**Intro**

The Kirchner Food Fellowship is an opportunity for a group of students to receive hands-on investment training focused on food/agriculture businesses with ground-breaking technologies, providing long-term sustainable solutions, both environmentally and economically, to food security. Kirchner Food Fellows receive high-level mentoring from experienced investors and industry experts. Working directly with our leadership team and our network of thought leaders, the Kirchner Food Fellows will engage in a series of face-to-face (when safe to do so) and online educational experiences using methods that expose them to practical, real-world issues of seed- and early-stage impact investment. Ultimately, Fellows are given discretion over the entire investment process during their tenure.

**Disclaimer**

Thank you for your interest in being a 2021-2022 Kirchner Food Fellow. As you consider applying, we ask you to carefully read and understand a few of the program’s more unique requirements. Although an ambitious goal, the Kirchner Food Fellowship program is seeking to positively and meaningfully impact global hunger through an experimental and innovative approach to capital allocation. Accordingly, the Fellowship is demanding. The program’s mandatory elements include: travel (assuming feasible, given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic) to 3-5 events/gatherings (expenses paid), weekly regular virtual meetings with directors, frequent virtual meetings as a team of Fellows, and significant self-directed work. One should expect to dedicate 10-20 hours per week to the program. Also, if selected as a finalist, applicants will be asked to commit in advance to a series of in-person events that may conflict with schoolwork on occasion. If selected, it will be the responsibility of the Fellow to manage their academic calendar around those events. Given the importance that the Kirchner team places on this initiative, the Fellows are also given access to the Kirchner Group ecosystem and may have access to sensitive information. Accordingly, the Fellowship is very selective; a background screening will be performed on all finalists. Finalists will be given consent forms before any screening is conducted and the process will be thoroughly explained. Lastly, given the demands and the unique educational nature of this program, we request Fellows to seek academic credit from their home institution, if that is an option. We will provide support materials as needed to assist with obtaining academic credit. Thank you again for your interest. If you decide to move forward, we look forward to reviewing your application.

**Personal info**

What is your first and last name?

Gender identity *(multiple choice question on form)*

Which pronouns do you prefer? *(multiple choice question on form)*

What is the best phone number to reach you?

What is your e-mail address?

What is your preferred form of communication? *(multiple choice question on form)*

What are your preferred days and times to be contacted? Please indicate the time zone you are in.

**School information**

What is the name of your school/university?

What is the name of your academic program?

Level of education *(multiple choice question on form)*

Which Kirchner Food Fellowship program are you applying to? *(multiple choice question on form)*

**Essay questions**

Please describe how you think the training and mentoring you expect to receive during the program will contribute to your future goals. (500 words maximum)

Describe the innovations/ideas/technologies you are most excited about as it relates to addressing food security and why you find them the most exciting. (500 words maximum)

Imagine that you are meeting the other fellows in your cohort for the first time. You have an exciting and intense year of work ahead of you. What is one thing you would like to know about each of them and what is one thing you would like to get across about yourself? (300 words maximum)

Describe your values and the characteristics that define you. How have you demonstrated or embodied these in your academic and professional career so far? (500 words maximum)

**Cohort Specific Question** *(you will only complete the question for the cohort you are applying for)*

*HBCU Cohort:* What role do you believe the agriculture sector and impact investing can play in helping to achieve racial equity? (500 words maximum)

*Mexico Cohort:* What role do you think impact investing can play in helping to achieve food security and addressing other issues Mexico faces? (500 words maximum)

*Americas Cohort:* What role do you think impact investing can play in helping to achieve food security and addressing other issues Central America faces? (500 words maximum)

**Supporting documentation**

You will be required to submit your CV/resume and unofficial or official transcripts from your university via e-mail after completing this form. Your application will not be processed without this additional information.

Please provide the names and contact information (e-mail and/or phone number) for three references who can speak to your character and work ethic. *Note: the selection committee reserves the right to approach anyone who may be able to provide a reference on the applicant.*

**Confirmation**

Once you have completed the application form (<https://fundthefood.com/application/>) in its entirety, you will e-mail your CV/resume and transcripts to bgkirchner@fundthefood.com.

**Final Questions**

As an applicant to our program, you have the option to participate in the Kirchner Investment Academy, a "bootcamp" style training over a short, 2-3 day period. Are you interested in participating? (If so, we will contact you via the information previously provided). *(multiple choice question on form)*

Lastly, we'd really love to know: how did you find out about this opportunity?

**This is a worksheet for you to use and compose your responses offline. In order to apply you must complete application form at** [**https://fundthefood.com/application/**](https://fundthefood.com/application/)