

How can you tell if a person is ready for the Ag Leadership Program? Affirmative answers to most of the following questions will serve as strong indicators that your candidate should apply to the program:

» SELF-AWARENESS

Is the candidate...

- Aware of the impact he/she has on others (co-workers, family, neighbors, friends, etc.)?
- Able to talk about and learn from failure without being defensive?
- Able to honestly recognize his/her own strengths and weaknesses?

» MATURITY

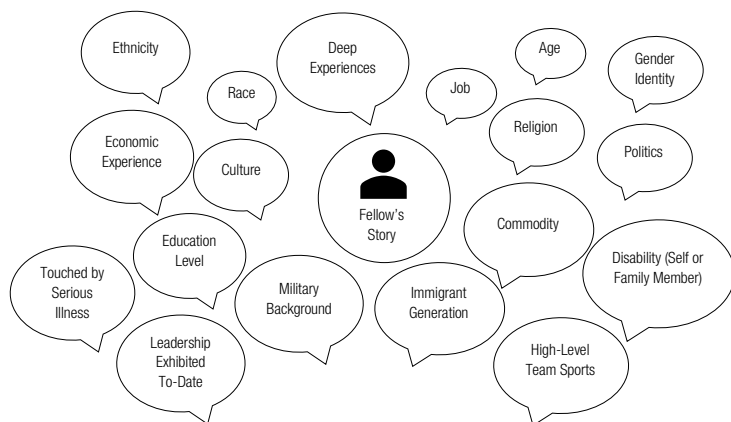
Has the candidate...

- Had the life experience (in years and/or in life's challenges) to be ready for the program?
- Articulated personal and professional goals?
- Identified steps to achieve these goals and started the journey?
- Shown confidence (without being arrogant) in some of the skill areas needed for his/her job, while being appropriately humble about what he/she doesn't yet know?
- Successfully navigated his/her way through conflicts in the workplace?
- Taken responsibility for his/her actions?

» GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE AND HORIZONS

Is the candidate...

- Informed about pressing national and global issues?
- Able to see connections between what happens in remote corners of the globe and California agriculture?



» OPEN-MINDEDNESS

Is the candidate...

- Tolerant of others' views that differ greatly from his/her own?
- Curious about the beliefs and values of others?
- Able to see the merits of positions others take, even though he/she holds a different opinion?

» LIFE/WORK TIMING

Will the candidate...

- Be able to get away from work commitments to engage fully?
- Have employer and spouse (if married) support of their decision to be in the program?
- Be able to devote his/her full attention and energy to participate in the program and take from it all they can? (to the extent that major life events can be anticipated).

» PROPENSITY TO SERVE

Does the candidate...

- Have a pattern of giving back to the community by volunteering?
- Serve in a leadership capacity within the industry or on a nonprofit board?
- Successfully balance work commitments, family or personal time (e.g., hobbies or travel) and volunteer activities?
- Show enough humility to assist a person in need of help or guidance?

» LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Does the candidate...

- Have influence on others? If so, in what way?
- Earn the respect of others? Is he/she viewed as a role model?
- Demonstrate actions that inspire others to do more?
- Rely on others to achieve results that he/she could not accomplish alone?
- Rely on more than positional authority to motivate others?
- Serve as a mentor?

This diagram illustrates some of the elements that add to an individual's story, thus impacting class diversity.