



2026-2027 AFA Student Advisory Team Description

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

AFA values students as leaders in all that we do. The people best equipped to understand what students need are those who have experienced our collegiate programs first-hand. The AFA Student Advisory Team brings the student voice directly into our organization and programs and represents AFA among peers and industry professionals. Student Advisors assist AFA staff to plan and facilitate programs, including AFA Leaders Conference and AFA Leader Institutes.

What's in it for our Student Advisors?

Receive real-world experience that prepares you for what's next. Hands-on training beyond the classroom and internships. A network of driven peers to grow with as you build your career.

- Academic scholarship
- Professional training is valued at \$1,800+ (facilitation, public speaking, inclusivity, customer service, etc.)
- Real-world experience facilitating programs, representing the student voice, and advocating for peers
- Exclusive executive exposure to AFA partners, industry leaders, board members, AFA staff, and peers
- Leadership development with opportunities to level up
- Hands-on teamwork and event planning experience
- Travel and expenses are covered for the AFA Leaders Conference, AFA Leader Institute, and other events where AFA representation is requested or required

We're Looking for Students Who...

- Bring the student voice to AFA programs for continued improvement
- Curate inclusive, engaging experiences
- Represent AFA with professionalism and enthusiasm
- Serve as a trusted resource and advocate for fellow students
- Are eager to grow as communicators, facilitators, and leaders
- Thrive in teams and adapt quickly
- Show passion for AFA events and community

11500 NW Ambassador Drive, Suite 306 Kansas City, MO 64153



Time Commitment

Student Advisors serve from **November 2026 – November 2027**. Prior to the official start of the term, accepted Student Advisors are required to attend a virtual welcome and orientation meeting in October 2026. At peak times, the experience may require up to **five hours per week** outside of scheduled meetings to fulfill team goals and AFA commitments.

Qualifications

- 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 2027**)
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
- Between 17–25 years of age
- Attended at least one Track of AFA Leaders Conference or an AFA Leader Institute prior to applying for the Student Advisor position
- Passionate about AFA's mission and can represent the organization in a professional manner
- Submitted a **separate application** to the 2026 AFA Leaders Conference by **September 10, 2026** (separate from the Student Advisory Team application)
- Valid U.S. government-issued ID (driver's license, state ID, passport, visa, etc.)

What We Consider in Selecting Student Advisors

- AFA Leaders Conference and/or Institute participation
- Geographic representation
- Agriculture major and career interests
- Community involvement and campus leadership
- Strong communication skills
- Personal goals for and connection to AFA
- Professionalism and responsibility
- Year in school
- Good academic standing
- Interview performance



Expectations of AFA Student Advisors

- Serve as a representative of AFA in all business settings, from table discussions to formal presentations.
- Maintain professionalism at all times when representing AFA. Out of respect for everyone involved, alcohol is not permitted during AFA events, including team meetings and the AFA Leaders Conference.
- Champion a culture of respect and inclusivity through scheduled trainings and throughout the planning and execution of collegiate programs.
- Communicate AFA's mission and vision during industry visits and events.
- Serve as a role model and resource for fellow students.
- Attend all meetings punctually and dressed professionally.
- Provide the student voice on AFA programs and experiences to help the organization continually develop and evaluate its offerings.

Responsibilities

Student Advisors commit to the following throughout their term:

- **Program Planning**
 - Review annual Conference feedback to identify areas for improvement and continued successes
 - Plan Track visions, orientations, reflections, daily activities, and sessions
 - Assist with Conference events such as the Bridge Builder Celebration, Saturday night activities, and service projects
 - Work with AFA staff to identify opening and closing speakers for the Conference
 - Write and memorize scripts for the Leaders Conference and Leader Institutes
 - Communicate with Conference speakers regarding logistics and event preparation
- **Leader Institutes**
 - Facilitate and host one or two Leader Institute(s) as determined by AFA staff
 - Meet weekly with AFA staff during the two months prior to each Institute
 - Participate in a public speaking and facilitation feedback call with AFA staff after each Institute



- **Meetings & Attendance**
 - Participate in full monthly team meetings (attendance is mandatory throughout each meeting)
 - Arrive two days early to the AFA Leaders Conference for preparation
 - Arrive one day early to each Institute
 - Be present and engage throughout all meetings, training sessions, and conversations
 - Maintain consistent communication with AFA staff throughout the term
- **Additional Opportunities**
 - Represent AFA at industry visits, meetings, and events
 - Promote AFA student leader programs and identify strong candidates on your campus
 - Collaborate with AFA Ambassadors on-campus and on-site at AFA programs
 - Engage with Board members through one-on-one conversations as part of Board meeting preparation during meetings
 - Support AFA's Development Team through outreach efforts

2027 Student Advisory Team Selection Timeline

- **August 2026:** Student Advisory Team Applications Open
- **September 21, 2026:** Student Advisory Team Applications Close
 - Applications reviewed and scored by the selection committee
- **Week of October 5th:** Interview Invitations
- **October 12-13, 2026:** Virtual Interviews (30-minutes)
 - Due to the competitive process, not all applicants will be selected for an interview
 - Selected candidates will be notified the week of **October 5, 2026**
- **October 15, 2026:** Student Advisory Team Recipients Notified
 - Upon acceptance of joining the 2026-2027 Student Advisory Team, you will be **required to attend a virtual mandatory meeting on Friday, October 30, 2026**



A Note on Attendance

Attendance at all AFA training sessions and meetings is **mandatory**, and AFA covers travel expenses for required in-person gatherings. Because this is a significant commitment to AFA and your teammates, full participation for each meeting is required. Failure to be present for the complete duration of any required meeting results in **ineligibility to continue serving** as an AFA Student Advisor.

If you have a known conflict with a meeting date, please raise it during your interview. AFA can provide documentation letters to explain this commitment to professors, managers, or advisors upon request.

Student Advisory Team 2026-27 Meeting Dates

All meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Meetings may also be restructured into a virtual series as needed.

- October 30, 2026 – Welcome & Orientation Call (Virtual)
- November 12-15, 2026 – AFA Leaders Conference in Kansas City, Missouri
- December 16, 2026 – (Virtual)
- January 6-9, 2027 – Kansas City, Missouri
- February 9-11, 2027 – Location TBD
- April 8-10, 2027 – Kansas City, Missouri
- June 16-18, 2027 – Location TBD
- July/August 2027 – Date and Location TBD
- September 8, 2027 – (Virtual)
- October 13-15, 2027 – Kansas City, Missouri
- November 9-14, 2027 – AFA Leaders Conference in Kansas City, Missouri

Questions? Reach out to programs@agfuture.org