



New Jersey Agricultural Society

1200 Florence Columbus Road, Bordentown, NJ 08505

P (609) 462-9691

[www.njagsociety.org](http://www.njagsociety.org)

[njagriculturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:njagriculturalsociety@gmail.com)

December 1, 2019

Dear Members of New Jersey's Agricultural Community:

On behalf of the NJ Agricultural Society, I am pleased to announce that the Society's New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program (NJALDP) is now accepting applications for Class 11. The program's mission is to develop articulate, knowledgeable, and skilled leaders who encourage positive change on key issues, policies, and economics to advance New Jersey's agricultural industry.

The program is open to those either working in, or collaborating with, New Jersey's agricultural industry and are interested in enhancing their skills in communication, marketing, advocacy, and leadership.

This two-year program will commence in April 2020 and conclude by April 2022. The Society has entered into a collaborative agreement with Rutgers University, who has leadership experts, and will manage this program. The curriculum will consist of ten seminars which will each last 2-3 days. The program will also include a trip to Washington, DC as well as a national trip to be determined. Student tuition will be \$3,225 and will include a two-year membership in the NJ Agricultural Society as well as the NJ Farm Bureau.

Since 1995, nearly 200 people have participated in the NJALDP. Many have gone on to serve on county, state, and national agricultural boards. If you, or anyone you think would be a good candidate, is interested in applying, please go to our website at: [www.njagsociety.org](http://www.njagsociety.org) Applications are available online, or by contacting Al Murray, NJ Agricultural Society Executive Director at: (609) 462-9691 or [njagriculturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:njagriculturalsociety@gmail.com)

Applications must be received by **January 15, 2020** in order to be considered. Interviews will be held during February, and all students will be notified by March.

Sincerely,

David Specca

President

NJ Agricultural Society

HUNGER RELIEF

AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP

SCHOOL GARDENS



**New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program  
Class XI  
2020 Application**

**Instructions**

- 1 Application to the NJALDP must include:
  - Completed application Form for NJALDP Class XI.
  - Color head shot (electronic file; instructions follow in next section)
  - Three Letters of Recommendation

Please read all application materials carefully including selection guidelines, participation time, and tuition requirements.

- 2 Please complete the application electronically and return it via email (scanned copies of original signatures permitted) **OR** type or print your application in ink and return it by mail. Be sure to keep a copy for your records.
- 3 Select three personal/ business associates to submit recommendation letters under separate cover (instructions at the end of the application).
- 4 Please return your completed and signed application along with all supporting information by **JANUARY 15, 2020** to:

Al Murray  
Executive Director-NJAS  
1200 Florence Columbus Road  
Bordentown, NJ 08505

OR via email: [njagriculturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:njagriculturalsociety@gmail.com)  
(please put "NJALDP Application: Applicant's Name" in the subject line)

5. Applicant interviews will be scheduled in late January/February 2020. Selected candidates will be notified by March 1, 2020. The first seminar is scheduled to take place in April/May 2020.
- 6.



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6. Class XI of NJALDP is scheduled to begin in April 2020. Graduation is expected in April 2022.
  
7. Tuition is \$3,225, payable in two payments (year 1 and year 2). Tuition includes membership in the *NJ Agricultural Society* and *NJ Farm Bureau* for two years.

**Instructions for Photo Submission**

**Photo submission requirements:**

- Recent color photo (must be .jpeg, .png., or .gif file)
- Plain, white background
- Bright, even lighting
- Centered, frontal view of full face
- Cropped from just above the top of the head to the shoulders



***New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program***  
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**Selection Criteria**

The following criteria will be considered in determining applicant eligibility and selection for the *Agricultural Leadership Development program*:

- 1. Employment** NJALDP Class XI is seeking applicants who are affiliated with agriculture and ag related industries, natural resources, conservation, environment, water, fish and wildlife, food and nutrition. The curriculum has been designed to be of the most benefit for early to mid-career professionals.
- 2. Commitment** Applicants should anticipate dedicating **approximately 22 days per year to NJALDP over the two-year period**. Successful applicants are expected to participate in selected fundraising activities to support the program. Applicants should give careful consideration to ALL of their current commitments to determine whether they will be able to commit the necessary time, energy, and finances to the program.
- 3. Leadership** The applicant's experiences, goals, and initiative must reflect potential leadership capability.
- 4. Education** High school diploma or GED.



