



National Agricultural Leadership Program 2021

The *National Agricultural Leadership Program* is a 9 month leadership and capability development program for Australian agriculture. It leverages the NFF's position as the peak body for Australian agriculture to provide targeted activities and unique experiences in policy development, advocacy, governance, and communications and media.

With a national, whole-of-agriculture perspective, it will provide key skills and experience to create effective advocates for the sector. The program consists of several components. Each component improves participants ability to influence policy and decisions facing Australian agriculture.

The program components include:

- 1. Policy and Thought Leadership Project - April to early August**
- 2. Emerging Leaders' Summit – 23-25 August**
- 3. Agricultural Leaders Mentoring Program – 1 Sep to 31 Dec & beyond**

Scholarships Valued at over \$5000.

[Expressions of Interest are now open for places supported by SPA and NFF.](#)

Program Details:

1. Policy and Thought Leadership Project - April to early August

The Policy and Thought Leadership Project will give each participant practical experience developing and advocating policy for the agriculture sector. Participants will work in small groups to develop a policy or piece of thought leadership on a specific issue in the NFF 2030 Roadmap. This will provide direct experience in researching policy challenges and potential solutions, developing evidence-based policy and the ongoing advocacy process inside the NFF. Through this process, participants will be able to meet with NFF staff and Committee Chairs for high-level guidance and to practice defending their policy recommendations.

This project will run for approximately 6 months in the lead up to the Emerging Leaders' Summit. Participants would be expected to commit an average of 1 hour per week for this project. However, all participants are welcome to contribute as much time as they like above this minimum.

2. Emerging Leaders' Summit – 23-25 August

The Emerging Leaders' Summit is a two-day workshop in Canberra that provides exposure to policy, advocacy, parliamentary process and government.

The summit gives participants exposure to and awareness of policy development and advocacy processes. It also introduces the participants to key stakeholders in agricultural advocacy, government and politics. Each summit will centre on a pillar of the NFF's 2030 Roadmap, using practical issues as an example for the role emerging leaders will place in growing the agriculture sector.

Summit Objective:

- Increase awareness of the policy development process
- Provide exposure to advocacy processes
- Introduce participants to key stakeholders

Activities:

The summit will centre on a specific policy issue relevant to the NFF's 2030 Roadmap.

This policy will be a focus point for:

- Skill development sessions
 - policy 101
 - influence and negotiation
 - parliamentary process and the mechanisms of government
- Talks on influence and advocacy
 - Senior public servants
 - Advisors
 - Private sector government affairs
 - Agricultural advocacy
- Meetings with relevant stakeholders, including:
 - Federal politicians
 - Government departments
- Media and communications training

3. Agricultural Leaders Mentoring Program – 1 Sep to 31 Dec & beyond

Building on the successful trial in 2020, the NFF will run the Agricultural Leaders Mentoring Program again in 2021. This program connects industry mentors with young leaders to enable the transfer of knowledge, experience, and expertise. The mentoring program allows participants to work with successful industry leaders as they implement the skills and tools they have developed throughout the program. It also allows participants to work through issues and challenges they face as they deploy their new leadership and policy skills in real-life contexts.

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