

Call for Nominations Class of 2015-16

The National Cotton Council (NCC) is accepting nominations for the 2015-16 Emerging Leaders Program through April 7, 2015. The program is an educational project of The Cotton Foundation and is sponsored through a special grant from Monsanto.

Through this program, participants will prepare to become emerging leaders and assume greater leadership responsibilities within the cotton industry by:

- Developing a thorough understanding of the NCC's role, including its programs, policy development and implementation process;
- Gaining a better understanding of the broad spectrum of issues that affect U.S. cotton's economic well-being;
- Increasing understanding of the U.S. political process and how divergent interests within society work to influence the process;
- Understanding the important role that certified interest organizations play within NCC structure and how organizations work to serve members' needs, both on a geographic and segmental basis, and how they work with other industry groups;
- Learning about Cotton Council International's role in developing and maintaining export markets for U.S. cotton, manufactured cotton products and cottonseed products;
- Participating in advanced professional development training in the areas of communications skills, media relations, business etiquette and leadership skills; and
- Becoming familiar with the role that the sponsor plays in fostering a healthy U.S. cotton industry.
- Additionally, the program will provide the project sponsor with an opportunity to establish stronger relationships with leaders who will shape future U.S. cotton industry policy.

The program will consist of three sessions which will require a total of approximately 14 days of travel:

- Session 1 – June 21-26, 2015 – Memphis, TN and St. Louis, MO
- Session 2 – February 5-7, 2016 – NCC Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX
- Session 3 – April or May, 2016 – Washington, DC

The program covers expenses for lodging, meals and travel. Telephone calls, laundry, auto expenses, parking and other personal expenses are the responsibility of each participant. "Free" evenings may be scheduled during each session and participants are responsible for expenses they incur during this time.

Candidates may be nominated by NCC's certified interest organizations, an NCC officer or NCC Board member. Nominations should be made by completing and returning the following form to jgibson@cotton.org. Past nominees must be re-nominated for the 2015-16 program.

There is no age limit, but candidates for this program must:

- **Be recognized by their peers as an emerging leader who is expected to assume a greater leadership role within their segment and NCC in the near future;**
- Derive their primary livelihood from at least one of the seven raw cotton industry segments;
- Complete a program application and, if selected, also a program enrollment form;
- Agree to attend all scheduled sessions except in case of illness or family emergency;
- Have approval of their employer or, if self-employed, offer evidence that time away from their operation for training activities will not hinder their work; and
- Agree to complete all assignments, reports and evaluations in a timely manner

Nominees will be mailed an application after this form is received by NCC. Participant selections will be made by the NCC Chairman in consultation with the President's office and Member Services staff. All candidates will be notified of their selection status by April 24, 2015. Candidates who are not selected can be re-nominated for the 2016-17 program.

**Emerging Leaders Program
Nomination Form Instructions**

1. This document is formatted as a Microsoft Word Form. To enter your responses, click your mouse in the gray area and begin typing.
2. Navigate to different areas in the form by using your mouse or the tab key. Clicking in a gray area will cause it to darken, which means you can begin typing.
3. Do not use the enter key to change fields. Use only the tab key or mouse.
4. Please e-mail or fax your completed nomination form to John Gibson (jgibson@cotton.org / 901-725-0510) **by no later than April 7, 2015.**

**Confidential Nomination Form
Class of 2015-16**

1. Nominee's name and contact information:

Name:

Primary Industry Segment:

Address:

City, State Zip:

Phone:

Email Address:

2. Your name and contact information:

Name:

Organization/Company:

Title/Position:

Address:

City, State Zip:

Phone:

Email Address:

3. State length of time you have known candidate and what in capacity.

4. Please summarize the current and previous leadership positions the nominee has held within your organization.

5. What are your organization’s plans to elevate the nominee to greater leadership responsibilities in the future?

6. How will the nominee be involved in the National Cotton Council’s leadership structure in the future?

7. Using the table below, please give your assessment of the nominee’s qualifications:
(one rating per category please)

| Category | Superior | Excellent | Good | Fair |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Demonstrated Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Potential for Growth | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ability to Communicate | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ability to Work with Others | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Analytical Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Decision Making Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personality | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Character | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

8. Please give your frank opinion of the nominee and why the nominee’s participation in the Emerging Leaders Program will benefit your association and the National Cotton Council in the future.

Your Name:

Date:

** Please e-mail or fax your completed nomination form to John Gibson (jgibson@cotton.org / 901-725-0510) by April 7, 2015.