

### Participant Expectations and Responsibilities

The purpose of the United Fresh Produce Safety Immersion Program is to help further develop produce safety professionals. Ten-fifteen 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](mailto:jmcentire@unitedfresh.org)

1. What is the time commitment?
  - a. Over the course of nine months, participants should plan to spend approximately 3 weeks participating in immersion experiences, depending on the extent to which they take advantage of optional enrichment activities.
  - b. Participants will spend an hour getting to know each other and the selected mentors during a virtual reception in January 2021. Selected applicants will participate in virtual education sessions (format includes webinars, “hang out”, peer presentations, etc), with an average of one event per week, covering topics indicated on the tentative schedule. A pre-read may be required (no more than 1 hr. each) for some meetings/webinars.
  - c. 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. The initial presentations will be given halfway through the program and participants will receive feedback from their mentors and peers. The revised presentations will take place at the concluding meeting in the fall of 2021.
  - d. 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, with the exception of optional networking and enrichment activities (approximately 1 optional opportunity per month).
3. What is the fee?
  - a. The \$6995 fee includes registrations for the 2021 Annual Convention & Expo, and the Washington Conference. At this time, all program elements will be delivered virtually. If optional trips are offered, participants will be responsible for their own transportation, hotel/lodging, and related travel expenses.
  - b. The fee must be paid prior to the beginning of the Class Two launch in January 2021.
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 begins in January 2021 and concludes in the fall of 2021. The hope is that the connections that are made through the program are long lasting.
6. Can I participate more than once?
  - a. No.
7. What happens if a participant changes jobs?

- a. Participants are expected to complete the program regardless of employment. Refunds will not be provided due to change in employment. It is the responsibility of the participant to work with employers to determine how to allocate the program fee.