

# NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Class 15: January 2022-July 2023**

*\*\*Please read before proceeding to application\*\**



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**Deadline to apply October 1, 2021**

# About NMAL

For an industry to remain dynamic, well-informed leaders must emerge. New Mexico has one of the most unique cultural and agricultural identities in the nation - we need individuals who have a firm understanding of the issues, policies, practices, history and challenges that surround agriculture. The New Mexico Agricultural Leadership program was created in 2001 to develop such leaders – ones who are both knowledgeable and multicultural – in the food, agriculture, and natural resource industries of New Mexico.

We accomplish this by guiding participants on a simultaneous journey of leadership discovery and industry awareness. Our vision is to enhance the confidence and competence of every leader who comes through the program through site visits, workshops, meetings, travel experiences, and individual leadership growth.

The New Mexico Ag Leadership, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3), and is governed by a Board of Directors. The program is housed in the Agricultural & Extension Education Department at NMSU and operated by a full-time program coordinator.

## Eligibility

Individuals applying for the NMAL program must meet the following requirements:

- Involvement in New Mexico’s agriculture, food, or natural resource sectors
- 25 years of age or older by the first seminar of incoming class
- U.S. citizen, resident of NM, and an intention of remaining in-state in the foreseeable future
- Does not have a spouse or sibling applying for the same class

## Areas of Focus

NMAL is a comprehensive program, focusing on six key areas:

- **Leadership Skills**
- **Issues Awareness**
- **Diversity**
- **Political Processes**
- **Networking**
- **Community & Service**

These areas are explored in varying degrees across eight seminars. Each seminar has stated objectives to ensure we are meeting the needs of participants and fulfilling our mission.

Leadership Discovery	New Mexico – location varies
National Political Processes	Washington, D.C.
Trade & Communication	Southern NM – Las Cruces
State Political Processes	Central NM – Santa Fe
International Experience	Varies – class will decide destination
Oil & Gas Industry	Northwest NM - Farmington
Urban Agriculture & Social Issues	Central NM – Albuquerque
Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources	Southeast NM – Roswell

# What to Expect

As an NMAL participant, you can expect to...

- **Attend topic focused seminars** – these will require 35-40 days out of the office  
*Note: you may miss up to one seminar (cumulative hours) and still be eligible for graduation; all assignments must be completed regardless of attendance*
- **Choose a leadership book** based on your interests – set your own pace on reading, and develop a presentation on this leadership theory to be presented to the class by program’s end
- **Find a community or company issue** and consider how you can affect positive change, using each seminar as a tool for developing your strengths and gathering information on this issue
- **Participate in conference calls** every other month
- **Network** with political officials, industry leaders, entrepreneurs, class alumni, and other key agricultural affiliates
- **Travel** across New Mexico, to our nation’s capital, and to an international destination
- **Earn a leadership certificate** designating completion of the course, and automatic membership in the class of Alumni

The seminars which make up the bulk of this program are designed to be meaningful, enlightening, and applicable. **To make the most of every seminar, you are expected to...**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <i>Before</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Complete prep assignments such as short articles, videos, website links or profiles</li><li>✓ Read assigned leadership books and be ready to discuss</li></ul>  |
| <i>During</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Serve as a ‘moderator’ at meetings, introducing yourself and the class</li><li>✓ Write personalized thank you notes to our hosts</li><li>✓ Send Marco Polo videos during seminar.</li><li>✓ Bring a willingness to listen, learn, and ask questions</li></ul> |
| <i>After</i>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Submit an online evaluation to provide feedback on content and organization</li><li>✓ Complete a blog reflection</li><li>✓ Draft a newsletter article on a relevant topic</li></ul>   |

**In return**, you can expect the following from the board and staff associated with NMAL...

- Prompt notification of dates, itineraries, travel information and anticipated expenses
- Honest and personalized feedback on leadership development and goals
- An open mind to make adjustments to program structure as needed for the group’s success

## **Media & Photo Release**

Involvement in this program indicates your willingness to be photographed, recorded, and published on behalf of NMAL. We use images and videos to promote the program on our website and social media. A photo release is included in this packet and must be signed for your application to be complete.

