MFBF Washington, D.C. Fly-In Program Application

Please complete this form and return via email to Nicole Rolf at <u>nicoler@mfbf.org</u>. Applications may also be submitted through a webform at our website at <u>www.mfbf.org</u>. Applications are due on May 28 and those selected will be notified by May 30. For questions, please contact Nicole via email or at 406-951-2429.

The 2025 MFBF Washington D.C. Fly-In will occur July 23-26.

Application Are you a current Voting Century Club Member?YesNo
Did you contribute to the Farm Bureau PAC? Yes No
Did you attend your 2024 county Farm Bureau Annual meeting? _Yes _No
Did you attend the 2024 MFBF Annual Meeting and Convention? _Yes _No
List ways you participated in the Policy Development Process?
Did you testify or provide written testimony during the 2025 Legislative Session? _Yes _No Which bill(s)?
Did you respond to any of MFBF's Action Alerts in 2024 or 2025? Y_N_ Which issues?
Did you contact any local, state or federally elected officials with regard to agriculture issues? Did the official respond? If so, please explain:

Did you attend MFBF's Calling on the Capitol in February, 2025? Yes No
Did you participate in an interim committee, Board of Livestock, Fish and Game Commission, Comprehensive Water Review Stakeholder Group, or other relevant state committee meeting? If so, which one(s)? What was discussed?
Did you participate in a federal public meeting such as BLM, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services, Forest Service, etc.? Which one(s) and what was discussed?
Are you going to attend the 2025 MFBF Summer Conference? Yes No
Did you visit a Montana Congressional office in Washington, D.C. and discuss a priority Farm Bureau issue? Yes No Which issue(s)?
Have you ever hosted a Congressional staffer, local legislator, County Commissioner, agency official, etc. on your farm and explained important agriculture issues? Please explain:
Do you use social media to promote agriculture and explain relevant agriculture issues from a practical, firsthand perspective? Please explain:
Do you post informative agricultural information on social media, comment on online news stories, write agricultural blog posts, participate in podcasts, etc.? If so, please provide web links or attach documents:

Did you recruit a Century Club member for the 2024-25 membership year? If so, please list name(s):						
Please share the details about any other advocacy or legislatively related actival participated in during the 2024-25 membership year:	vities you've					
Persuasive Statement on a Federal Level Priority Issue						
In 500 words or less, explain why one or more Federal Level Pri (options attached) are important to your farm or ranch operation you convince a U.S. Senator, Congressman or Agency official the deserves his or her prompt attention?	ion. How would					

Federal Level Priority Issues

The American Farm Bureau Federation's 2025 Priority Issues are targeted for intensive, cross-functional advocacy planning and monitoring, grassroots support and engagement, and increased awareness of issues important to agriculture. As the unified voice of agriculture, it is critical that AFBF works to safeguard farm and ranch profitability, which enables farmers to build a sustainable future of safe and abundant food, fiber and renewable fuel for our nation and the world.

Agricultural Labor:

- Pursue meaningful reforms that help farmers and ranchers meet their labor needs, including a three-year freeze to the Adverse Effect Wage Rate (AEWR) and rescinding DOL's AEWR Methodology for H-2A Employees in Non-range Occupations.
- Support efficiencies and modernization of immigration and labor regulations.
- Advance policies that strengthen and protect agricultural workers without disrupting the business of farming.

Farm Policy:

• Support passage of a modernized Farm Bill with Farm Bureau priorities intact.

Infrastructure:

- Support broadband deployment in rural communities and ensure federal investments are targeted to those not currently served.
- Reinforce the need to rebuild, repair, and modernize transportation infrastructure, including rural roads and bridges, ports, inland waterway locks, dams, and levees, and western water projects.
- Increase federal investment in agricultural research facilities.

Regulations:

- Continue to seek a regulatory environment that enables farmers and ranchers to feed a growing population while remaining environmentally and economically sustainable.
- Provide a liability shield for farmers related to PFAS contamination.
- Eliminate any requirement for farmers to report air emissions under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.
- Ensure EPA's revised definition of "Waters of the United States" fully implements the *Sackett* decision and can be easily understood by farmers, ranchers and landowners.

- Work for reform of decision making and appeals related to conservation compliance (Swampbuster) rules.
- Ensure multiple-use mandates on federal lands are respected.
- Encourage timely finalization of proposed rules relating to the Packers and Stockyards Act.
- Protect Packers and Stockyards Act regulatory changes that benefit poultry growers and maintain funding for PSA enforcement.
- Ensure a science-based approach for pesticide registration and review to prevent disruptions to agriculture and our food supply.

Rural Health:

• Support policies and legislation to provide stress assistance programs to farmers and ranchers, increase farmer-facing training opportunities, increase awareness and reduce stigma for rural mental health issues.

Supply Chain:

- Achieve legislation to prevent a patchwork quilt of state regulations restricting interstate commerce of agricultural products.
- Expand agricultural processing capacity and enhance market transparency.
- Support efforts to increase capacity for small meat and poultry processing facilities in states that do not have a state inspection service or a cooperative agreement with USDA.
- Safeguard access to agricultural inputs through proactive trade policies and science-based environmental assessments of chemical registrations.
- Increase U.S.-grown biofuels utilization.
- Ensure domestic energy production and transmission is both compatible with and complementary to agricultural land use.

Sustainability:

- Ensure that environmental sustainability efforts also ensure economic viability for farmers and ranchers.
- Provide and promote voluntary, market-based incentive tools and technical assistance for farmers, ranchers and foresters to enhance carbon sequestration and other greenhouse gas emissions reductions using scientifically sound standards.
- Foster the development of private sector ecosystem services markets.
- Increase public awareness of agricultural advances in conservation.

Taxes:

- Achieve an extension of the expiring provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act including lowered rates, a doubled estate tax exemption and important business deductions.
- Protect against harmful Unrelated Business Income Tax changes.

Trade:

- Expand trade opportunities for U.S. agriculture.
- Promote fair agricultural trade in the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement review process.
- Reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade.
- Engage in trade negotiations with the United Kingdom and other nations