

CLASS 2011-2013



APPLICATION FORM  
(Due May 31, 2011)  
Rural Leadership North Dakota



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

- Read the entire application carefully. Be sure you meet the eligibility requirements **BEFORE** you apply.
- Answer all questions carefully. Sign and date the application.
- Ask your employer to read and sign the participation commitment section.
- Give a recommendation form to two individuals who are familiar with your capabilities as demonstrated by your current leadership roles in your community.

***Forms are to be mailed directly to the RLND office. Your application must be postmarked to Rural Leadership North Dakota by May 31, 2011.***

***Recommendation forms must be postmarked by May 31, 2011 to Rural Leadership North Dakota.***

- You will be notified of the interview schedule by email or telephone.
- Mail early.

**MAIL TO: Rural Leadership North Dakota Program**  
North Dakota State University  
Dept. 7390  
P.O. Box 6050  
Fargo, ND 58108

Questions: Phone: 701-231-5803    Email: [ndsu.ruralleadership@ndsu.edu](mailto:ndsu.ruralleadership@ndsu.edu)

Website: [www.ag.ndsu.edu/rlnd](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/rlnd)

## Application Form

### Welcome to the Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND) Program!

**Mission Statement:** *Prepare and develop effective leaders to strengthen rural North Dakota.*

#### What is RLND?

- Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND) is a statewide leadership development program that includes seminars with experts; on-site tour/presentations; meetings with agriculture, business and government leaders; international experiences and personal skills development.
- RLND is designed for men and women who are dedicated to strengthening agriculture and rural North Dakota.
- RLND seminars are normally held from Noon Thursday to Noon Saturday. Total number of seminar days is 18 in year one and 22 in year two.
- Tuition costs for the RLND Program is \$3,750 for the program. Tuition covers all meals, hotels and travel expenses (bus and airfares) during the program. Out of pocket costs include travel costs to in-state seminar sites and points of departure for out of state seminars.

#### Goals of RLND Program

- To create a network of people across the state and beyond that RLND participants utilize for a life time.
- To strengthen participants' skills and knowledge in effective communication, self-awareness, managing conflict, leadership styles, decision-making, strategic planning, agriculture and rural issues.
- To improve the quality of life for the participant, organization, community, state.
- To prepare the participant to be engaged in issues they are passionate about.

#### Who can apply to RLND Program?

- An individual who wants to continue to learn about themselves, their industry, community, state and world.
- An individual who will invest the time and energy into the program and is committed to attend all 10 seminars.
- An individual who has been a North Dakota resident for at least one year.

#### Selection Process

- Application deadline is May 31, 2011.
- Interviews will be held in June and July at locations across the state. Spouses of applicants (if applicable) are invited to attend the interview.
- An individual who is nominated by a person, organization or community may have priority.
- Applicants will be notified of class selection by August 31, 2011.

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Available in alternative formats upon request.*

# Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND) Program

## Class V (2011-2013) Seminar Information

### 2011

#### Year 1

##### Orientation to the RLND Program

December 1-3, Bismarck

- Orientation
- DiSC Behavioral Style
- Leadership Skills
- Goal setting

##### National Trends in Agriculture and Rural Issues

March 5-10, Washington DC

- USDA visits – agriculture and rural issues
- Capitol Hill visits
- Embassy Reception for international seminar
- Federal Agency visits

### 2013

##### Understanding North Dakota Ag and Rural Policies

January 9-11, Bismarck

- Understanding and working with the legislature
- Industry and community advocacy
- International seminar briefing
- RLND Alumni Association Legislative Social

##### Leading in a Changing World

June 27-29, in state

- Leadership Challenge
- Change process
- Finding your voice
- Paying it forward

### 2012

##### Personal Leadership Development

January 5-7, in state

- Leadership assessment
- Listening profile – RLND Alumni Association professional development opportunity
- Ethical leadership
- Managing conflict

##### Regional Agriculture and Rural Issues

June 27-30, Minneapolis

- Corporate Management (CHS)
- Marketing
- Import/export balance
- Financial resources

