The Pennsylvania State University

College of Agricultural Sciences



**AG ADVOCATE PROGRAM**

*Application for the 2021-2022 Academic Year*

The mission of the Ag Advocate program is to create an awareness of the academic programs and career opportunities in the agricultural sciences and serve as front-line ambassadors for the College of Agricultural Sciences with external prospects and partners, as well as those across Penn State.

The Ag Advocate program is comprised of undergraduate Penn State students in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Members of the Ag Advocate team are students who are performing well academically and engaged in different opportunities/organizations across the College and the University.

As an Ag Advocate, students have the opportunity to further develop leadership and professional skills, network with industry leaders across all sectors of the agricultural sciences, and establish working relationships with college and university faculty, students, staff, administrators and alums.

A core area of focus for Ag Advocates is the work to engage prospective students – those looking to apply to Penn State as first year students or those who may be transferring into the college or to the university from another university. The Ag Advocates bring the college’s 17 majors, 23 minors, and more than 40 student organizations to life while representing the students, faculty and staff that comprise our college’s community.

Serving as an Ag Advocate is an honor and a distinction. No academic credit is offered for participation. The term of service as an Ag Advocates is for a minimum of one year.



**SELECTION PROCESS:**

1. Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee.
2. Selected applicants will be contacted to arrange interview times. All applicants will be notified of final decisions by the last week of April.
3. Candidates selected for an interview will be required to provide a three minute PowerPoint presentation addressing the following topic:

٭ Introduce yourself to the committee and explain why a future student should choose Penn State and the College of Agricultural Sciences.

1. Following your presentation, the selection committee will ask you a series of questions about the College and Penn State University.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:**

Applicants ***must****:*

* Be a full-time student in the College of Agricultural Sciences.
* Have a minimum GPA of 2.75.
* Commit to at least one consecutive year of service (Fall/Spring Semester)
* Attend bi-weekly meetings, Tuesday evenings from 5:30 – 7:00 PM.
* Be available to commit one to two hours of service per week.
* Be willing to participate in evening and weekend activities when necessary.
* Be highly motivated, enthusiastic, dependable, and knowledgeable.
* Be able to demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and team responsibility.
* Be sincere in representing Penn State and the College of Agricultural Sciences.
* **Attend the Fall 2021 Training Retreat, time TBA**

**APPLICATION PACKET**:

 Please submit complete typed applications only.

 Submit personal professional resume.

 Provide two letters of recommendation from PSU Faculty/Staff, preferably from within the College of Agricultural Sciences. Reccommenders can email LOR’s directly to Marra Baker at moa5300@psu.edu

Please send your **application materials including the following:**

**Typed application, personal resume, photo/headshot of yourself, and two letters of recommendation** **to:**

Marra Baker at moa5300@psu.edu

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 2nd, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**

**LATE, INCOMPLETE, OR HANDWRITTEN APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Pleasecontact Marra Baker at 814-863-3942 or moa5300@psu.edu with questions or comments.

**AG ADVOCATE TYPICAL ACTIVITIES:**

-Ag Progress Days (August)

-Fall Training Retreat (August)

-Deans Welcome (August)

-Parent’s Weekend (October)

-Pennsylvania Farm Show (January)

-Accepted Student Programs (February-April)

-Ag Day at University Park (April)

-College Meetings and Receptions

-Agricultural Facilities Tours (Weekly)

-Campus Tours (Weekly)

-Alumni and Development Events (Ongoing)

-Student to student phone/email/Facebook effort (Constant)

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUCCESS:**

**\*\*Gathering Information**

Read through the current Ag Advocates website –<http://agsci.psu.edu/clubs/ag-advocates>

* Talk to current or past Ag Advocates. Ask about their experiences and discover if involvement in the Ag Advocates organization is for you. Current Ag Advocate information can be located using the Ag Advocate website.

**\*\* Application Process**

* + Have someone proof-read your application packet. (Consists of typed application, resume, two letters of recommendation).
  + Submit a thoughtful, well-prepared application packet to Marra Baker at [moa5300@psu.edu](mailto:moa5300@psu.edu)

**\*\*Interview/Presentation Process**

* + Interviews/presentations will be TBA
  + Dress for interviews should be **business professional** and will be conducted via zoom.
  + Come prepared to answer College of Ag Sciences and/or Penn State related questions.
  + Treat this experience as a job interview.
  + Be prepared to share details about your experiences at Penn State and in the College Agricultural Sciences.



**Penn State University – College of Agricultural Sciences**

**Agricultural Advocates**

**Application**

***2021-2022***

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name: |  | PSU Student ID Number: | |
| E-mail Address: |  | Cell Phone: | |
| Local Address: |  |  | |
| City: | State: |  | Zip: |
| Permanent Address: |  |  | |
| City: | State: |  | Zip: |

**EDUCATION:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Major(s): | Minor(s): |  |  |
| Credits Completed: | GPA (2.75 minimum): |  |  |
| Year (Fr, So, Jr, Sr): | Advisor: |  |  |
| Expected Graduation Semester & Year: | |  |  |
| Did you attend a campus/college other than UP? (select one) | | YES | NO |
| If YES, which campus/college: | |  |  |
| Are you a student in Schreyer Honors College? (select one) | | YES | NO |
| Do you live in EARTH House? | | YES | NO |

**HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name: | City: | State: |
| Home County: | | |

1. List three reasons and explain why you are interested in serving as an Ag Advocate:
2. How did you find out about the Ag Advocate program?
3. List three qualities that you believe will contribute to your effectiveness as an Ag Advocate:
4. What do you like most about your major?
5. Will you be on an internship, interviewing for a post-graduate program, studying abroad or student teaching next year? If so, explain the nature of the activity and the number of hours per week.

**TIME COMMITMENTS FOR 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR:**

In the chart below, please list anticipated activities and offices for next year. Include specific time commitments related to all activities to the best of your ability.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity/Club** | **Leadership Role (if applicable)** | **Meeting days/times** | **Hours participation per week** |
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In the chart below, please list anticipated work or laboratory commitments for next year. Include specific time commitments and schedule related to all work commitments.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Work** | **Employer** | **Schedule** | **Hours per Week** |
|  |  |  |  |
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**Please attach your resume and a 4x6 photo/headshot of yourself**

Please accept my application for the 2021-2022 Ag Advocates team. I certify that I am/will be enrolled in the College of Agricultural Sciences, that my grade point average is 2.75 or higher, that I am in good academic standing and that I have read and agree to the requirements of being an Ag Advocate.

Applicant’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_