

McCloy Fellowship in Agriculture Study Tour in Germany

The McCloy Fellowship in Agriculture is an exchange program for promising American and German leaders. The program enables four Fellows from each country to swap sides of the Atlantic for 21 days to broaden their sights and build transatlantic relationships. Fellows meet with fellowship alumni, policy makers and agricultural experts while acquainting themselves with the practices, challenges and solutions of their peers.

McCloy Fellows in Agriculture receive an up-close look at agricultural, farm and food-supply conditions across the Atlantic. They develop a greater ability to analyze how issues affect farmers in the U.S. and abroad. The more Farm Bureau's members and staff understand the advantages and challenges in other countries, the better they will understand the global context in which U.S. agriculture operates. This program helps to develop U.S. agricultural professionals who can contribute a broader perspective to the agricultural debate.



Why Become a Fellow?

The McCloy program enables you to see how farmers in another part of the world do business, to become intimately familiar with agriculture in Europe and to compare best practices. In the process, you have the opportunity to create lasting friendships, both among the group of Fellows traveling together and with the fellowship alumni and others you meet in Germany. Fellows typically travel to several major German cities, including Berlin, as well as rural areas that show the diversity, the history and the potential of German agriculture. Past Fellows have visited the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium, to gain insights into the European Union and the impact of its agricultural policy. While you take in the sights – whether world-famous landmarks or family farms that are off the beaten path – you gain a deeper understanding not only of German farming but also of German government, economics and culture.

How Does It Work?

At the invitation of the American Council on Germany (ACG), each year the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) and the Deutscher Bauernverband (German Farmers' Association) identify four candidates for the McCloy program. State organizations and staff cooperate in the planning of a meaningful itinerary for Fellows, tailored whenever possible to their interests. A per diem of \$150 is provided to each Fellow for the duration of the program, and the ACG covers all pre-approved travel costs. After the trip, each Fellow must submit a written report to the ACG and AFBF. The exact dates of the tour are determined by the participants as a group, but travel will occur between September and November.

Nominations and Selection

Candidates are nominated by state Farm Bureau presidents to the AFBF president. The AFBF president selects nominees to forward to the ACG, which makes the final selection. Nominees must be Farm Bureau members or staff with outstanding leadership qualifications and preferably between 28 and 40 years of age. Applications are mailed to states by mid-February of each year and are due back to AFBF by the end of March. The state nomination should include the candidate's application, a one-page autobiography and a letter indicating reasons for interest. Only one nomination per state, per year is allowed.

General Timeline

Announcement letter and applications mailed to state presidents	<i>Mid-February</i>
State Farm Bureau submits nomination	<i>End of March</i>
AFBF president makes selections	<i>Mid-April</i>
Confirm nominees' agreement to participate	<i>End of April</i>
ACG accepts and notifies nominees	<i>Mid-May</i>
Participants travel (3 weeks)	<i>Sept. to Nov.</i>

For more information: mccloy@fb.org

