

# Selecting an SAE Project Type (AET Experience)

**Purpose:** This guide provides a decision tree framework for an SAE project, which in The AET is called an AET experience. This guide can also serve as a classroom exercise to begin discussing SAEs. Also, review [www.exploresae.com](http://www.exploresae.com) for additional SAE resources.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

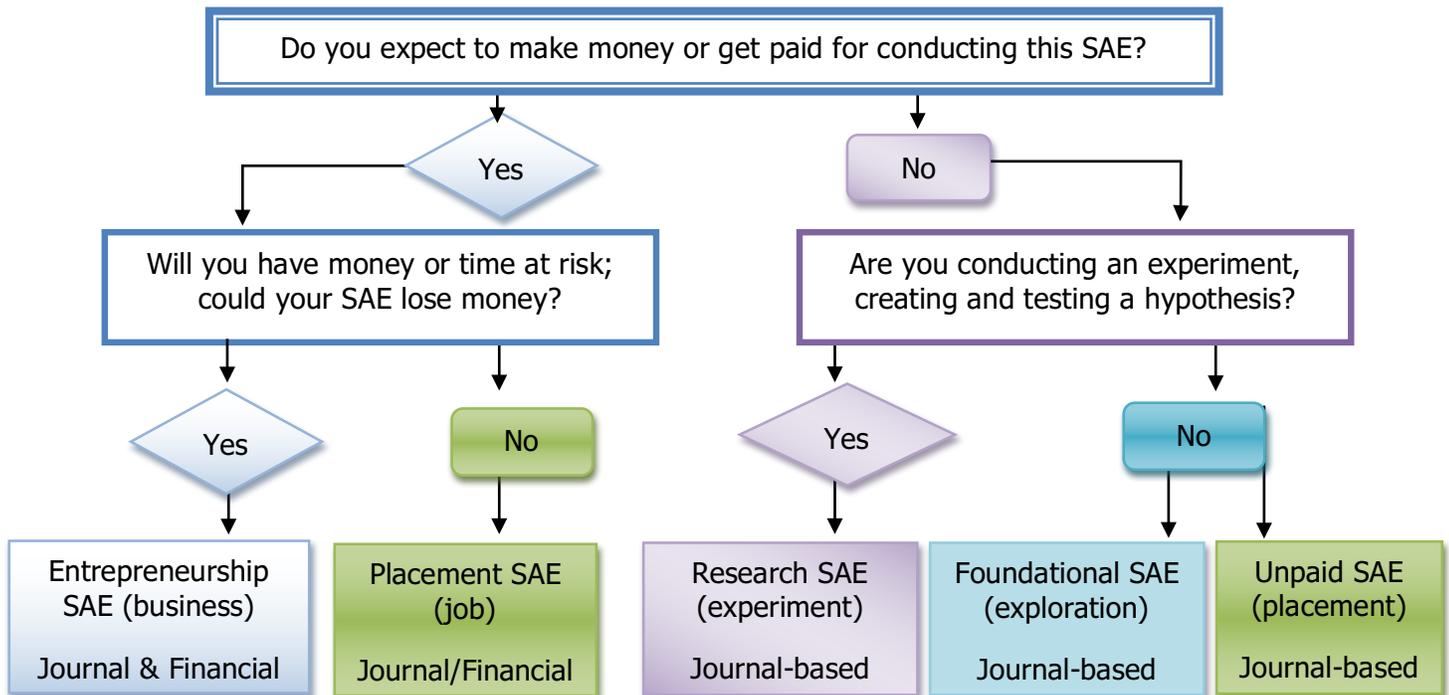
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP 1: Describe the Primary Audience, Focus, or Level for your Project

- **Independent** - Most traditional projects are Independent. You are responsible for management decisions with supervision and support from others.
- **School Based** - These projects are conducted with formal cooperation or the school. This is sometimes referred to as a "school-based enterprise". You work as a partner with your school or some formal agreement.
- **Service Learning** - These projects are conducted with the formal cooperation of community organizations or non-profit, often those responsible for a community-based event. These projects cannot be duplicated as community service; this is your SAE project that you lead.

## STEP 2: Discover Your Most-Appropriate SAE Type

*Decision Tree: Beginning at the top, answer the questions and it will guide you to your most-appropriate SAE type. Complete this exercise for each SAE idea – repeat to explore more!*



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## Time to Brainstorm: My SAE idea

In the space below, write the SAE type selected from the decision tree exercise. Describe your SAE idea.

**Step 2. SAE setup in The AET** (More help is online for each section )  
 (Follow the steps below; check them off as you go!)

1. Click PROFILE, select "Experience Manager"  in the Profile section of The AET.
2. Select "Add New" at the top of the page

### Add/Edit Experiences

<b>Name:</b> 	<input type="text"/>	Enter a short descriptive name for this experience.
<b>Level / Focus:</b> 	Individual 	
<b>SAE Type:</b> 	Exploration: <input type="radio"/> Foundational	 Journal Only
	Agriscience: <input type="radio"/> Research/Experimental	 Journal and Finances
	Job: <input type="radio"/> Paid Placement <input type="radio"/> Unpaid Placement	 Paychecks and Journal
	Business: <input type="radio"/> Entrepreneurship/Ownership	 Journal and Finances
<b>Primary Experience Category:</b> 	(Please Choose) 	
<b>Primary Subcategory:</b> 		

3. The following table illustrates your options:
  - ✓ Your projects name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ The Level of your project: \_\_\_ Individual \_\_\_ School based \_\_\_ Service Learning
  - ✓ Your type of SAE: \_\_\_\_\_
  - ✓ Your experience category (Select one)
    - \_\_\_ Leadership, Education and Communications
    - \_\_\_ Animal Systems (AS) focused on animal systems
    - \_\_\_ Agribusiness Systems (ABS) focused on agribusiness projects
    - \_\_\_ Biotechnology Systems (BS) focused on science projects
    - \_\_\_ Environmental Service Systems (ESS) waste management and environment

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- \_\_\_ Food Products and Processing Systems (FPP) focused on food science/service
- \_\_\_ Natural Resource Systems (NRS) soil, water, and other natural resources
- \_\_\_ Plant Systems (PS) focused plant systems
- \_\_\_ Power, Structural and Technical Systems (PST) focused on power systems

## Step 3. Begin your project with a plan!

- A. The "SAE plan" option  is to develop an SAE Plan (see related guides).
- B. The "SAE budget" option  is an additional planning document for entrepreneurship projects.
- C. The "edit" option  is to change any of your setup information

Setup / Plan & Budget

**Develop a written SAE project description (Brainstorm some ideas to later enter into AET):**

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*\* Refer to managing SAE guides and developing an SAE Plan for more information.*

## Step 4. Manage your records and reflect on results!

*Be sure to review "Best Management Practices for SAEs and keep records. Some of the following menu items are important:*



Your project needs and annual review to reflect on (1) how your project got started, (2) key responsibilities and skills and (3) summary of results



Your project's annual reviews are all complete!



Your project is active and ongoing or if the project is complete, turn it "off", which marks the project as inactive. The SAE will still show in reports and awards