

WELCOME

AFA ANIMAL INSTITUTE PRELIMINARY ITINERARY

APRIL 12-14, 2026

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IMPORTANT DATES



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Below you will find dates to keep in mind as we approach the Institute. These dates will (a) help remind you when to send our team important information and (b) give you a heads up when to expect important information to come from AFA.

2

February

REGISTRATION FORM AVAILABLE

AFA will be sending the company's main contact an email (lexy.mullins@agfuture.org) with more information on how to register your team.

9

March

REGISTRATION DUE

Only one registration is needed for your organization and all changes must be made before March 16th.

30

March

FINAL COMMUNICATION FROM AFA

AFA will send your team a final communication listing information around how to access the final schedule for your team, speaker resources, Resume Directory, and other helpful tools.

CANCELLATION POLICY



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As an engagement and funding partner of AFA, we value your support. For 30 years, partners have invested their dollars in our nonprofit programming to help guide the next generation of agriculture and food leaders. Because we are committed to being good stewards of those dollars, we are continuing our cancellation policy to help direct that funding toward growing the number of students we serve each year.

Our goal for this policy is to work with our partners in establishing deadlines when confirming/making changes regarding your teams' engagement. With the rise of costs associated with in the hospitality industry (AV, caterings, lodging, etc.) this policy will help mitigate the financial risks AFA is liable for regarding cancellations that fall outside the calendar parameters set by third party vendors.

As one of our main contacts for partnership, please help us in making sure this policy is communicated to your team members planning to attend the AFA Leader Institutes.

Adjustments or cancellations to your registration must be made through lexy.mullins@agfuture.org by March 16.

March 9:

- Deadline to register/confirm participation at the AFA Leader Institute – this includes speaker roles.

March 16:

- Meals: Last day to cancel team member and receive reimbursement on any meals purchased outside of the complimentary meals provided through the partnership. If a team member cancels after this date, partner will be liable for cost of the meal already purchased.
- Speakers: Last day to cancel team member and replace with another teammate. If a team member is unable to participate in the program following this date - no other team member from your company will be able to participate/replace that individual unless specified by an AFA team member.

AGENDA

Below you will find areas of engagement your team is invited to participate in. Reminder, your team must be registered for Animal Institute by March 9th. You have until March 16th. to make any changes (additions or subtractions) to your registration by sending an email to lexy.mullins@agfuture.org.

Please use the form below to keep track of which team members are registered for each activity.

PRE-INSTITUTE

Swag Items

As a partner benefit you will be allowed to send items to hand out to delegates during registration. Please reach out for shipping instructions.

Please ensure swag items are no larger or heavier than a standard water bottle. We also encourage sending snacks to be included in the handouts!

Commercial Video

You also have the opportunity to submit a 30-60 second video about your company (YouTube link or mp4) to be showed during the Institute breaks and transitions.

Event Location:

Marriott Kansas City Airport
775 Brasilia Ave
Kansas City, MO 64153

Event location subject to change* Please check <https://www.agfuture.org/experiences/afa-animal-institute/overview> for the most up to date information. Location will stay within/ around Kansas City, MO.

We ask that you reserve your own hotel room as we do not have a rooming block available. Thank you!



AGENDA



ALL TIMES BELOW ARE IN CST

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

Attire: Business Casual/Logo Apparel

5:30-6:30 PM

Dinner & Discourse - 2-4 team members invited

You will get to sit with delegates and alumni to have fun conversations over hot takes while eating a fabulous meal. An example could be: which is better, winter or summer?

6:30-7:30PM

Alumni Sweets & Social - All alumni invited

The Alliance Sweet & Social provides an engaging environment for students to build connections with peers and alumni, while learning how AFA can support their professional journey beyond graduation.

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026

Attire: Business Casual/Logo Apparel

8:00 AM-3:00 PM (Three Time Options)

Tours

Your team has the option to host a tour at your location, so students can obtain hands on experience! If your team is interested in providing lunch, you will receive an extra 30 minutes added to your tour time. Please indicate interest here: [2026 AFA Leader Institutes Tour Confirmation Form](#)

5:30-6:30 PM

Careers in the Animal Industry - Roundtable Discussion - 1 team member invited

Discuss career paths and opportunities with a variety of industry professionals sharing their insight and advice. Students will rotate every 12 minutes for four rotations to speak to industry professionals about their careers.

6:30-7:00 PM

Industry & Delegate Networking - 2-4 team members invited

Get to know students and share your knowledge!

7:00-8:00 PM

Dinner with Industry Guests - 2-4 team members invited

Enjoy great food and get to know the students at your table!

AGENDA

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026

Attire: Business Professional/Logo Apparel

8:00-9:00 AM

Partner Breakfast (location tbd) - 2-4 team members invited

Speak with students regarding career opportunities and innovative products and solutions you are bringing to the industry.

9:45-11:00 AM

Ted X Executive Session at Merck Animal Health - 1 team member invited

This session features a short, story-driven talk from industry leaders that explore bold ideas and personal leadership insights, followed by an engaging audience Q&A to inspire action and connection.

