



Iowa-Missouri Grassroots Fellowship Program Overview

The IA-MO Grassroots Fellowship is a collaborative one-year experience for young soybean farmers from Iowa and Missouri who possess a desire to learn more about government and the legislative process, all while improving their core leadership and advocacy skills. Grassroots fellowship gives participants a deep understanding of the policies, laws, and regulations that affect agriculture, the soybean industry, and rural America. Weaving travel and social interaction into the program curriculum, participants will learn the role policymaker education and a unified voice play in the legislative process. Our goal is for participants to come away with the necessary skillset to have effective conversations about key policy issues with stakeholders.

Who Should Apply

Young men and women involved in production agriculture. Nine applicants in good membership standing will be selected to represent each crop reporting district in Iowa.

2024-2025 APPLICATION
iasoybeans.com/programs/iowa-missouri-grassroots-fellowship



“Policy doesn’t have to be intimidating. Ask the questions and be an informed farmer. You never know the impact you will have just by being engaged and having a conversation. Lawmakers want to hear from folks here in Iowa. It helps them to do their job and be better informed about the issues we face as farmers.”

TARIN TIEFENTHALER
ISA farmer member from Carroll

What to Expect

Grassroots fellowship programming allows participants to better understand changing U.S. agricultural and policy/regulation and how it intersects with production agriculture and the larger value chain. Designed to empower farmer-to-farmer learning, sessions will equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skillset to effectively advocate on behalf of agriculture and the soybean industry.

SESSIONS FOR 2024-25:

- August 27 – 29, 2024
Farm Progress Show & Kickoff Meeting
Boone, IA
- November 2024
Delegate Small Group Meetings
Location TBD
- December 16 - 17, 2024
Winter Soy Summit, Des Moines, IA
- February 4, 2025
Farm Forward & Legislative Reception
Des Moines, IA
- March 2 - 4, 2025
Commodity Classic, Denver, CO
- July 15 - 17, 2025
American Soybean Association
Board of Directors Meeting &
Hill Visits, Washington D.C.

Getting Engaged

Government is not a spectator sport. A single bill or regulation can significantly impact a farmer’s freedom to operate and their bottom line. Grassroots fellowship gives participants the opportunity to network with fellow farmers, Fortune 500 leaders, industry professionals and state and federal policymakers. The future of American agriculture depends on sound public policy and the development of leaders who share an appreciation for the legislative and regulatory process.

“As farmers, it’s extremely important for us to be involved in the policy process. People who show up make the decisions. This program is a good way to get involved in the process that will present more opportunities for us down the road.”



JOSH HENIK
ISA farmer member from
Mount Vernon