2023 Student Connections Application

Due to kcrawford@betterseed.org by March 10, 2023

The American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) and Seed Science Foundation (SSF) proudly announce an exciting program for college students, *Student Connections*. *Student Connections* provides students the ability to network, engage and promote the seed industry at ASTA's annual Leadership Summit.

Student Connections is offered through ASTA and SSF to provide students an opportunity to network with industry professionals who represent diverse seed backgrounds including seed breeders, sales, marketing, agronomy and senior leadership of seed companies from the United States, Mexico, Canada and beyond.

Students in an undergraduate or graduate degree program with an interest in joining the seed industry upon the completion of their studies are encouraged to apply.

<u>Selected students will have the opportunity to:</u>

1. Attend ASTA's Leadership Summit (with financial assistance). This conference will be held in Sacramento, CA and is one of the most important seed industry meetings in the world, attended by many seed industry professionals from all over the world. You will have the opportunity to participate in discussions and decision-making forums on some of the most important issues effecting U.S. and world seed trade.
2. Each selected student will be matched with a seed company representative who will act as a mentor during the conference and a resource after the conference.
3. Students will have an opportunity to network with seed industry leaders throughout the conference.
4. Students may have the opportunity to present a summary of their research project in aposter session.
5. Students will be candidates for the Roger Krueger Scholarship with the winning student being announced at the Awards Reception.
6. ASTA student membership will be granted to students who are a part of *Student Connections*. Benefits of student membership include access to seed industry news, job and internship notifications, complimentary conference registration, and more.

Application Deadline: March 10

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Program Application

Personal Information (All Applicants)

Name:	**Gender**: M☐ F☐ Prefer not to disclose ☐
Address:	
Main Phone:	**Date of Birth:**
Email:	
Emergency Contact:	**Relationship:**	**Phone #:**
LinkedIn Profile:	

Educational Information (All Applicants)

Current University:	**Department:**
Degree Sought:	**Anticipated Graduation Date:**
City, State, Zip of University:	
Cumulative GPA (Undergraduate Students Only):	

Educational Information (All Applicants)

Description of Current / Future Academic Focus:

Description of Research Focus / Responsibilities (if Applicable):

Educational Information (All Applicants, if applicable)

Previous University:	**Previous Degree:**
Previous University:	**Previous Degree:**

Personal Reflection Statement (100-200 words, All Applicants)

1. What do you do outside of your academic studies and university involvement?

Open-Ended Response Essay (~250 words, All Applicants)

Required

1. Part 1: From your perspective, what is the largest issue in the seed industry today?
2. Part 2: How do you plan to help solve this issue after graduation?

Pick one

3. How could your attendance at ASTA's Leadership Summit beused to better your own experience and influence those at the conference?
4. What motivates you to be a part of the seed industry? How will you use this to make an impact in the future?

Documents to include with application (All Applicants)

1. Resume or CV
2. Personal Reflection Statement
3. Open-Ended Response Essay
4. Professional Headshot

Commitments (All Applicants)

1. Attend the Leadership Summit in Sacramento, CA. In person, conference dates are June 10-14, 2023. Selected applicants will be notified of required dates of attendance.
2. Approximately 3 conference calls and web meetings prior to the conference.
3. Contact your mentor prior to the conference.
4. Be an ambassador of the seed industry. Presentation assistance is available.

Agreement and Signature

By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth are true and complete.

Signature: **Date:**

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