



Dear Leadership Applicant:

As a member of Blue Diamond, you have a voice in your cooperative and an opportunity to assume a leadership role on a committee or board level.

In 1994, we formed the Blue Diamond Leadership Program for potential young growers between the age of 21 and 40 years old. The program is designed to prepare participants for this leadership role by:

- \* Developing communication and leadership skills
- \* Familiarizing participants with the structure and operations of Blue Diamond
- \* Developing an awareness of the advantages of Blue Diamond membership
- \* Meeting and becoming acquainted with other almond growers
- \* Encouraging participation in Blue Diamond activities
- \* Assisting participants in the development and operation of a successful farming business
- \* Familiarizing participants with external factors that affect their business

Because we commit to fund your participation in this program, when you apply, you are committing to attend both overnight programs in January 2016 in Sacramento and June 2016 in Salida. These programs include meeting and talking with Blue Diamond management and the Board of Directors.

Selection of our **2017 Leadership Program** participants will be made by a committee consisting of the local Board member, Advisory/Liaison Committee members, and the field supervisor representing your district. Your name(s) (if you are a couple) will be submitted for final approval to our Board of Directors, and, if selected, you will be introduced to the membership at the December Annual Meeting.

Thank you for completing this application by the **October 15, 2016** deadline and returning it to us for consideration in our **2017 Leadership Program**.

Sincerely,

Elaine Rominger  
Kevin Fondse  
Leadership Program  
Board Members and Advisors



**2017 BLUE DIAMOND GROWERS  
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. The completed application form must be returned to Blue Diamond Growers **no later than October 15, 2016:**

Blue Diamond Growers  
Member Relations  
4800 Sisk Road  
Modesto CA 95356

2. Qualified applicants will be selected by members of the Blue Diamond Growers Leadership Advisory Committee. Applicant must be a current member of Blue Diamond Growers.
3. The Blue Diamond Leadership Advisory Committee will select participants based on the information and impressions received from this application. Please answer all questions on the application as completely and concisely as possible. Only 18 couples and /or singles will be selected for the program. (A couple may apply if the spouse is actively involved in some aspect(s) of the farm operation.). If you are not selected for this year's program, we hope you will reapply for future programs.
4. If additional space is needed to reply to the questions, please attach a separate page.
5. If you have any questions regarding the application, contact your local Blue Diamond Board, Liaison, or Advisory member, local field supervisor (see *Almond Facts* for phone number), or call the Salida office at (209) 545-6225.



2017 BLUE DIAMOND GROWERS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATION FORM

Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

2. Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Marital Status: Single \_\_ Married \_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

3. Blue Diamond Growers Contract Number \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

4. Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
RR or Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State Zip Code

5. Business Address \_\_\_\_\_  
RR or Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State Zip Code

6. Telephone: Home [ ] ( ) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Business [ ] ( ) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
email address: \_\_\_\_\_

7. What are your duties and responsibilities in your farm operation?

What are the growth plans for your operation - both short and long range?

Do you see your role changing? If so, how will it change?

8. Leisure Activities: What hobbies or leisure time activities do you participate in?

9. Organizational Activities:

List organizations/groups in which you are or have been a member and the leadership roles you have occupied in each (mention ag-related and non-ag-related activities.)

<u>Organizations/Groups</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Office/Position</u>	<u>Elected/Appointed (Check One)</u>
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

10. Why do you wish to participate in Blue Diamond's leadership development program? (25 words or less.)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**IMPORTANT:** Please return this application to Blue Diamond Growers in Salida or give it to your local Board member, Liaison or Advisory Committee member, or your Field Supervisor by **October 15, 2016.**



## BLUE DIAMOND GROWERS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

### GOAL:

To prepare participants for a leadership role in Blue Diamond Growers

### OBJECTIVES:

- ◆ To develop communication & leadership skills
- ◆ To familiarize participants with the structure & operations of Blue Diamond
- ◆ To develop an awareness of the advantages of Blue Diamond membership
- ◆ To meet & become acquainted with other almond growers
- ◆ To encourage participation in Blue Diamond activities
- ◆ To assist participants in the development & operation of a successful farming business
- ◆ To familiarize participants with external factors that affect their business