

National Grange Communication Fellows



The National Grange Communication Fellows Program is a year-long, cohort-based training experience designed to prepare Grange members to communicate effectively in a modern, digital-first media landscape. Selected Fellows will receive hands-on training in digital storytelling, social media strategy, podcasting, video interviews, live digital engagement, and brand stewardship, as well as general written articles and other methods, while actively contributing to National Grange communication efforts throughout the year.

From day one, Fellows are embedded in the National Grange process, learning how national messaging is developed, approved, and deployed, and how grassroots stories and voices move from local Granges to a national platform. A cohort of 4-5 Fellows will be chosen each year.

The program culminates with Fellows attending the National Grange Convention, where they will apply their skills in real time as on-site communicators and brand ambassadors.

Program Requirements & Commitments

Applicants must meet **all** of the following requirements:

Eligibility

- Must be a **current Grange member** in good standing
- Must commit to **full participation for the entire year**
 - The cohort chosen in 2026 will continue through the 2027 National Grange Convention, and may attend both 2026 and 2027 conventions, based on participation.
- Must be able to attend the National Grange Convention at the program's conclusion
- Must provide their **own equipment**, including:
 - Computer or tablet
 - Smartphone capable of photo/video recording
- Must demonstrate basic-level understanding of social media and digital creation platforms

Participation Requirements

- Complete and submit the application on time, including at least one letter of recommendation from a State Grange leader to whom you are not related
- Attend **at least 75% of monthly sessions** (held via Zoom, Teams, or similar platform)
- Complete assigned projects and practicum work
- Participate in National Grange communication efforts as assigned
- Maintain professional conduct as a representative of the National Grange
- Agree to brand, style, and messaging guidelines

Financial Commitment

- Fellows who successfully complete the program will have their **lodging and registration for the National Grange Convention paid** (within program guidelines)

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- Fellows who do **not** complete program requirements forfeit this benefit and will not be invited to participate at the National Grange Convention.

Skills that will be covered:

- The National Grange voice and brand
- Storytelling for a digital audience
- Social media strategy and best practices
- Visual storytelling
- Video interviews
- Podcasting and audio storytelling
- Editorial standards and writing style
- Digital ethics in an AI world
- Creating a digital campaign
- Advocacy efforts – beyond the page
- *And more!*

Expected Outcomes

By the conclusion of the program, Communication Fellows will:

- Actively contribute content to **National Grange social media platforms**
- Produce content for:
 - *Good Day!* magazine
 - *Grange Today!* newsletter
 - Grange Engage
- Develop educational one-pagers on various Grange and communication topics for distribution.
- Serve as **brand ambassadors** and **communication assistants** for the National Grange
- Build a professional portfolio of Grange-based work
- Support on-site communications at the **National Grange Convention**
 - As a capstone piece, all aspects of the year-long training will come into play
- Strengthen the pipeline of trained communicators across local, state, and national levels

Built-In Accountability & Evaluation

- Attendance tracking
- Assignment completion benchmarks
- Quarterly check-ins with program leads
- Peer feedback and cohort collaboration
- Final portfolio review prior to Convention attendance approval

Applications will be available beginning in April 2026, with a due date of July 1, 2026.

Questions about the program can be directed to:

Philip Vonada, Communications Director

pvonada@nationalgrange.org

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