



MFBF Washington, D.C. Fly-In Guidelines

2019 Washington, D.C. Fly-In

The Montana Farm Bureau Federation believes grassroots advocacy is the most effective way to make real policy changes. MFBF seeks to provide opportunities for members to increase their advocacy skills and participation levels. Voting members are encouraged to get involved and make a difference in the agriculture industry by commenting on local, state and national level agency rule proposals, testifying on bills, contacting legislators, and so on. The MFBF Fly-In will reward members for participation in the policy development process with an opportunity to sharpen skills and take their advocacy to the next level on a lobbying trip to Washington, D.C.

Who?

All Voting Century Club members are encouraged to apply. Once awarded, a member may participate once every three years.

What and When?

Members selected will attend a 2019 Montana Farm Bureau D.C. Fly-In on July 10-13. Attendees will meet with Montana's Congressional Delegation, agency officials, and participate in other meetings as applicable. Travel costs will be covered by MFBF. All meetings, activities and tours will be organized and guided by Nicole Rolf, MFBF National Affairs Director.

How?

Members must complete an application and provide documentation of the activities. They must also meet a minimum threshold to be eligible. Applications will be scored and the top three applicants will be selected.

Example Activities that Earn Members Points:

- Be a current Voting Century Club Member.*
- Contribute to the Montana Farm Bureau PAC.*
- Participate in the Policy Development process by attending county annual meeting and/or policy development meeting prior to annual meeting.*
- Testify on a bill during Montana Legislative Session or submit written testimony within the most recent biennium.
- Respond to MFBF's Action Alerts.*
- Contact, via phone or email, state and national elected officials on important issues.*
- Submit comments on local, state or national level agency proposals.
- Serve as a voting delegate at MFBF Annual Convention.
- Attend an in-district meeting with a member of Congress or participate in a Farm Bureau-sponsored congressional district office visit.
- Attend MFBF Calling on the Capitol and/or another MFBF Legislative event within the most recent biennium.
- Participate in an interim committee, Board of Livestock, Fish and Game Commission or other relevant state meeting.
- Participate in a federally associated public meeting such as BLM RAC, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services, Forest Service, etc.
- Attend MFBF Summer Conference and participate in a commodity advisory committee meeting.
- Make a visit to a Montana Congressional office in Washington, D.C. and discuss a priority Farm Bureau issue.
- Use social media to promote agriculture and discuss relevant agriculture issues.
- Host a Congressional staffer, local legislator, agency official, etc. on your farm and explain important issues.
- Write blog posts about agricultural issues, and/or comment on online/print newspapers stories.
- Any other policy or advocacy related activity.
- Recruit voting or Century Club members.

Applicants will also be asked to write a persuasive statement about a Federal Level Priority Issue (details attached).

**Denotes required participation.*