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**Application Form**

(attach additional sheets if necessary)

1. Full Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Home Address/City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_
3. Home County \_\_\_\_\_
4. Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
5. Personal Email \_\_\_\_\_
6. Current Occupation \_\_\_\_\_
7. Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_
8. Employer's Name \_\_\_\_\_
9. Employer's Address \_\_\_\_\_
10. Employer's County \_\_\_\_\_
11. Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_
12. Business Email \_\_\_\_\_

13. Education **List all schools/training programs attended, including college(s), seminars and/or short courses (attach additional sheet(s) if necessary):**

Name and Location of School	Attendance Dates	Graduation Date	Degree/Certifications	Major/Minor/Courses



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**14. Agricultural Production Experience:**

Describe your full/part-time production (growing, managing) agricultural experience. Include commodities produced, size, and related data (attach additional sheet(s) if necessary).

Dates	Involvement and Agricultural Experiences

**15. Agri-Industry Working Experience:**

Describe your agri-business experience (*i.e.*, ag-chemicals, ag-education, ag-sales, or ag-associations, etc.; attach additional sheet(s) if necessary):

Date Employed	Company/Organization	Location	Business Description	Your Position



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**16. Leadership Roles:** Please indicate your past and current memberships and offices in organizations, including high school, college, agricultural, civic, religious, governmental, and social organizations.

Organization	How long a member (dates)	Offices Held (dates)

**17. Examples of Leadership** Please describe a specific example in which you personally initiated, developed, and played a leadership role in the completion of a project.



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**18. Awards and Honors**

Please list any awards and honors you have received

Organization or Grantor	Award or Honor

**19. Participation Goals**

Please describe why you want to participate in the *New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program* (150 words or less).





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**20. Application of Knowledge**

If selected for NJALDP, how will you apply the knowledge, experience, and contacts gained to improve agriculture in New Jersey?

**21. References**

On the following page, please supply the names and contact information of three (3) references who will be providing letters of recommendation for you. Instructions for the letters are found on pages 11-13.

Letters or recommendation can be returned (under separate cover) to:

Al Murray  
Executive Director-NJAS  
1200 Florence Columbus Road  
Bordentown, NJ 08505

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**REFERENCES**

List three references whom you will contact to assess your potential for leadership.  
A recommendation form follows the application.

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip</b>	
<b>Tel #</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip</b>	
<b>Tel #</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip</b>	
<b>Tel #</b>	
<b>Email</b>	



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**23. Leadership Potential** Give a brief description of your leadership potential.

I have read the participation requirements and the selection criteria for the *New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program*. I give my permission to contact the references supplied. I hereby certify that all statements made in this application are true and complete. I agree and understand that any misstatements or omission of material facts herein may cause disqualification of my application. I understand that selection of applicants is the sole responsibility of the Board of Directors of NJALDP.

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Signature

Date

Submit completed application to:

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Executive Director-NJAS  
1200 Florence Columbus Road  
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Recommendation # 1

**TO THE RECOMMENDER:** The individual requesting this letter of recommendation is applying to the *New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program*. NJALDP is a two year professional development opportunity for farmers and agribusiness professionals. The program seeks to develop early and mid-career professionals into the leaders our industry will need in the future to remain robust and forward looking. For more information on the NJALDP, please feel free to visit our website:

<http://www.njagsociety.org/nj-agricultural-leadership-development-program.html>

The admissions committee would appreciate if you could consider any/all of the following points in your letter of recommendation for the applicant:

- For how long and in what capacity you know the applicant.
- The applicant's leadership potential. This includes many things. Here are some examples:
  - Communication Skills
  - Interpersonal Skills
  - Persuasion and Influencing Skills
  - Planning and Delivery Skills
  - Strategic Thinking Skills
  - Motivational Skills
  - Creativity
- Anything noteworthy about the applicant that sets them apart from their peers that the committee should know when making admissions decisions.
- Why you think the agricultural industry would benefit by this individual's participation in the *New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program*.

Thank you for your effort. Please return your letter of recommendation directly to the *NJ Agricultural Society* at the address listed below (scanned, signed letters are acceptable). *If returning via email please put "NJALDP Application: Applicant's Name" in the subject line:*

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Recommendation # 2

**TO THE RECOMMENDER:** The individual requesting this letter of recommendation is applying to the *New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program*. NJALDP is a two year professional development opportunity for farmers and agribusiness professionals. The program seeks to develop early and mid-career professionals into the leaders our industry will need in the future to remain robust and forward looking. For more information on the NJALDP, please feel free to visit our website:

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Recommendation # 3

**TO THE RECOMMENDER:** The individual requesting this letter of recommendation is applying to the *New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program*. NJALDP is a two year professional development opportunity for farmers and agribusiness professionals. The program seeks to develop early and mid-career professionals into the leaders our industry will need in the future to remain robust and forward looking. For more information on the NJALDP, please feel free to visit our website:

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