

Young Farmer Water Fellowship Program Application

Young farmers and ranchers are under-represented in Colorado's local water districts, conservation districts, basin roundtables, and other decision-making bodies. As a result, the next generation of Colorado's producers are denied a critical opportunity to help shape the implementation of the state's water plan.

The National Young Farmer Coalition has designed an educational fellowship to address this gap. This fellowship will guide ten young farmers and ranchers towards water leadership positions in Colorado.

Fellows selected will receive a series of five virtual trainings, participate in face-to-face trainings, and benefit from mentorship with an existing water leader. Within six months of the completion of the fellowship, participants will be expected to lead a workshop training a cohort of their peers in water conservation techniques, as well as to seek a position on a water decision-making body.

* Required

Program Goals and Expectations

1. Fellows will be asked to be fully present and engaged through the duration of the fellowship and to have a strong commitment to racial equity. Do you commit to the mentioned expectations? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes, I am committed to program expectations

2. Within six months of the last training (October 2020), fellows will be required to bring their learning back to their local community to other farmers, ranchers, and community members. Please acknowledge that you are committed to doing so in your community with the support from program staff. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes, I am committed to hosting a training

3. Within six months of the last training (October 2020), fellows will be required to seek out a position on a water based leadership entity such as a board or commissioned seat. Please acknowledge that you are committed to identifying, and running for a leadership seat with the support from program staff. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes, I am committed to seeking a leadership position

4. If you are accepted into this fellowship it is encouraged that you attend all of the workshops and webinars. The face-to-face training will be held in the Denver area on June 8 and 9. A final graduation will be held on October 12, location TBD. The virtual trainings will be hosted via webinar from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm on the following Sunday dates: June 28, July 19, August 9, August 23, September 13. Will you be able to participate in all of the scheduled trainings? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes, I will be able to participate in all meetings

No, I have some existing conflicts with the meeting dates

5. Fellows will each be compensated for their time and travel if accepted into the program in exchange for full participation throughout the duration of the fellowship. All travel costs including mileage, accommodation, and meals will be paid through the program. Fellows will also receive a \$2,500 stipend to help cover their time and costs associated with the fellowship. The first \$1,000 will be distributed upon acceptance into the program. Another \$1,500 will be awarded to each fellow after completion of the program. Please acknowledge your understanding of the financial support provided by National Young Farmers Coalition. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes, I understand the financial support provided for fellows

6. The target audience for this fellowship is young farmers and ranchers. At the start of the program (June 8, 2020) will you be 40 years old or younger?

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

7. If accepted into the program is there anything we should know to accommodate and support your participation in this fellowship? (Ex, language barriers, physical limitations, translation, child care etc.)

Applicant Information

8. First Name *

9. Last Name *

10. Address *

11. City *

12. State *

13. Zip Code *

14. Email Address *

15. Phone Number *

16. Please describe any existing or former formal leadership roles in you have held in your community. (This is not required for the fellowship.) (200 characters or less) *

Agriculture Experience

17. Describe your experience as an agricultural producer. (200 characters or less) *

18. How long have you been involved in the agriculture industry? *

19. What are your future plans for your career in agriculture? (200 characters or less) *

Water Leadership Interest

20. Why is it important for young farmers and ranchers to take a role in water policy? (200 characters or less) *

21. Why are you interested in being a leader in water policy? (250 characters or less) *

22. One of the goals of the program is to have fellows bring their learning back to their communities. At this time, how would you accomplish this goal? (250 characters or less) *

23. One of the goals of the program is that you seek out a position on a water leadership entity such as a board or commissioned seat. At this time, do you have an idea of which position you would like to pursue? (250 words or less) *

**Commitment
to Diversity,
Equity, and
Inclusion**

The National Young Farmers Coalition is committed to advancing racial and gender equity in access to agricultural careers. A goal of the fellowship is to assemble a diverse and inclusive cohort to support one another throughout the fellowship, and after completion, to work towards addressing inequities in our agricultural systems.

24. Creating an inclusive learning space is important to the success of the program. What is your comfort level in engaging with individuals and groups with different lived experiences or conflicting perspectives? (200 characters or less)

25. Water boards and commissions often have very few women and people of color. Why do you think it is important to resource and include underrepresented communities in these decision-making bodies? (200 characters or less) *

26. How would you approach advancing racial and gender equity in water policy and decision-making spaces? (200 characters or less)

Recommendation Letter

27. For your application to be considered complete, you will need to submit a letter of recommendation from a peer who can speak to your commitment to being a leader in the water conversation happening in Colorado. Please upload that letter here. (Recommendations can be provided verbally, if written recommendation is a barrier.) *

Files submitted:

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