Texas Farm Bureau’s AgLead XVI Leadership Program

(Application Deadline: **August 31, 2023**)

**PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION SECTION**

**AGLEAD XVI OBJECTIVES**

Provide Texas with prepared agricultural leadership wherever participants may end up serving, affording agriculture an advocate at the table.

**PROGRAM CURRICULUM**

The AgLead XVI curriculum incorporates training in competencies deemed essential for effective agricultural leadership. Participants receive competency training during each session. Reinforcement of the developmental topics occur during sessions and through non-session assignments. A combination of internal and external sources facilitates the training dependent upon the topic.

The development areas include but are not limited to leadership, communication, interpersonal skills, state and national political awareness, perspectives of the agri-business community, and interaction with other farmers/ranchers across Texas, the nation and the world.
ELIGIBILITY, PROTOCOLS, & REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility
1. Applicant must be age 25 or above as of December 31, 2023.
2. Applicant must be a Texas Farm Bureau member at time of application and throughout the program if selected.
3. The online application, accompanied by the required uploaded items, must be submitted by August 31, 2023.
4. Spouses may not participate in the same AgLead program.

Protocols
1. A maximum of 12 participants will be selected for the program.
2. Prior to applying, an interested applicant is to be approved by their county Farm Bureau board of directors.
3. Preference is given to those applicants earning a major portion of their income from production agriculture.
4. On or before the August 31, 2023 deadline, applicants are to complete and submit an online application that includes uploading:
   a. letter of support/sponsorship from the county Farm Bureau president.
   b. two recommendation letters.
   c. professional-appearing head and shoulders digital picture of the applicant.
5. Selection process completed through information within the application, reference letters, in-person interview, and other means.
6. Texas Farm Bureau pays for and arranges airfare, lodging, group ground transportation, group meals, and other related group activities during scheduled sessions. Participants are reimbursed for individual meals, mileage if participant drives, and other approved expenses.

Requirements

SPONSORING COUNTY FARM BUREAU:
1. is to pay $500 by February 1, 2024, and $500 by February 1, 2025, for their portion of the program cost. Non-payment can result in de-selection or dismissal from the program.

SELECTED PARTICIPANTS(S):
1. are to pay $500 by February 1, 2024, and $500 by February 1, 2025, for their portion of the program cost. Non-payment can result in de-selection or dismissal from the program.
2. are to have a tablet or similar device for use in and out of scheduled sessions.
3. will have assignments outside of sessions including meeting with local groups about agriculture and Texas Farm Bureau, writing stakeholder reports and thank you notes to session speakers in a timely fashion, and other related coursework.
4. are expected to attend each scheduled session unless an emergency, illness, or other similar situation arises.
5. must attend four of the five sessions to be eligible for the CAPSTONE Session.
6. Serious consideration should be given to the physical requirements of program participation, including but not limited to: extended periods of standing and sitting; extensive walking; traversing uneven and potentially slippery ground; long hours, lifting personal luggage.
AGLEAD XVI APPLICATION INFORMATION/QUESTIONS

FOR MORE AGLEAD INFORMATION

For additional program information click on the link below to go to the AgLead page on Texas Farm Bureau’s website:

https://www.texasfarmbureau.org/aglead

Or you can contact Roger Hall by phone at 254-399-5021 or by email at aglead@txfb.org.
ONLINE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE: The applicant should carefully read through the application prior to completion.

The deadline for submitting the online application is:

11:59 p.m. Thursday, August 31, 2023.

If you begin your AGLEAD XVI Application but are not ready to submit, please review the following information:

• If you wish to save your application without submitting it, it can be closed by exiting out of the website.
• To save all information entered, make sure your cursor is out of the section you are working in, click on an unanswered question within the application prior to exiting.
  o If you do not do this step, the information provided in the current question will not be saved.
• DO NOT HIT SUBMIT & FINISH. Edits cannot be made once the application has been submitted.

To revise your current application:

• Log back into your MyTFB account.
• Click on My Registration
• Click on AGLEAD XVI APPLICATION
  o Choose the blue Edit button. This will bring you back to the application you have in progress.
  o If you select New Submission - it will start a new blank application.

• Once you have completed filling out the application, uploading the required letters and picture, you can then choose SUBMIT & FINISH.
  o Please remember, edits cannot be made after clicking SUBMIT & FINISH.
ADDITIONAL PERSONAL INFORMATION

Spouse:
Name of spouse, if married: ____________________________  Spouse Age: __________

Children:

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<tr>
<th>Number of children</th>
<th>Ages of children</th>
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What awards and recognition have you received in the past?  
(Characters Limit: 3500)

What hobbies or other interests do you have?  (Character Limit: 3500)

List your travel experiences outside of Texas.  (Character Limit: 3500)
What social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, other) are you using and how often do you use each?

