

STATE GOVERNORS

Job Description

Updated September 3, 2014

The Slow Food USA State Governors are a group of experienced former (and sometimes current) chapter leaders who coordinate the Slow Food community at a state level, with the goal of growing and energizing the chapters, members and supporters in their state. State Governors also represent their state within their larger region and help coordinate regional activities. Some governors may have specific programmatic or thematic representations on the regional and/or national level.

In performing their duties, Governors are often mentors and sounding boards for chapter leaders. They also organize conference calls, newsletters, and/or state-wide meetings in order to provide leaders with the opportunity to connect, share ideas, troubleshoot, and learn from each other.

The [biography and contact info for each State Governor](#) is available on SlowFoodUSA.org.

Roles and Responsibilities of a State Governor

Minimum Standards

- Hold at least one state-wide meeting every two years, coordinating with Slow Food USA's July – June fiscal year and beginning in FY15, meaning between July 2014 – June 2015 and every two years thereafter
- Check in with each chapter in the state at least once per quarter (more often is optimal) to provide updates to chapters on national and international priorities and learn about accomplishments and challenges
- Provide quarterly reports to Slow Food USA on chapter/network accomplishments to celebrate and challenges that need to be addressed
- Participate in regional steering committee and help develop regional structure and regional action plan; help plan for, hire and guide activities of regional staff person
- Participate in selection of new governors within region as per protocol developed by regional steering committee
- Participate in at least one national governors call per year

As appropriate and feasible, secondary priority

- Provide assistance to National Office with new chapter applications in your state/region, specifically building a relationship with the new leadership team, providing on-the-ground knowledge & experience and sharing ideas for how to get started during the waiting period before chapter application finalized
- Develop programming and communications that address state-wide priorities and help create a sense of state identity and common cause
- Facilitate communication across state, through means such as conference calls and newsletters
- Encourage and help chapters to grow membership
- Notify National Office of any changes/updates on the list you receive of chapter leaders in your state

Best Practices/Optional Additional Opportunities

- Encourage chapter participation in and consider state-wide Ark of Taste, School Garden and Slow Meat activities; monitor chapter school garden programs and provide assistance as appropriate
- Develop state-level policy will be pursued and how that will be supported
- Review lists of Youth Network members in their state and encourage collaboration between Youth Network and chapters, incorporate youth into state initiatives
- Review lists of Chef's Alliance members in their state and encourage collaboration between Chef's Alliance and chapters, incorporate chef into state initiatives
- Fundraise for programs as appropriate/able in their state; coordinating with chapters where appropriate and liaising with National when pursuing major donors for gifts of \$5000 or more.
- Provide assistance to national office in addressing problems/challenges that occur within chapters in their state
- Assist National Office in keeping chapters in your state active: including helping solicit annual reports from chapters who miss the deadline and reminding chapters of their obligation to file federal and state taxes (as applicable)
- Notify National office of observed trademark usage violations