



### **Why does Agriculture Future of America (AFA) have a Student Advisory Team?**

AFA values students as leaders in all that we do. We know that the people most equipped to understand what students need and relate to students in our programs are the ones who are in that same position and have experienced our collegiate programs first-hand. The AFA Student Advisory Team provides student voice to our organization and programs, and represents AFA among peers and industry professionals. Student Advisors assist the AFA staff in the planning and facilitation of programs, including AFA Leaders Conference and AFA Leader Institutes.

### **What's in it for our Student Advisors?**

AFA Student Advisors receive real-world professional experience to help set them up for success as young professionals and beyond. This opportunity provides top-notch training students can't get in their classroom or internships and a network of motivated peers to carry with them into their careers.

- Academic scholarship, released to your school on a semester-by-semester basis and contingent on your participation
- Receive professional training in facilitation, public speaking, respect and inclusivity, and customer service valued over \$1,800/Student Advisor
- Tangible teamwork, event planning, and leadership experience for your resume
- Exclusive exposure to AFA partners and industry leaders through virtual and in-person events and meetings
- Registration and travel expenses to the 2023 AFA Leaders Conference
- Travel and expenses paid to AFA meetings
- LinkedIn badges after completion of trainings and at end of experience

**When does a Student Advisor serve?** November 2022 – November 2023

**What's the time commitment?** The Student Advisory Team experience does require a commitment of time and attention outside scheduled regular meetings to achieve the goals of the team and AFA which at its height could equal five hours per week.

### **What are the requirements of Student Advisors?**

- Participation in full monthly meetings (see dates below)
- Review annual Conference feedback from the previous year to identify areas for improvement and continued successes
- Review and plan Track visions, orientations, reflections, daily activities and sessions
- Work with AFA Staff and outside contractors to develop program marketing materials such as giveaways, apparel, and videos
- Assist in plans for Leaders Conference events such as Bridge Builder Celebration, Saturday night activities, service project, etc.
- Write and memorize scripts for Leaders Conference and Institutes
- Participate in professional trainings in the following areas:
  - Facilitation
  - Public speaking

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- Customer service
- Storytelling
- Diversity, equity, inclusion & engagement
- Work with AFA staff to identify opening and closing speakers for Conference
- Arrive two days early to Conference for preparation
- Participate in, facilitate, and host one or two Leader Institute(s) (specific programs to be determined by AFA Staff)
  - For two months prior to the Institute, meet with AFA staff on a weekly basis leading up to the Institute
  - Arrive one day early to the Institute
  - After the Institute, participate in public speaking and facilitation feedback call with AFA staff
- Attend at least one AFA Board of Directors meeting
- Maintain consistent communication with AFA staff throughout term

#### *Additional Opportunities*

- Participate in visits, meetings, and events with industry professionals on behalf of AFA
- Identify candidates for and promotion of AFA student leader programs to students on campus upon respective selection processes
- Collaborate with the AFA Ambassadors on-campus and on-site at AFA programs to create a positive student experience
- Participate in additional training in public speaking and facilitation with coaching by AFA staff
- Engage with Board of Directors through one-on-one conversations as part of Board meeting preparation
- Represent AFA through miscellaneous outreach efforts with AFA Development Team
- Communicate with Conference speakers regarding logistics and event preparation
- Discuss interview feedback with AFA staff after acceptance onto the Student Advisory Team

#### **Expectations of AFA Student Leaders**

- Serve as ambassadors of the organization in business settings to fully participate, from table discussion to formal presentations.
- Always behave in a professional manner when representing AFA. In respect of the time and talent of all involved with AFA, drinking is not permitted during AFA events as its repercussions prohibit maximum productivity. This includes Ambassador meetings and the AFA Leaders Conference.
- Drive a culture of respect and inclusivity for the organization by participating in scheduled trainings, as well as throughout the planning and execution of collegiate programs.
- Communicate AFA's mission and vision during industry visits or as part of other events as needed.
- Serve as a role model and resource for other students.
- Responsible and punctual attendance at all meetings.
- Dress appropriately and professionally at AFA functions.
- Serve as a student voice on AFA opportunities and experiences to assist AFA with developing and evaluating programs.

#### **What qualifications must Student Advisors have?**

- Undergraduate full-time student majoring in agriculture, food, natural resources or a related field who has a passion for agriculture, food, and natural resources (not graduating before Fall 2023)
  - Must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
  - Must be between 17-25 years of age
- Must have attended at least one Track of AFA Leaders Conference before applying for the Student Advisor position

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- Passionate about AFA's mission and can represent the organization in a professional manner
- Have submitted an application to the 2022 Leaders Conference by deadline of Sept. 1 (separate from Student Advisory Team application)
- Passionate about AFA's mission and can represent the organization in a professional manner

#### **What else do we consider in selecting Student Advisors?**

- AFA Leaders Conference participation
- Geographic representation
- College agriculture major/career interest
- Involvement in community
- Campus leadership
- Strong communication skills
- Personal goals for AFA
- Responsibility
- Professionalism
- Year in School
- In good standing at your academic institution
- Results of interview

#### **Attendance**

Attendance at AFA trainings and meetings is mandatory. AFA will cover expenses for you to travel to the following trainings and meetings.

Because this is a large commitment to AFA and your teammates, attendance is required throughout the whole time of each meeting. Failure to be present for the complete time commitment on any of the following dates results in ineligibility to serve as an AFA student leader.

If at this point in the process you have a specific conflict with one of the meeting dates, please bring that to attention during your interview. If you need letters to explain this commitment to your professors, managers, or advisors, AFA can provide that for you.

#### **Student Advisory Team 2022-2023 Meeting Dates**

December 9, 2022 (virtual)  
 January 5-8, 2023 – Kansas City, Missouri  
 February 16-19, 2023 – Location TBD  
 March 24, 2023 (virtual)  
 April 20-22, 2023 – Kansas City, Missouri  
 May 18-20, 2023 – Location TBD  
 June 15-18, 2023 – Location TBD  
 August 3-6, 2023 – Location TBD  
 September 7-9, 2023 – Washington, D.C.  
 October 12-15, 2023 – Kansas City, Missouri  
 December 21-22, 2023 – Kansas City, Missouri