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<tr>
<th>Social Media Platform</th>
<th>Social Media Handle</th>
<th>Frequency of Use (daily, once a week, etc.)</th>
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EDUCATION

List high school and college attended and/or short course(s) completed

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<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Attended Dates (Month/Yr) FROM:</th>
<th>Attended Dates (Month)</th>
<th>Graduation Date</th>
<th>Degree Earned</th>
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OPERATION/EMPLOYMENT

Provide a narrative of your farming and/or ranching operation.

(Character Limit: 5000)
AGLEAD XVI APPLICATION INFORMATION/QUESTIONS

Do you have off the farm/ranch employment?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

If you do have off the farm/ranch employment, please describe, and list number of hours worked per week here:  (Character Limit: 1500)

[Blank space for description]

LEADERSHIP

List participation in local, state or national organizations, indicating leadership role, level and year. Include all organizations such as Farm Bureau, other agricultural related organizations, co-ops, banks, etc., community service (civic club, local government, church, school, etc.) youth organizations (FFA, 4-H, etc.) and any other.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization/Office</th>
<th>Leadership Position</th>
<th>Level: Co. / St. / Nat.</th>
<th>Year</th>
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What are your agricultural leadership goals and other leadership goals? How do you see the AgLead XVI experience helping you to obtain these goals?  (Character Limit: 3500)

[Blank space for description]
Name the leader you respect most and explain your reasoning.  
(Characters Limit: 3500)

Why do you desire to participate in the AgLead XVI program? If selected, what are your personal expectations of the program? How do you plan to use the AgLead XVI experience?  
(Characters Limit: 3500)

What, in your opinion, are the greatest obstacles facing agriculture today?  
(Characters Limit: 2500)
List in order (1. most important; 5. least important) what you believe are the five skill sets / traits needed to be an effective agricultural leader. Please list rankings below

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<th>Skill/Traits Needed to be Effective Agricultural Leader</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
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ITEMS REQUIRED WITH APPLICATION

After reviewing the tentative AgLead XVI calendar, do you foresee any barriers with your family, farming/ranching enterprise, or off Farm-Ranch employment that would hinder your participation in the program? If checked YES, please explain in question below.

☐ NO ☐ YES

If you checked YES to the question above regarding barriers that would hinder your participation in the AgLead XVI Program, please explain below. (Character Limit: 1500)

Please attach the letter of support and sponsorship from your county Farm Bureau (CFB) President:

☐ CFB President Letter of Support/Recommendation Attachment

Please attach two recommendation letters:

☐ Recommendation Letter #1 Attachment
☐ Recommendation Letter #2 Attachment

Attach a digital, picture of applicant. (Professional appearing, head and shoulders)

☐ Headshot Attachment
I hereby certify the information contained in this application to be accurate and true statements. TEXAS FARM BUREAU DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY. Texas Farm Bureau reserves the right to use my photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. By applying to this Leadership Program, I warrant that I fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the AgLead XVI Eligibility, Protocols and Requirements, and the decisions of the Texas Farm Bureau, which are final and binding. I warrant that I fully and unconditionally agree to make the tuition payments, and that they will be made within the time period set within this document. I have visited with my county Farm Bureau regarding my participation in AgLead XVI and they are supportive of my participation and their financial commitment.

☐ I Agree  ☐ Spouse Agrees

BEFORE YOU HIT THE SUBMIT BUTTON

Things to consider when applying for the AgLead Leadership Program:

- **Commitment.**
  - Do you have the ability to plan around and honor this time commitment?

- **Compassion.**
  - Do you have compassion when interacting with others by considering their perspectives and situations?

- **Strong work ethic.** Certain tasks required for this leadership program will necessitate that you have a strong work ethic.
  - Are you prepared to do what it takes to ensure you get the most out of this experience?

- **Teamwork.** Collaborating with others is a large part of being a leader. Many of your tasks require you to work with others.
  - Are you willing to work with others and develop teamwork skills and willing to cooperate with the group.

- **Time management.** Many of the assignments are time sensitive.
  - Are you willing to meet the deadlines specified for assignments given inside and outside of each session?

After submitting your AgLead XVI application, you should receive a confirmation email. If you do not, please contact Chrystal Gardner at 254-751-2489.