NCFAR FAQ’s

NCFAR IS-
• Only Coalition Whose Focused Mission is Advocating for Federal Funding for ALL Food & Ag REE—both inter- and intra-mural.
• Only Customer-Led Coalition.
• Only Coalition Providing Common Forum for Academia, Customers, Scientific Societies.
• Cost-Effective¹—Annual dues and suggested sponsorship set at affordable levels to encourage broad participation. Annual dues in DC-based associations and coalitions are typically much higher.
• Leveraged—Hill seminar series funded entirely through sponsorships. ALL speaker travel paid by employer or nominating entities. Member-ownership involvement, their time and expertise in implementing initiatives, crucial to success.
• Access to Decision-makers—Providing quality access to, and interaction with, top Federal officials and key Congressional staff during meeting/webinar programs.

VALUE TO RE&E CUSTOMERS, OTHER STAKEHOLDERS-
• Other farm bill titles may be higher priority for food and ag sector stakeholders. However, it is important to advocate for federal food & ag REE funding, as science and translational education outcomes fuel the potential and desired outcomes in every other farm bill title.
• Federally funded food & ag REE outcomes are important ingredients in food and ag sector successes.
• The food and ag sector needs graduates and scientists that federal food & ag funding helps produce.
• NCFAR is cost- and time-effective way to support federal funding for food & ag RE&E.
  o In addition to NCFAR testimony, opportunity to sign group statements, plus bullet points for inclusion in own testimony.
  o Efficient means of engaging key Congressional and Administration decision-makers and academic and other stakeholders.
  o Hill Seminars: Opportunity to nominate and encourage selection of federally funded research and extension initiatives in the Lunch~N~Learn hill seminar series.

VALUE TO ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS-
• Efficient and cost-effective opportunity to engage and work with leading representatives of ‘customer’ stakeholders and facilitate ‘customer’ efforts to advocate for federal funding.
• Premise: It is arguably in the best interest of academic (and federal RE&E agencies) institutions for ‘customers’ to play an active/lead role in advocating for federal funding for food and ag RE&E.
  o Deans & researchers of course make the case for their funding.
  o But those who need and benefit from RE&E outcomes can make a more compelling case—i.e., “Give researchers and extension specialists the federal funds they need to produce the scientific and translational education outcomes so I can have the tools needed to be successful as agricultural producer/agribusiness/food processor & marketer.
  o NCFAR currently serves as primary/only vehicle for ‘customer’ organizations to play this key role.

¹ National Member: National non-profit organization or other entity. Annual Dues $2,500 for organizations with annual budgets over $5 million, and $1,000 for all others.
Affiliate Member: Supportive of purpose of NCFAR. Annual Dues Corporate ($2,500) University ($1,000); regional, state or local organization or non-profit ($500); Individual ($100)
Sponsorships: $500-$5,000, any level welcome. Supports Seminar Series. Some supporters both Members-Sponsors.

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• *Hill Seminars:* Opportunity to raise the profile of own research and extension efforts by nominating top presenters in the Lunch~N~Learn hill seminar series.

**NCFAR IS NOT**

• A full service trade association. NO News Letters, etc. Organizations belong to other associations at a much higher cost for such services.
  ○ NCFAR Mission and resources are focused on advocating for federal funding for food & ag REE.