

## **2016-17 Distinguished Grange Program Application and Guidelines**

The Distinguished Grange program honors Subordinate and State Granges that fulfill their responsibilities as part of the National Grange, while excelling in areas of membership, fundraising and service to their communities.

The award for being named a Distinguished Grange is presented annually at the National Grange Convention. The 2016-17 Distinguished Granges will be honored for their work done from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. The postmark deadline to submit your materials to be considered for Distinguished Grange is August 13, 2017 for paper submissions and August 17, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. EST for electronic submissions via our website at [www.nationalgrange.org/distinguished](http://www.nationalgrange.org/distinguished). Applications received after this deadline will not be awarded Distinguished Grange.

Distinguished Granges will be honored at a special reception and will be recognized in the annual convention program. They will receive a certificate to commemorate their achievement. Granges that qualify as a Distinguished Grange for five consecutive years will receive a plaque for their Hall.

Please complete the application attached and submit online at [www.nationalgrange.org/distinguished](http://www.nationalgrange.org/distinguished) or send paper copy to National Grange, 1616 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20006, ATTN: Distinguished Grange.

**STATE GRANGE APPLICATION**

State Grange: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Submitter: \_\_\_\_\_

Current position held in State Grange: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Years Awarded Distinguished State Grange prior: \_\_\_\_\_

**Required**

**\_\_\_ Ensure that at least half of your Granges submit completed Grange Profile and Census**

**\_\_\_ Contribute \$1 per member to National Convention Fund (Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_)**

**\_\_\_ File all Quarterly Reports online through the National Grange Membership Database**

**\_\_\_ Submit all dues on time**

**\_\_\_ Send resolutions to National Grange electronically**

**\_\_\_ Send Delegate(s) to National Grange**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_ Send at least two State Officers to another National Grange or regional event.**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_**

**Event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Submit a Community Service report with at least 50% of your state's Granges reporting.**

\_\_\_ **Hold a State Grange DO-ers Event.**  
*Attached Description (including date, Granges involved, etc.)*

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**In addition to completing all the requirements above, you must complete some or all of the following, with points adding to 100 or more in order to qualify as a Distinguished Grange.**

\_\_\_ **ADDITIONAL 5 POINTS** if you submit application online. (5 pts.)

\_\_\_ Promote at least one national contest (lecturer's, community service, other) and ensure at least one entry/statewide winner is submitted from your state. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Host a State Legislative Day OR have at least 25% of the Granges in your state hold a public legislative/activism forum, voter drive, or other legislative/citizenship event OR have at least one State Officer or designated member testify on behalf of the Grange before a statewide legislative or regulatory body. (20 pts.)  
Attach information about the event(s).

\_\_\_ Have at least one member of your State Grange Officer Corps participate on another statewide board (ex. state 4-H/Ag in the Classroom, university trustee, etc.) (15 pts.)

\_\_\_ Net regular membership gain for the State Grange. (20 pts.)

\_\_\_ Organization or reorganization of a Grange. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Organization or reorganization of a Junior Grange. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Ensure that 50% of your Subordinate Granges have updated their member information in the National Grange Membership Database. (25 pts.)

\_\_\_ Host a State Youth and/or Young Adult Event OR send a Youth Ambassador, John Trimble Legislative Youth, Communications Fellow or Officer to National Grange OR establish a partnership with another State Grange and send a Youth on a Grange Interstate Youth Exchange. (15 pts.)

Attach information about the event(s).

\_\_\_ Host a State Junior Event OR have at least 50% of the Junior Granges or Granges supporting Junior 1+ members participate in a state or national sponsored service project/program. (15 pts.)

Attach information about the event(s).

\_\_\_ Provide at least one brief update by email per quarter to the National Grange Communications Department for the National Grange magazine, *Good Day!* (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Ensure at least 10% of your Granges have submitted content for the National Grange magazine, newsletter, social media or Grange Radio. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Ensure that every Grange in your State has at least one subscriber to the National Grange quarterly magazine, *Good Day!*, by Aug. 1, 2017. (15 pts.)

\_\_\_ Produce one contest, program or educational activity from the State Grange and distribute to Subordinate Granges before Aug. 1, 2017, on food security or civic engagement/citizenship. (15 pts.)

\_\_\_ Contribute at least \$250 to the National Grange Building Fund (make checks payable to National Grange) or to any fund in the National Grange Foundation (make checks payable to Grange Foundation). (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Provide to State Grange membership information on planned giving through programming, workshop at state or regional event, etc. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Invite a National Grange Officer (other than one who is a member of your State Grange) to attend one of your activities or meetings – and have them attend. (10 pts.)

