



# National Grain and Feed Association

## MEMBER BENEFITS



### Allied Members

Allied members are companies involved in the grain or feed, or feed ingredients business in Canada or Mexico with no locations in the U.S. that otherwise would be eligible for NGFA Active member status. In addition, U.S.-based individuals or firms otherwise qualified to be an Associate member may elect to become an Allied member. NGFA Allied members are not subject to compulsory arbitration or automatic application of the NGFA Trade Rules. However, NGFA Allied members may use the NGFA Trade Rules and are eligible to use the NGFA Arbitration System and the NGFA Rail Arbitration System by referencing the rules in their contractual documents or otherwise consenting to the use of the rules. Employees of NGFA Allied members are eligible to serve on the NGFA Trade Rules Committee and also may serve as NGFA arbitrators.



### Rail Arbitration/Mediation

A historic agreement between the NGFA and railroads, completed in August 1998, provides NGFA-member firms the opportunity to submit certain classes of rail disputes to binding NGFA Arbitration. Certain other disputes with rail carriers may be mediated. For the first time, rail shippers/ receivers have access to a practical, inexpensive and timely dispute-resolution process. Only NGFA members are assured access to NGFA rail arbitration/mediation.



### Contract Arbitration

The NGFA Arbitration System provides a quick, inexpensive alternative to resolving trade disputes in court. While court cases can take years to resolve and potentially cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, NGFA arbitration cases generally are decided more expeditiously by expert arbitrators for a small fee. Arbitration is compulsory between NGFA Active members if requested by one party; non-members may access the arbitration system only if the other party is an NGFA member and agrees to arbitrate. All arbitration decisions are published and distributed to the NGFA membership. Arbitration increasingly is used to resolve contractual disagreements with farmers.



### Trade Rules

When companies join the NGFA, they agree to abide by the NGFA's Trade Rules. That means that NGFA members automatically know the rules under which a transaction occurs, reducing the potential for disputes. Non-member companies may reference the NGFA Trade Rules in their contracts, but in the event of a trade dispute, may not have access to the industry experts who administer the NGFA Arbitration System to interpret those Trade Rules.

### NGFA Information Services

The NGFA is your one-stop shop for information critical to the grain, feed and processing industry. The NGFA's web site ([www.ngfa.org](http://www.ngfa.org)) is the industry's most comprehensive.

And the NGFA Newsletter, published every two weeks, is the best agribusiness newsletter. There is no better way to keep up with fast-breaking legislative, regulatory and industry matters than to join the NGFA.

### Publications and Videos

The NGFA provides a broad range of high-quality publications and videos to educate and inform. These materials are available to NGFA members at discounted prices. Recent examples include the NGFA's annual update of its Trade Rules, annual updates of NGFA Arbitration Decisions, the NGFA Feed Quality Assurance Program notebook, information on bioterrorism-prevention and facility security, and a wide array of safety training materials.

### Professional Development

Each year, the NGFA conducts meaningful educational meetings that provide executives, managers, and employees with professional development opportunities. In addition to the NGFA annual convention in March and the NGFA Country Elevator Conference in December, other meetings include; the Annual Feed and Pet Food Conference; Transportation Summits; Feed Quality Assurance Workshops; Safety, Health & Environmental Compliance Seminars; and Trade Rules Seminars.

### Your Washington Office

A seasoned and knowledgeable staff of professionals in the NGFA's Washington office is available to answer your questions on legislative, regulatory or other government matters. The staff also provides top-notch, professional representation on Capitol Hill and in executive agencies like EPA, OSHA, USDA, CFTC, CFDA and others.

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# NGFA Allied Members APPLICATION

**Return to:** National Grain and Feed Association, 1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 260, Arlington, VA 22202, FAX to (202) 289-5388 or email [kemp@ngfa.org](mailto:kemp@ngfa.org).

**Questions?** Call the NGFA at (202) 289-0873.

Please Type or Print:

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Web Site \_\_\_\_\_

If accepted, I agree to abide by the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Arbitration Rules (when applicable), Rail Arbitration Rules (when applicable), Trade Rules (when applicable) and Code of Ethics of the National Grain and Feed Association.

Principal Contact Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Contact Name and Title (above) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor [Current NGFA member. If you do not have a sponsor, call Todd Kemp at the NGFA at (202) 289-0873.]

Principal Business: Please indicate your principal types of business (e.g. country elevator, terminal elevator, feed mill, processor, etc.).

Total Annual Investment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (see investment schedule below)

Tax-deductible Contribution Under U.S. Law \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to National Grain and Feed Foundation (optional)

Payment enclosed.  Please bill me.

## Investment Schedule

Canadian/Mexican firms (No U.S. locations)		Associate members who elect Allied membership	
Annual North American Sales/Business Volume in Grain, Feed and Processing Industry (U.S. Dollars)	Annual Investment	Annual Sales/Business Volume in Grain, Feed and Processing Industry (U.S. Dollars)	Annual Investment
Up to \$10 million	\$ 600	Up to \$1 million	\$1,000
\$10 million to \$25 million	\$ 800	\$1 million to \$5 million	\$1,600
\$25 million to \$50 million	\$1,200	More than \$5 million	\$2,500
\$50 million to \$100 million	\$2,000		
More than \$100 million	\$2,500		