

2023-2024 State 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 2023-24 Distinguished Granges will be honored for their work done from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

The award for being named a Distinguished Grange is presented annually at the National Grange Convention and mentioned in the 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.

Submitting your Application

The postmark or online submission deadline to submit your materials to be considered for Distinguished Grange is **August 1, 2024**. Applications received after this deadline will not be awarded Distinguished Grange.

You can choose any one of three ways to submit your application for Distinguished Grange.

- Option 1

Please complete the application attached and send along with any supporting documents by mail to National Grange, 1616 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20006, ATTN: Distinguished Grange.

- Option 2

You may choose to submit your application via a single online form, the link to which will be made available at www.nationalgrange.org/distinguished starting January 1, 2024.

- Option 3

Finally, you can choose to submit your application and supporting documents via email to lwashington@nationalgrange.org. Our servers only accept emails of 5.0 MB or smaller, so you may have to send documents in follow-up emails. If doing so, please indicate "DG – Grange Name" in each subject line.

Review & Assessment Prior to Deadline

If you wish to have your application material reviewed as you believe something your Grange has completed may qualify or meet a requirement, please contact Loretta Washington at lwashington@nationalgrange.org prior to the August 1 deadline.

2023-2024 State Distinguished Grange Application

State Grange: _____

Name of Submitter: _____

Current position held in State Grange: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

List years your State Grange was awarded Distinguished Grange prior: _____

REQUIRED

_____ File all Quarterly Reports and Dues on time, preferably online through the National Grange Membership Database

_____ Contribute \$1 per member to National Convention Assessment Fund
Date paid _____ / _____ / _____ - *PAY by May 31 Amount Paid \$ _____

_____ Submit 2022 State Journal of Proceedings, up-to-date Roster and State Grange Bylaws to National Grange

_____ Send at least two State Officers or Directors to a National or regional Grange event (in addition to Convention.)

Name _____ Title _____

Event _____

Name _____ Title _____

Event _____

_____ Submit a Community Service report with at least 25% of your state's Granges reporting.

_____ Send updated membership and officer list to National Grange

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.

_____ Ensure that every Subordinate Grange in your State is physically visited by at least one State Grange officer, director, or deputy (or other State-authorized representative) OR quarterly contact is made via phone, email or mail by a State Grange officer, director or deputy with any Granges not physically visited. (*Attach Details*) (15 points)

_____ Submit a Community Service report with at least 50% of your state's Granges reporting (10 points)

_____ Promote at least one national contest (Lecturer's, membership, youth, Junior, other) and ensure at least one entry/statewide winner is submitted from your state. (*Provide evidence of promotion in your state*) (10 pts.)

_____ Host a workshop or publish a news article in your state newsletter on mental health as part of the Rural Minds program (need photo of event and/or copy of article.) If you do this you will qualify as a "**Golden Distinguished State Grange.**" (20 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).*

_____ Achieve a net regular membership gain for the State Grange. (20 pts.)
Members as of 7/1/2023 _____
Members as of 6/30/2024 _____

_____ End June 2024 with at least 20 e-members from your state. (10 pts.)

_____ Organize or reorganize a Grange. (15 pts.)

_____ Organize or reorganize a Junior Grange. (15 pts.)

_____ Host a State Youth and/or Young Adult event OR send a Youth Ambassador, John Trimble Legislative Youth, Communications Fellow or Youth Officer to National Grange OR establish a partnership with another State Grange and send a Youth on a Grange Interstate Youth Exchange. *Attach information about the event(s).* (15 pts.)

_____ Host a State Junior Grange event OR have at least 50% of the Junior Granges or Granges with Junior 1+ members participate in a state or national-sponsored service project/program or the 2023 or 2024 Junior Grange Awareness Award program. (15 pts.) *Attach information about the event(s).*

_____ Use your State Grange's website or social media, OR publish an op-ed to promote a Grange issue. (10 pts.) *Attach information about the post.*

_____ Use the National Grange database to submit quarterly reports (20 pts.)

_____ Ensure that every Grange in your State has at least one current subscriber (or Grange is subscribed) to the National Grange quarterly magazine, *Good Day!* (10 pts.)

_____ Produce one contest, program, educational activity, or fair booth display from the State Grange using the theme "Raised Right Here" between July 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023 OR "Grange Strong" between January 1, 2024 and June 30, 2024 and distribute information to Subordinate Granges. (15 pts.)

_____ Contribute at least \$250 to any fund in the National Grange Foundation (make checks payable to Grange Foundation.) (10 points)

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

Please include all supporting information or documentation with this application.

TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS _____
Minimum of 100 points required