

# Train to lead: Fellows program open to all members

We invite you to apply to become a 2018 Communications Fellow at the 152nd Annual National Grange Convention in Stowe, Vermont. This opportunity is made possible thanks to generous funding provided by TracFone but there are VERY limited spots available and those who become fellows are expected to make time for training prior to the start of National Convention.

## WHO CAN BE A FELLOW?

The program is open to any Grange member in good standing that is nominated.\* It teaches the basics of communications, such as press release writing, news-letter planning and creation, interacting with the media, podcasting and live streaming, social media management, and more. It has also grown to include additional training for future Grange leaders, with a special focus on the intersections of programming, membership recruitment, retention and engagement and communications.

## WHAT IS COVERED/EXPECTED?

Through the program, participants receive a 9-night stay at the convention resort hotel, free registration, and most meals for the duration of the program. Participants are only responsible for the cost of travel and a few small meals. They are encouraged to bring a small amount of money for snacks, personal items and souvenirs they wish to purchase during their time at the convention.

Fellows must arrive at the hotel in Stowe no later than 6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 9 and can leave anytime on Sunday, Nov. 18.

This year, Fellows will hear from the National Master, National Grange Staff and Officers, other communications professionals and more. Fellows will produce content for the daily convention newsletter, interviews for Grange Radio and Good Day!™ magazine, take photos, livestream events, and produce short blurbs for social media - and much more. This is a hands-on training with a support from many of the 35 plus previous Fellows who participated. Those previous Fellows now hold many significant offices and jobs in their State and National Grange and often credit the program with providing them insight into the differences across State Granges and the opportunities and challenges to the organization, as well as great motivation for being part of our next 150 years of service.

## NOMINEES

Nominees must complete the attached form with

writing sample (described in form) and provide their own letter of interest in the program (typed).

The deadline for all materials to be submitted by email to the National Grange Communications Department is PRIOR to “start of business” (9 a.m. Eastern) Wednesday, August 1.

Early submissions will receive priority evaluation. Those who have not participated in the past will receive highest priority. Please inform the Communications Department as soon as you know you will be applying, even if you have not yet completed the application materials, so we are prepared to organize submissions accordingly and let us know who your recommendation letter will come from. We will follow up with you and them if we do not receive the letter in a timely fashion. A committee of the National Master, National Communications Director and at least one prior Communications Fellow will participate to make the final decision regarding placement. Decisions regarding participants is expected by noon on Monday, August 6.

## NOMINATING A FELLOW

\*State Masters/National Delegates, National Grange Officers, National Grange Staff and former Communication Fellows are permitted to nominate no more than two Grange members in good standing for the program. Nominees do not need to reside in the same state as the nominator, however the nominator should have great knowledge of the skills, personality and commitment of the person they nominate.

Nominators are asked to write a letter of recommendation, noting the following:

How long has the nominator known the nominee?

What makes the nominee stand out as a member?

What does the nominator believe the nominee will bring to the program?

What skills does the nominator believe the nominee can learn or most improve in the program and how will that positively impact their local, State or the National Grange and that they will be committed to assisting throughout the year with various projects at all levels?

Do you believe this person understands or is interested in programming and membership (recruitment, retention, engagement)?

Send any questions or all nominating material to [communications@nationalgrange.org](mailto:communications@nationalgrange.org)

**Application form following page.**



**2018 NATIONAL GRANGE COMMUNICATION FELLOWS  
Program information and Nomination Materials**

**NOMINEE FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of 11/10/2018: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in Grange (may count Junior years): \_\_\_\_\_

I hold active membership (and office/appointment) in the following Grange(s) (may include Pomona):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to be housed with up to three other members of the same gender in a hotel room with two queen beds for the duration of the program?  YES  NO

If no, do you commit to funding (personally or through your own source of fundraising) your own hotel room and/or finding your own roommates for the duration of your stay?  YES  NO

Please rate your skills in the following areas on a scale from 1 (no knowledge/experience) to 5 (highly proficient/professional level).

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing (news)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Videography                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio Editing      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing (Storytelling/feature)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Video Editing                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviewing       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Editing (writing)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo Editing      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Layout/Design (newsletter/magazine) |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Website Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media Management             | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Deadlines/Time Management |   |

Do you have a laptop/tablet/iPad you will bring to convention?  YES  NO

Do you have a digital camera that you will bring to convention?  YES  NO



**2018 NATIONAL GRANGE COMMUNICATION FELLOWS  
Program information and Nomination Materials**

Do you have any dietary restrictions, allergies or foods you must avoid?  YES  NO  
*If so, please describe and be specific.*

Check one:  Morning Person  Night Owl

Check one:  Loud/Outgoing  Quiet/Shy

Check one:  I want to network with other future Grange Leaders

I want to network with current Grange leaders

Check one:  I need 8 hours sleep but can work all day.

I don't need a lot of sleep but I need regular breaks during the day.

What are your three non-alcoholic beverages of choice?

\_\_\_\_\_

On a separate page, please type a letter of interest, noting the most important skill or experience you hope to get out of this program, in addition to why you would be a good fit and how you will use the knowledge and skills to assist your local, Pomona, and State Grange and the National Grange.

On a separate page, choose one of the following to answer *(please respond in no more than one page but no less than one-half page)*:

Who is your favorite Granger and why?

What one Grange "rule" (or custom or tradition) would you change and why?