



# Diversity Fellowship

## For Graduate Students in the Agricultural Education Teacher Licensure Program

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- Need** A severe shortage of high school agriculture teachers exists in Minnesota and nationally. As a result, there is a tremendous need for more students to become licensed to teach agricultural education. In addition, the trend of a more diverse student population attending Minnesota's schools reinforces the need to recruit and support prospective agricultural education teachers with diverse ethnic, racial, economic and educational backgrounds and experiences. MAELC is committed to diversifying the agriculture teacher workforce.
- Purpose** The purpose of the MAELC Diversity Fellowship is to provide financial support for students from underrepresented groups in the agriculture teacher field.
- Funding** \$10,000 is available (up to \$5,000 per fellowship).
- Eligibility** Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident entering the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities M.Ed. Initial Licensure or Additional Licensure programs in Agricultural Education (<http://ag-ed.cfans.umn.edu/graduate-students>). Students that have been from a traditionally underrepresented group in the agriculture teaching field are encouraged to apply. Applicants should be firmly committed to teaching in Minnesota. Students are eligible to receive this fellowship once.
- Selection** The MAELC scholarship committee will review applications and select individuals for interviews. After interviews are completed, the committee will name fellowship recipients. Selection criteria include academic merit, passion, and commitment to become an agricultural education teacher as well as financial need. Fellowship funds will be transferred directly into student accounts of successful applicants and may affect students' financial aid package.
- Deadline** Applications will be accepted three times per year to coincide with the M. Ed. Program deadlines: March 1, July 1, and November 1. All applications must be submitted online by midnight. *\*Note – applications may be submitted prior to formal acceptance into the M.Ed. program.*
- Materials** The application will require answering essay questions, and providing an unofficial transcript, a resume, and one letter of recommendation from an employer, university or high school educator, personal reference, etc.

**Application** Apply online at [https://umn.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_8B8G3BeZJtcpzAp](https://umn.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8B8G3BeZJtcpzAp). Please be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. What inspired you to choose the agricultural education teaching profession as your career path?
2. How are you paying for your education? (work, loans, Fellowships, family, etc.) Are there any special circumstances or issues you would like the committee to know?
3. Specify your teaching goals and how your study at the University of Minnesota relates to those goals. Include evidence of your passion and commitment to the agricultural education teaching profession.
4. How do you see utilizing diversity to benefit the learning experiences of your students in the classroom?

***\*\*Please submit an unofficial transcript, a resume and one letter of recommendation with this application.\*\****

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