other than a parent or legal guardian and operate a farm tractor that is 20 HP or greater, must successfully pass a tractor safety training program.

The cost of the program is \$15 to cover the cost of materials for the course. Those wanting to enroll simply go online at www.postrock.ksu.edu or to https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bxss9WKVdp4AWqy and complete the registration at least five days before the scheduled course. The book for the course is available at your local Extension District office and will need to be purchased before the first class as participants are encouraged to go through the "safety activity sheets" at the end of each chapter before Saturday's session.

Prospective students can check availability and ask questions before registering by calling or emailing Sandra Wick swick@ksu.edu, Blaire Todd blairet@ksu.edu; Craig Dinkel, cadinkel@ksu.edu; Clinton Laflin, cflaflin@ksu.edu; Alicia Boor, aboor@ksu.edu; Jay Wisbey, or Justine Henderson, jwh04@ksu.edu.

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K-State Research and Extension is a short name for the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, a program designed to generate and distribute useful knowledge for the well-being of Kansans. Supported by county, state, federal and private funds, the program has county Extension offices, experiment fields, area Extension offices, and regional research centers statewide. Its headquarters is on the K-State campus in Manhattan.