*Provide details along with this application about event, attendance and involvement of the officer.*

*Please include all supporting information or documentation with this application.*

**SUBORDINATE GRANGE**

Grange & Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Submitter: \_\_\_\_\_

Current position held in Grange: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Years Awarded Distinguished Grange prior: \_\_\_\_\_

**Required**

**\_\_\_ Submit completed Grange Profile and Census Forms.**

**\_\_\_ Submit all quarterly reports on time to your State Grange (State Grange must provide verification email or letter to you).**

**\_\_\_ Remit all dues to your State Grange on time (State Grange must provide verification email or letter to you).**

**\_\_\_ Send Delegate(s) to State Grange Convention.**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_ Send at least two Subordinate Grange Officers or Members to another National Grange, State Grange or regional event.**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_**

**Event \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_**

**Event \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_ **Submit a community service report to your state.**

\_\_\_ **Hold a Grange DO·ers Event.**

*Attached Description (including date, etc.)*

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**In addition to completing all the requirements above, you must complete some or all of the following, with points adding to 125 or more in order to qualify as a Distinguished Grange.**

\_\_\_ **ADDITIONAL 5 POINTS:** Submit your application online and receive extra credit. (5 pts.)

\_\_\_ Attend a public meeting as a Grange or host a forum with public officials for your community to attend or hold a legislative event, candidate forum, Grangers Organized to Vote event or make at least one legislative issue contact with a public official on the local, state or national level. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Provide plan for your 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration event planned for Dec 1-4, 2017. (15 pts.)

\_\_\_ Provide at least two brief updates by email per year to the National Grange Communications Department for possible inclusion in the National Grange newsletter or magazine, Good Day! (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Ensure at least one member from your Grange submits a quality digital photo by email to the National Grange Communications Department for potential inclusion in the National Grange newsletter, social media or magazine, Good Day! Make sure you include a release form. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Submit at least one recording for Grange Radio. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Host at least one Youth and/or Young Adult event/community service event. (10 pts.)

*Attach information about the event(s).*

\_\_\_ Host a State Junior Event or Junior 1+ event or community service event. (10 pts.)

*Attach information about the event(s).*

\_\_\_ Present a Lecturer's Program in a Box and submit a LPIAB Recognition Form. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Net gain in membership. (15 pts.)

- \_\_\_ Net gain in affiliated Junior Grange or Junior 1+ members. (15 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Invite a Youth from another Grange to speak at a meeting or an FFA or 4-H member to present. (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Provide at least one press clip showing you are publicizing your Grange, Grange events or have a good relationship with your local press. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Host/organize at least three community service or educational events. (10 pts.)  
\_\_\_ Provide information on each event.
- \_\_\_ Hold an open house/public Grange event to introduce the organization to your community, engage in conversation about what the loss of organizations like ours or lack of civic engagement means for the community and participate in the DO-ers campaign. (15 pts.)  
*Provide a description about the event and community attendance/reactions.*
- \_\_\_ Get the local government officials to recognize the Grange for Grange Month. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Present a resolution to your State Grange on something other than Grange Growth or Grange Law. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Update your grange.org website with at least meeting time, day and location and contact information for at least one officer OR contact the National Grange to have your grange.org website forward to your present website. Site must also include at least a few paragraphs about your Grange's mission or service to the community/relevance. You are encouraged to connect it to your social media accounts, pictures of your Grange in action and messages from your Grange officers or committee chairs. (If you have done this in previous years, thanks! You can count it again.) (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Honor veterans with a Patriot's Program or nominate a veteran for a Quilt of Valor and host the award ceremony. (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Ensure that at least three members of your Grange have subscriptions to the National Grange quarterly magazine, Good Day!. (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Sponsor or host an event that focuses on health, such as a health fair, 5K, blood drive, etc. (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_ Participate in at least one State or National Grange contest, program or educational activity on food security or civic engagement/citizenship before Aug. 1, 2017. (15 pts.)

\_\_\_ Contribute at least \$100 to the National Grange Building Fund (make checks payable to National Grange) or to any fund in the National Grange Foundation (make checks payable to Grange Foundation). (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Provide to membership information on planned giving through programming, workshop/lecturer's event, guest speaker, etc., or have at least one member of your Grange attend a State Grange planned giving workshop/lecture. (10 pts.)

\_\_\_ Invite a State or National Grange Officer (other than one who is a member of your Grange) to attend one of your activities or meetings – and have them attend. (10 pts.)

*Provide details along with this application about event, attendance and involvement of the officer.*