##### Understanding International Ag and Community Issues

February 2-9, Brazil

- Trade relationships
- Comparative agriculture
- Domestic and foreign policies
- Culture, customs, policies

##### Graduation Gala

November 29, Bismarck

- Celebrate accomplishments
- Create/expand networks
- Recognize contributors to the RLND program

##### Agriculture's Future in North Dakota

February 2-4, Fargo

- Future trends affecting North Dakota agriculture
- Communicating agriculture facts effectively
- Marketing for the future
- Agriculture economy

### Year 2

##### Exploring the relationship between Agriculture, Communities and Resources

November 29 – December 1, in state

- Scenario planning process
- Value of coalitions/partnerships
- Civic Engagement
- International seminar briefing

##### Economic Development and Leadership

March 7-9, in state

- Debrief international seminar
- Entrepreneurship – the North Dakota Spirit
- Rural Economic Development
- Community Capitals

\*all seminars include visits to agricultural and community businesses



## Application for Class 2011-2013

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name Middle Name

By what name do you prefer to be called? \_\_\_\_\_

Check age group (optional)

22-29  30-39  40-49  50-59  60 and over

Resident of North Dakota since \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. citizen  Yes  No

### Home Contact Information

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Business Contact Information

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address:  Home  Business  Email and/or Fax

### Occupational Status

Please describe your occupation/profession. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Employment Information

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
How long in current position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of business: \_\_\_\_\_

### Media

Newspapers and radio stations serving home and business cities: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been convicted of a felony, pled guilty or no contest to a felony, or accepted a deferred judgment or deferred prosecution to a felony charge? Yes  No

*A conviction may not necessarily disqualify an applicant from the program.*

If yes, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

**HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE RURAL LEADERSHIP NORTH DAKOTA PROGRAM?**

(Please check all that apply, with source listed.)

- Current/Past Participant (s) \_\_\_\_\_
- Newspaper/Magazine (s) \_\_\_\_\_
- Leadership Event (s) \_\_\_\_\_
- NDSU Contact \_\_\_\_\_
- Website \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Educational Experiences**

Highest level of education achieved:

| <u>Name/location of school</u> | <u>Years attended</u> | <u>Diploma/Degree</u> | <u>Major</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|

**Leadership & Volunteer Experience**

*Voluntary Community Activities and Accomplishments*

List the major civic and social activities (non-job related) for which you have volunteered. Describe your level of participation (e.g. helped organize, served as an officer, etc.).

**Leadership defined**

What is your definition of leadership? What does leadership mean to you?

**Your Expectations**

What attributes, attitudes and abilities do you want to enhance/develop from your participation in the Rural Leadership North Dakota program?

What issues are you passionate about? How do you see your RLND experience influencing your contribution to these issues?

**Commitment to Agriculture and Rural North Dakota**

What's your vision for the future of agriculture and rural North Dakota?

The information I have provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and/or belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**Tuition Payment**

Tuition for the program is \$3,750, payable in two \$1,850 installments. The first installment is due by November 1, 2011 and the second installment is due by November 1, 2012. The cost of getting to and from in-state seminars and to points of departure for the out-of-state seminars is the responsibility of the participant. Group travel, most meals, lodging, and program costs during the seminars are paid by RLND. Participants are responsible for some of their own expenses and will share rooms with fellow class members on a rotating basis. Participants may request a single room and will be responsible for the cost differential between a single and double room.

RLND tuition will not be refunded if a participant leaves the program early. If a participant cannot attend a seminar and has not given at least 24 hours notice, the participant will be billed for hotel, meal and other seminar costs.

The actual cost of the RLND program is approximately \$14,000 per participant. Participant tuition covers only a portion of the actual program costs. Other funding sources for the RLND program include: NDSU Extension Service, North Dakota businesses and organizations, foundations, granting agencies and interested individuals.

Participant tuition may be sponsored by various sources, including: individuals, organizations, community groups, etc. Tuition scholarships may be available based on need.

As a participant, I realize I am responsible for the full amount of the \$3,750 tuition.

Participants Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, sponsor signature agreeing to pay full or partial amount of the \$3,750 tuition.

