



Specialty Crops Program



Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee

The Mission

The mission of the committee is to review and discuss specific issues that impact the fruit and vegetable industry and develop recommendations that are sent to the Secretary of Agriculture for consideration. USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service manages the committee's activities.

Membership Qualifications:

Nominees must currently work in one of the agricultural capacities listed below within the retail or commercial produce industry:

- Growers/Producers
- Wholesalers/Distributors
- Processors
- Importers/Exporters
- Farmers Market Managers
- Food Hubs
- Industry Associations
- Retailers
- Food Service Suppliers
- State Departments of Agriculture
- Other Factors:
 - Organic and conventional produce
 - Geographic location
 - Commodity type
 - Technical expertise such as food safety, quality assurance or supply chain management

Membership Qualifications (continued):

- Nominees may not be registered as a lobbyist at any level of government.¹
- Nominees may not serve on more than one advisory committee, concurrent to the Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee term.
- Committee members may not serve more than three consecutive two-year terms, or six consecutive years.
- Qualified candidates may nominate themselves or nominate someone else who is interested, qualified and agrees to being nominated.
- All qualified candidates must complete and submit the required [Form AD-755](#), along with resume and cover letter, in order to be considered for nomination.

Membership requirements and responsibilities include the ability to:

- Serve a two-year term.
- Work effectively in a large group setting with other produce industry sector members.
- Attend up to two meetings per year in the Washington DC, metro region.²
- Attend and participate in subcommittee teleconference/virtual calls.

¹Executive Order No. 13490, 18 June 2010, prohibits an individual who is registered with the federal government or with a state government as a lobbyist from serving on any federal advisory committee.

²Members of the committee are reimbursed by the USDA for approved travel and associated lodging expenses as determined by all guidelines and regulations specified by the U.S. General Services Administration.