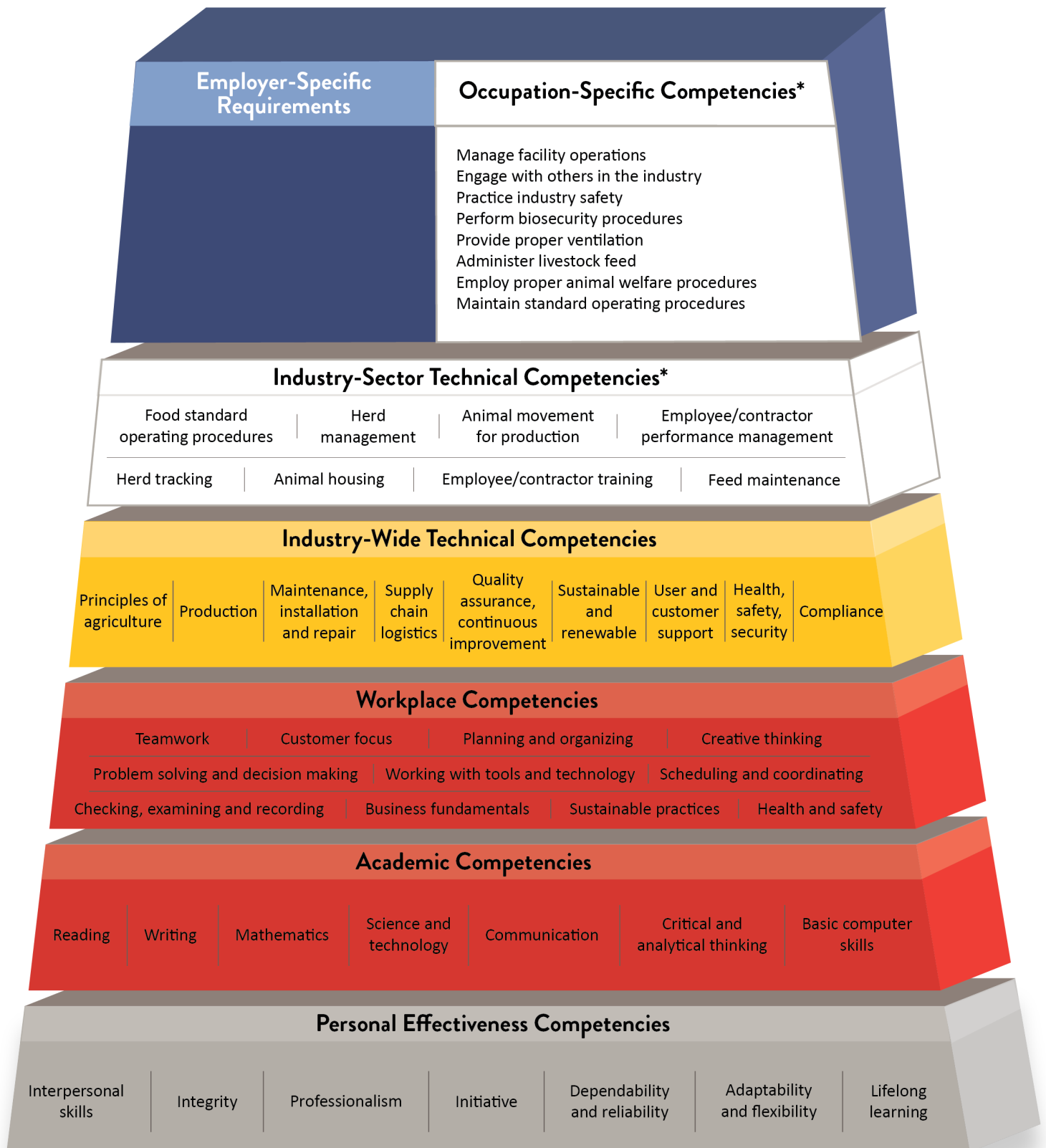


Minnesota Dual-Training Pipeline

Competency Model for Agriculture

Occupation: Swine Technician



Based on: Building Blocks for Competency Models – Foundational Competencies, Employment and Training Administration, United States Department of Labor, February 2025. For more detailed information about competency model creation and sources, visit dli.mn.gov/business/workforce/agriculture.



Competency Model for Swine Technician

Swine Technician – An individual who assists in providing all daily aspects of animal care, specializing in sow farm or grow finish operation for healthy swine production.

*Pipeline recommends the Industry-Sector Technical Competencies as formal training opportunities (provided through related instruction) and the Occupation-Specific Competencies as on-the-job (OJT) training opportunities.

Industry-Sector Technical Competencies

Related Instruction for dual training means the organized and systematic form of education resulting in the enhancement of skills and competencies related to the dual trainee's current or intended occupation.

- **Food standard operating procedures** – Understanding of proper procedures for animal feeding.
- **Herd management** – Understanding the science and business of producing domestic livestock species.
- **Animal movement for production** – Knowledge of principles regarding safe and healthy movement of a herd.
- **Employee/contractor performance management** – Knowledge of important management factors to monitor when working with an extensive group of employees/contractors.
- **Herd tracking** – Knowledge of skills and tools used for tracking individual animals and animals as a herd.
- **Animal housing** – Understanding of proper procedures and requirements for healthy animal housing best practices, especially for sows and their piglets.
- **Employee/contractor training** – Understand the theory and practices involved with employee management principles and training techniques for employees/ contractors involved in swine production.
- **Feed maintenance** – Attention to quality control of feed and minimizing health risks for the herd.

Occupation-Specific Competencies

On-the-Job Training is hands-on instruction completed at work to learn the core competencies necessary to succeed in an occupation. Common types of OJT include job shadowing, mentorship, cohort-based training, assignment-based project evaluation and discussion-based training.

- **Manage facility operations** – Management of all systems and controls of the facility including ventilation, feeding, and watering.
- **Engage with others in the industry** – Know how to engage and collaborate with other businesses within the agricultural industry.
- **Practice industry safety** – Know how to use industry standards to maintain a safe work environment to ensure personal well-being and safety of co-workers.
- **Perform biosecurity procedures** – Knowledge of procedures intended to protect livestock animals against disease or harmful biological agents.
- **Provide proper ventilation** – Understanding of importance of and the ability to manage systems to maintain proper ventilation of facility.
- **Administer livestock feed** – Understanding of livestock feeding procedures and essential nutrition for sows, piglets and full-grown pigs.
- **Employ proper animal welfare procedures** – Know how to properly handle livestock with attention to their safe handling and overall welfare.
- **Maintain standard operating procedures** – Knowledge of standard operating procedures for the facility and herd management.

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