Sponsor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**First year tuition of \$1,875 due on November 1, 2011.**  
**Second year tuition of \$1,875 due on November 1, 2012.**

**Participation Commitment**

If I am selected as a participant in Rural Leadership North Dakota, I will attend as a representative of \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to attend every session of Rural Leadership North Dakota.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Rural Leadership North Dakota participants must have the support and commitment of their families and employers as well as the sponsoring business or organization. RLND requires a significant time commitment. As the participant's employer, I agree to support the RLND participant by providing time for the participant to be involved in the RLND meetings and activities.

Employer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Recommendation Form

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE RECOMMENDER:**  
 The individual forwarding this recommendation form is applying for the Rural Leadership North Dakota Program. This program is designed to provide individuals with an opportunity to develop their leadership capacity and bring that back to their organizations and communities. Participants will be expected to attend all seminars for a total of 18 days in year one and 22 days in year two. We ask that you please provide the Rural Leadership Committee with your candid assessment of the applicant using this form. The information provided will be used only by the selection committee to assist them in evaluating the applicant's leadership potential. **We ask that all recommendations be received by the Rural Leadership North Dakota Program by May 31, 2011.**

Recommender Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  Business or  Home

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

| Please respond to the following: |   | Exceptional<br>(Top 2%) | Better than<br>Average | Average | Below<br>Average | Not able to<br>Determine |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.                               | Demonstrated leadership   |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 2.                               | Potential to provide leadership                                       |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 3.                               | Commitment to Rural North Dakota                                      |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 4.                               | Character and reputation  |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 5.                               | Communication skills, oral/written                                    |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 6.                               | Esteem in which applicant is held                                     |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 7.                               | Openness to ideas and new ways of thinking outside current profession |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 8.                               | Trustworthy   |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 9.                               | Self-confidence   |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |
| 10.                              | Ability to relate to others   |                         |                        |         |                  |                          |

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Recommendation Form

Please indicate your reasons for believing that this applicant will benefit from his/her participation in the Rural Leadership North Dakota Program. Please be as specific as possible.

In what areas of leadership do you believe the applicant demonstrates the most strength? (Some of these leadership qualities might include communication ability, openness to learn from others' perspectives, self-confidence based on self-awareness, or having an active commitment to their industry or community.)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL OR FAX TO:

**Rural Leadership North Dakota Program**  
**North Dakota State University**  
**Dept. 7390**  
**P.O. Box 6050**  
**Fargo, ND 58108**

Phone (701) 231-5803

Fax (701) 231-8378

Email: [ndsuaralleadership@ndsuar.edu](mailto:ndsuaralleadership@ndsuar.edu)

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Dear Employer,

Your employee is applying to participate in the Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND) Program. The RLND Program is a statewide leadership development program dedicated to preparing and developing leaders to strengthen communities across North Dakota. Additional information on the RLND Program is located on our website at [www.ag.ndsu.edu/rlnd](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/rlnd).

RLND participants must make a commitment of time, energy, and money. RLND participants will be expected to attend ten seminars during the 18-month program. As his/her employer, you will be asked to make a commitment. Your commitment will be to support your employee in this effort and to allow him/her time away from work to attend the seminars. Full or partial tuition support for the RLND Program would be another way to demonstrate your support to your employee.


The time commitment for the RLND Program will be 18 days the first year and 22 days the second year. The program seminars include weekends, 11 Saturdays and two Sundays. The total number of week days a participant will be attending the seminars is 13 the first year and 14 the second year.

Your investment in the sponsorship of an RLND participant from your organization or community will give back to your business in several ways, including:

- Employees with additional knowledge and experience.
- Future committee and board members.
- Employees who have the skills to take an idea from inception to completion.
- A network of RLND participants and alumni across the state.

Your signature on the RLND application will support your employee in this endeavor. Thank you for your willingness to provide this RLND opportunity to your employees. You will be assisting in preparing leaders to help North Dakota grow and prosper into the future.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie Hvidsten". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marie Hvidsten, Ed. D.  
RLND Program Director