



Vice President of Engagement and Policy/Government Affairs

About RIPE

Rural Investment to Protect our Environment (RIPE) is a farmer-led non-profit advancing the [RIPE100](#) policy plan that enables farmers of all sizes and types to earn \$100 per acre from conservation practices that deliver public value through carbon sequestration, soil health, water quality and other environmental services. Participation will be voluntary and these benefits will be provided through established processes and organizations.

“Given that President Biden and the Democratic-controlled Congress are prioritizing climate policy in many different ways, farmers’ input costs - such as fertilizer - will increase. RIPE offers an opportunity to protect farmers from those costs and make sure that farmers can earn a reasonable return for the value their voluntary conservation practices deliver to the public. RIPE believes that farmers have a pivotal role to play in tackling climate change, but they shouldn’t sacrifice their own prosperity in the process.”

~ Aliza Wasserman Drewes, Executive Director, RIPE

RIPE’s steering committee includes farm leaders serving in their personal capacity as well as organizational partners including: Arkansas Rice Federation, Iowa Corn Growers Association, National Black Farmers Association, and North Dakota Grain Growers Association. RIPE is an innovative start-up organization on a rapid growth trajectory and offers the opportunity to shape significant national policy from a farmers-first-choice policy design perspective.

Roles and Responsibilities

This role is responsible for increasing farm leaders’ and farm groups’ engagement with RIPE. RIPE is seeking a talented executive with trusted relationships in agricultural producer communities who will:

- Lead outreach strategy and team dedicated to partnering with agricultural producer groups and directing expansion to new regions and commodities.
- Lead Government Affairs team of staff and consultants to coordinate farm groups’ advocacy to align with priority targets.
- Inform policy R&D staff and consultants to shape policy research and design refinements for working land conservation programs by integrating guidance from farm partners and stakeholders.
- Provide input to communications strategy to maximize impact with farm trade groups.
- Establish and maintain partnerships with agricultural producer groups, focusing on commodity groups in the Midwest and Southeast, in an effort to promote their deep engagement and leadership within RIPE



- Develop partnerships with farm leaders and farm trade associations to shape a coalition for national policy advocacy.
- Refine farm group outreach strategy including which states and commodity groups to prioritize for engagement based on combination of political and practical considerations.
- Oversee strategy and coordination of the Steering Committee, a 15-member group of grassroots farm leaders who guide the policy and outreach.
- Oversee strategy and programming for the Farm Advisory Network (FAN) of farmers to keep them informed and engaged with RIPE's national mission.
- Oversee the launch and implementation of RIPE's Sponsorship Program for agricultural associations and companies.

Skills/Experience/Qualifications:

RIPE seeks candidates who have experience with some but not necessarily all of these functions.

- Strong and trusted relationships with farm leaders who serve in leadership positions with farm trade associations and commodity groups.
- Strongly prefer prior experience as a farm trade association/commodity group leader.
- Demonstrated success building a politically pragmatic advocacy coalition.
- Comfort putting farmers first in policy recommendations, including simple enrollment and maximizing compensation to ag producers.
- Robust management and team building experience.
- Knowledge of Congressional Agricultural Committee politics and of agricultural associations' advocacy processes and priorities.
- Preference for knowledge of working land programs.
- Preference for experience with fundraising from agricultural firms and private foundations.

To Apply

All inquiries and information will be handled in strict confidence. Interested parties should contact:

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EEO STATEMENT:

RIPE/Multiplier celebrate diversity and are committed to building teams and partnerships that represent a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills. RIPE/Multiplier are also committed to providing an environment of mutual respect that is free from discrimination and harassment. RIPE/ Multiplier prohibit discrimination in its governance, programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, marital status, amnesty, status as a covered veteran, because all or part of an individual's income is derived from public assistance, or for any other non-merit-based factors.