## What to Expect (cont.)

### *Extended Benefits*

For certain seminars, we will extend an invitation to your significant others and family to attend. Additionally, if you are unable to participate in either the Washington, D.C. seminar or International Experience, you may return as an alumnus in a subsequent year and still have your tuition-covered portions sponsored by the program.

### *Dress Code*

As with any training, participants should present themselves in a professional matter. Use the following dress code as a guideline for each seminar:

Business Casual	Men: casual slacks, dress jeans, collared shirts Women: casual slacks, dress jeans, skirts or dresses
Business Professional	Men: Coat and tie, dress slacks and coat, or suit Women: dress slacks or skirt and blouse, semi-formal dress, or suit

## Tuition & Expenses

Many professional development workshops cost thousands of dollars for just a single week. The NMAL program offers the same high-quality experiences over a longer period, and with more opportunities for travel. Often, companies or organizations will sponsor participants to complete this program. Tuition is **\$3,500**, with a minimum \$1,500 due at the first seminar, and the remaining \$2,000 due after one year. Your tuition covers the following expenses:

- 1-2 group meals per seminar (i.e., breakfast meetings, lunch panels, alumni dinners)
- Assigned books
- Workshop and speaker fees
- Meeting room and facility fees
- Personality profiles & assessment kits
- Group transportation during in-state seminars
- Monument tour in Washington, D.C.
- Program/group tours during the International Experience
- NM Ag Leadership Padfolio and Name Tag (required at each seminar)

Airfare to D.C. and our international destination, in-state travel, lodging, and additional seminar meals are **not** included with your tuition. We will do our best to secure discounted rates at hotels with continental breakfast and give flight information in a timely manner to help reduce costs.

In-state seminars will run from Wednesday Noon – Friday Noon, so you can generally budget for two nights lodging and 5-8 meals per seminar. Costs will naturally be higher for Washington, D.C. and our international trip.

*Scholarships are available to help cover costs such as tuition, in-state transportation, or airfare. These are offered on a case-by-case basis and approved by our Board of Directors – please contact us directly if you are interested in applying.*

## Class 15 Schedule\*

	Date/Month	Session	Days
<b>2021</b>	October 1	<b>Application Deadline</b>	
	November	Applicant interviews in-person or via Zoom.	
	December 1	Participants are notified of selection into the program	
<b>2022</b>	January	<b>Seminar #1:</b> Leadership Discovery <i>In conjunction with Class 14 Graduation Reception</i>	Wed - Saturday
	March	<b>Seminar #2:</b> Energy, Minerals, & Natural Resources <i>Southeastern NM</i>	Wed- Fri
	May	<b>Seminar #3:</b> Oil & Gas Industry <i>Northwestern NM, includes Cultural Issues focus</i>	Wed – Fri
	July	<b>Seminar #4:</b> Urban Ag & Social Issues <i>Albuquerque/Central NM</i>	Wed – Fri
	Sept	<b>Seminar #5:</b> National Political Processes <i>Travel to Washington, D.C.</i>	Sun - Fri
	Nov	<b>Seminar #6:</b> Trade & Communication <i>Las Cruces, Santa Teresa, El Paso area</i>	Wed - Fri
<b>2023</b>	February	<b>Seminar #7:</b> State Political Processes <i>Santa Fe during Legislative Session, includes Ag Fest</i>	Tues – Fri
	April/May/June	<b>Seminar #8:</b> International Experience <i>Class will pick dates and destination during orientation</i>	7-10 days, varies
	July	<b>Class 15 Graduation</b> <i>Half day seminar on “Servant Leadership” Evening banquet and reception, welcome Class 16</i>	Friday

\*Subject to change.

*The class will have 1-hour conference calls on months between seminars.  
We will not meet in person or over the phone in December due to the holiday season.*