

## **PRESS RELEASE**

# Nominations Open for 2024 Potatoes USA Board Members

**DENVER (April 18, 2023)**—Potatoes USA announces nominations are now open for new Board Members for the 2024-2027 term. The board is seeking nominees to fill a total of 60 open seats for producers from the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and Importers.

Potatoes USA is the nation's potato research and promotion organization and is the central organizing force in implementing programs to strengthen demand for potatoes. Potatoes USA provides the ideas, information, tools, and inspiration for the industry to unite in achieving common goals.

All state potato organizations have received the information and materials to begin the process of seeking and nominating interested growers. Appointed growers will be seated on the Board at the 2024 Annual Meeting in Denver, March 11-13, 2024.

### **Board Member Guidelines**

It serves the good of both potato production regions and Potatoes USA by recruiting Board Members who will take an active interest in participating on the Board. A Board Member should communicate the interests of his/her production region to the Board and carry the message of the Board back to his/her farming community. A nominee for Potatoes USA should be willing to:

- Attend the Board's Annual meeting held in March each year of the three-year term, 2024-2027
- Be active in the potato-farming community
- Be visible in community work, participate in local government, cultural or business affairs someone who is a leader
- Be willing to represent and communicate with his/her constituents on a regular basis
- Take the time to actively support Potatoes USA programs in his/her area
- Speak to grower groups, newspaper reporters and interested parties about Potatoes USA programs, relating the value of the Board to all growers, how the 3-cent per hundredweight assessment is invested and ask for input from those interested in becoming active in the promotion of potatoes.

If you are interested in being considered by your state grower leadership to fill an open spot representing your state, please contact your state program manager. Alternatively, contact Chelsea Gray at the Potatoes USA office in Denver, CO.

Chelsea Gray Executive Administrator Potatoes USA (303) 873-2332 chelsea@potatoesusa.com

#### The nominating process will be completed by August 15, 2023.

#### **Diversity Statement**

The Department of Agriculture's programs are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or marital status, and it is Potatoes USA's policy that membership on the Board and its committees reflect the diversity of individuals served by its programs. It is therefore the Board's policy to have the representation of producers from diverse backgrounds on its board and strongly encourages women, younger growers, minorities, and persons with disabilities to seek nominations to the Board and to participate in the Board's activities.

#### **About Potatoes USA**

Potatoes USA is the national marketing and promotion board representing U.S. growers and importers. We help our farmers increase their profits. As the marketing organization for the 2,000 potato farming families operating in the United States, Potatoes USA promotes five main potato products: fresh table-stock potatoes, fresh chipping potatoes, seed potatoes, frozen potato products, and dehydrated potato products.

Potatoes USA provides culinary potato inspiration to key audiences, as well as useful tools, education, and support. Through effective market-driven strategies that focus on the greatest opportunities, Potatoes USA is proving that, no matter where the customer lives, potatoes offer a world of possibilities.

Potatoes USA was established in 1971 by a group of potato farmers to promote the benefits of eating potatoes. Today, as the largest vegetable commodity board, we are proud to be recognized as an innovator in the produce industry.

To enhance diversity of the Board, USDA encourages women, younger growers, minorities, and people with disabilities to seek positions on the board.