

Title: Government Relations Manager
Location: Washington, D.C. – hybrid eligible
FLSA Status: Exempt
Reports To: Vice President, Policy & Communications
Salary Range: \$65,000 to \$75,000 (annually)

Overview

The Government Relations Manager is responsible for advancing the National Association of Wheat Growers' (NAWG) federal policy priorities through direct, day-to-day engagement with congressional offices and federal agencies. This position manages a defined policy portfolio—primarily farm programs, conservation, crop protection, regulatory compliance, biotechnology and research—and serves as a key advocate for wheat growers before Congress, the Administration, and regulatory agencies.

Working closely with the Vice President, Policy & Communications, NAWG leadership, and state associations, the Manager plays a central role in implementing NAWG's legislative and regulatory strategy, supporting grassroots advocacy, and ensuring wheat grower perspectives are effectively represented in federal policymaking.

Key Responsibilities

Congressional & Agency Engagement

- Conduct regular, direct engagement with Members of Congress, congressional staff, and committee staff on issues affecting wheat growers.
- Maintain ongoing working relationships with federal agencies, including USDA, EPA, and other relevant departments, to influence rulemaking, guidance, and program implementation.
- Monitor legislative and regulatory developments and proactively identify risks and opportunities within assigned policy areas.
- Represent NAWG at meetings, briefings, hearings, coalition discussions, and stakeholder events.

Policy Portfolio Management

- Lead NAWG's policy work on farm programs, conservation policy, crop protection, regulatory compliance, biotechnology and research.
- Analyze legislation, regulations, and agency actions to assess impacts on wheat growers and develop clear recommendations for action.
- Draft policy summaries, position statements, comment letters, testimony, and briefing materials aligned with board-adopted policy.
- Support development of advocacy strategies for key legislative vehicles, including the Farm Bill and appropriations process.

Grassroots & Member Support

- Support NAWG's grassroots advocacy efforts by providing issue expertise, timely intelligence, and member-ready materials.

- Prepare growers and state association leaders for meetings with policymakers, including Hill visits and fly-ins.
- Engage with state wheat associations to gather feedback and ensure federal advocacy reflects regional priorities and on-the-ground realities.

Coordination & Collaboration

- Work closely with NAWG's communications staff to ensure policy positions are clearly and consistently communicated.
- Collaborate with allied agricultural organizations and coalitions to advance shared policy objectives.
- Provide regular updates and strategic recommendations to the Vice President, Policy & Communications and NAWG leadership.

Qualifications & Experience

- Bachelor's degree in political science, government, economics, agriculture, or a related field.
- 1-2 years of experience in federal government relations, public policy, or advocacy, preferably within agriculture, a trade association, Capitol Hill, or a federal agency.
- Demonstrated experience engaging directly with congressional offices and federal agency staff.
- Solid understanding of farm programs, conservation policy, crop protection issues, and federal regulatory processes.
- Excellent analytical, writing, and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to manage multiple issues simultaneously and respond quickly in a fast-paced policy environment.

Core Competencies

- Strong relationship-builder with congressional and agency stakeholders
- Detail-oriented policy practitioner with sound political judgment
- Clear, concise communicator on complex regulatory and legislative issues
- Collaborative team player with a strong service mindset
- Commitment to advancing wheat growers' interests through effective, bipartisan advocacy

How To Apply

Send resume and cover letter to careers@wheatworld.org.

Benefits

NAWG offers comprehensive benefit programs and services for eligible employees including medical, dental, vision, PTO, sick time, retirement plan with generous employer contribution, short-/long-term disability and life/AD&D insurance.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

NAWG is an equal opportunity employer. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind and are committed to providing a work environment free of discrimination on the basis of

protected characteristics under D.C. and federal law, including but not limited to: race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, family responsibilities, genetic information and other protected traits.

Criminal History Disclosure Policy

In compliance with D.C.'s Fair Criminal Record Screening Amendment Act ("Ban the Box"), NAWG will not inquire about your criminal history until after a conditional offer of employment is made, and any consideration of such history will be job-related and consistent with business necessity.

This job description does not state or imply that these are the only duties to be performed. Employees may be required to perform other job-related duties as assigned. All duties and responsibilities are essential functions and may be subject to reasonable accommodation in accordance with applicable law.