

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

GROWTH MINDSET

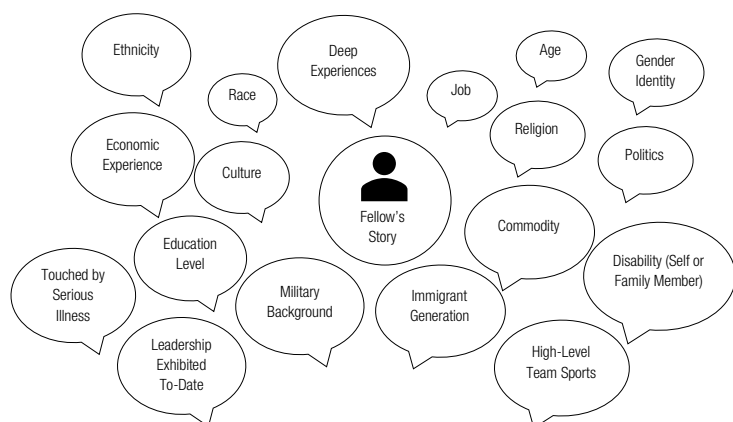
Are the candidates...

- Curious about what they don't know or understand, especially when they have an existing belief or perspective?
- Able to take feedback without getting defensive?
- Able to honestly recognize their own strengths and weaknesses?
- Eager to learn about the perspectives of others?
- Accepting of others' views that differ significantly from their own?
- Able to talk about and learn from failures in a way that centers personal responsibility?

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

Do/are the candidates...

- Have influence on others? If so, in what way?
- Aware of the impact they have on others (co-workers, family, neighbors, friends, etc.)?
- Earn the respect of others? Are they viewed as role models?
- Demonstrate actions that inspire others to do more?
- Rely on others to achieve results that they could not accomplish alone?
- Rely on more than positional authority to motivate others?
- Serve as mentors?
- Actively pursue personal and professional goals?
- Participate in an industry leadership role (boards, commissions, etc.)?



MATURITY

Have the candidates...

- Had the life experience (in years and/or in life's challenges) to be ready for the program?
- Demonstrated the courage to be vulnerable?
- Exhibited humility and confidence in appropriate situations?
- Successfully navigated their way through conflicts in the workplace?
- Taken responsibility for their actions?
- Demonstrated interest in issues beyond those that immediately impact them?

LIFE/WORK TIMING

Will the candidates...

- Be able to detach from work commitments to engage fully?
- Have employer and spouse/partner support of their decision to be in the program, as applicable?
- Be able to devote their full attention and energy to participate in the program and take from it all they can?
- Successfully balance work commitments, family or personal time (e.g., hobbies or travel) and volunteer activities?

PROPENSITY TO SERVE

Do the candidates...

- Identify opportunities to serve the needs of the moment or situation?
- Demonstrate interest in volunteering beyond the scope of or connections to their employment?
- Articulate a specific plan for future service activities that indicate a genuine desire to give back?
- Have a pattern of giving back to the community by volunteering?
- Serve in a leadership capacity within a public or nonprofit board not connected to their employment?
- Demonstrate the capacity to make an impact and a difference in their families, communities, businesses and for California agriculture?

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