Produce Safety Immersion Program

Participant Expectations and Responsibilities

United Fresh Produce Association is thrilled to launch this program to help further develop produce safety professionals. Fifteen- twenty promising produce safety professionals will benefit from instruction, experiences, and mentoring through this program. This document provides more details on the program and expectations of participants. Questions can be directed to Jennifer McEntire at jmcentire@unitedfresh.org

1. What is the time commitment?
   a. Participants will spend a few hours getting to know each other and the selected mentors during the 2020 FreshStart Conference. Selected applicants will participate in three 3-day experiences (two held independently, and one held in conjunction with the 2020 Washington Conference). In addition, participants will join in three webinars (which will be available on demand). Prior to each meeting/webinar, a pre-read will be required (no more than 1 hr each). At the concluding meeting, each participant will present either a “journal club” style discussion, or present a short research report, each of which will require 10-12 hours of preparation. Participants are encouraged to set aside additional time each month to connect with their assigned mentor.

2. Do I need to participate in all activities?
   a. Yes, full participation is required.

3. What is the fee?
   a. The $8995 fee includes registrations for the 2020 FreshStart Conference, Annual Convention & Expo, and the Washington Conference. Additionally, the program will cover hotel and meals during the meetings. Participants will be responsible for their own transportation and related travel expenses.

4. Will a specific mentor be assigned to me?
   a. Yes, we will pair you with one mentor, but encourage developing relationships with all mentors to grow your network.

5. How long is the program?
   a. The program runs approximately one year (beginning in January 2020 through September 2020). The hope is that the connections that are made through the program are long lasting.

6. Can I participate more than once?
   a. No.