

Horizon Leadership Ambassadors

(Oregon and National Program)

The purpose of the Horizon Leadership Ambassador program is to provide an opportunity for Youth and Young Couples, selected to represent their state at a National Grange convention, to build their leadership potential; broaden their view of the Grange by experiencing a National Convention; receive educational training to use in their own states; and build relationships with Grangers throughout the nation by having fun.

The National Grange Horizon Leadership Ambassador program is an opportunity for youth selected by their state to participate in activities as guests of The Grange Foundation, Youth Leadership Fund. The National Grange will provide scholarship assistance toward room and meal costs at the National Grange convention for Horizon Leadership Ambassador program.

Each state may send two youth and/or one young couple who meet the following criteria:

1. Youth ambassadors must be 16-21 years of age, have observed their 16th birthday, but not their 22nd birthday by December 31 of the year they attend the National session. The individuals must also be single, never been married, have children and must not marry and/or have children during term of service. If under 18, must have parent's consent.
2. Young Couples must be between the ages of 18-35, have observed their 18th birthday, but not their 36th birthday by December 31 of the year they attend national session.
3. Ambassadors/Young Couples must have been a Grange member for a minimum of one year.
4. Previous State Ambassadors/Young Couples who have participated in this program at the National Grange Convention are not eligible. Exception: Young Couples who are former Youth Ambassadors are eligible to participate.
5. Ambassadors/Young Couples must meet their state's requirements.
6. Ambassadors/Young Couples must be able to attend the National convention to represent their state during Youth activities days (Wednesday evening through Saturday).
7. The Ambassadors/Young Couple must complete three seals in the Oliver Hudson Kelly Achievement Award. Ambassadors/Young Couples must also complete the requirements for a minimum of two seals of any of the other achievement awards between September 1 of the previous year and by October 15 of the current year.
8. Ambassadors/Young Couples must attend a regional youth conference in the past two years before national session.
9. Each Horizon Leadership Ambassador/Young Couple will be expected to complete a Grange trivia challenge with a score of at least 80% prior to attending the convention. Trivia Challenge must be returned to the National Director by **October 15** of the current year. Trivia challenges may be obtained from the National Director or www.nationalgrangeyouth.org.
10. The official application form must be completed and postmarked by **September 10**. Send to the National Director. The application includes a summary of your Grange activities in the following areas: Fellowship, Activities, Recognition, Fun, Leadership, Service, and membership.
11. The following letters of recommendation are to be sent with the application:
 - a. Subordinate Grange, preferably the Master or Secretary
 - b. State Master
 - c. State Youth Director (if applicable)
12. Horizon Leadership youth ambassadors will be housed together at the National Grange

Convention with up to three other official participants per room.

13. Young Couples will be housed in the same area.
14. Horizon Leadership Ambassadors/Young Couples will be recognized at the National Convention during the Evening of Excellence.
15. Ambassadors/Young Couples or individual states are responsible for their own transportation and convention registration fee.
16. The Grange Foundation Youth Leadership fund will provide each ambassador with the following tickets: Tour, Pizza Party, Banquet and Invitation to AOLE/GROW Club Dinner.
17. Any participant who fails to comply with the guidelines set up will be expected to pay their own expenses.

Additional Oregon State Requirements

1. All applicants must submit an essay of at least 500 but no more than 750 words on "How would you change the Grange?"
2. Applicants must attend 50% of their Subordinate/Community Grange meetings and one Pomona meeting from June 30 of the previous year to July 1 of the current year.
3. Young Couple applicants must earn at least 300 points for leadership activities and least 300 points for community involvement or involvement in other organizations (see application) in order to be eligible. These activities do not have to be completed in the year you are applying but must be completed since you became a Grange member.
4. The application package must be submitted to the State Youth Director by **May 15**.
5. A three-person committee appointed by the State Master and/or State Youth Director shall select the state winner(s).

6. Judges will score applicants on the following items:

Personal Essay	100 points
Application	50 points
Letters of recommendation (2)	50 points
Total Possible	200 points

7. Winners will be announced at the youth banquet Thursday evening of the annual State convention. Each will receive a certificate and will represent Oregon at the western regional conference and the national convention the year of their reign.
8. The Horizon Leadership Ambassadors will serve a one-year term on the State Youth Committee and will be available as a state resource to help plan, promote, and conduct Grange activities.