



Urban Farm Apprenticeship Application

General Apprenticeship Description

Grow Pittsburgh is a non-profit organization with a mission to teach people how to grow food and promote the benefits that gardens bring to our neighborhoods. At Grow Pittsburgh's production sites, we grow seedlings, vegetables, and fruits naturally without synthetic pesticides or fertilizers. The produce is sold to the community through a seasonal farm stand and to restaurants in the Pittsburgh area.

The apprentice will learn varied aspects of small-scale, sustainable, urban produce production. Additional tasks will include attending educational field trips and undergoing additional educational curriculum.

Qualifications

Applicants do not need to have a background in farming or gardening. We are looking for the following qualifications:

- Be 18-25 years old (exceptions made for highly motivated adults ages 26+)
- Strong interest in Grow Pittsburgh's mission and vision.
- Positive, outgoing, self-motivated and hardworking.
- Excellent planning and organization skills
- Quick learner
- Able to follow directions and work as a team
- Willingness to work in the greenhouse, outdoors in the garden, and indoors in an office setting
- Desire to interact and work with people on a daily basis

Apprenticeship Details

Hours	This apprenticeship averages 20 hours/week for 11 weeks
Location	There are two different sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braddock Farms (Braddock, PA) • Frick Greenhouse and Shiloh Farm (Point Breeze/Homewood)
Schedule	<p>20 hours per week</p> <p>Tuesdays: 7.5 hours (9 am- 4:30 pm)</p> <p>Wednesdays: 5 hours (8:30am - 1:30 pm)</p> <p>Thursdays: 7.5 hours (9 am- 4:30 pm)</p> <p>Occasional Saturdays Required</p>
Duration	April 3rd to June 14, 2018 (11 weeks) <p>MUST BE ABLE TO COMMIT TO THE ENTIRE APPRENTICESHIP NO EXCEPTIONS</p>
Compensation	\$10/hour

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS

Skills the Apprentice Can Expect to Learn

Planning

- Seed selection and estimation of quantity needed
- Crop rotation
- Soil test interpretation

Soil Building

- Creating and using compost
- Adding amendments
- Mulching
- Cover cropping

Planting

- Bed preparation
- Direct-seeding techniques
- Transplanting techniques
- Seeding for Transplants
- Propagation from cuttings
- Understanding and following seeding schedules
- Succession planting

Crop Maintenance

- Weed ID and weeding tactics
- Cultivation
- Watering and irrigation
- Trellising
- Fertilizing
- Crop management based on growing conditions
- Correct tool and equipment usage and maintenance
- Season extension practices

Pests, Beneficials, & Disease

- Common vegetable pest and beneficial insect ID
- Common vegetable disease ID
- Control of pests and disease through organic management techniques

Harvesting and Processing

- How and when to harvest
- GP produce specifications, including processing and packaging guidelines

Marketing

- understand general marketing techniques used to distribute farm produce through:
 - Farm Stand: direct to customer
 - CSA: direct to customer
 - Penn's Corner Farm Alliance: restaurant and individual customer sales through a farm cooperative
 - Direct to restaurant

Record-Keeping and Evaluation

- Day to day, on-farm record keeping
- Seed inventory
- End of season variety evaluation

General

- Understanding of main tenets of organic farming
- Comprehension of key vocabulary terms
- Awareness of current organic growing philosophies

Grow Pittsburgh Apprenticeship Applicant Information

Please complete by being typed or using blue or black ink

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please Check Preferred Apprenticeship Location:

- Braddock Farms (Braddock, PA)
- The Frick Greenhouse and Shiloh Farm (Homewood/Point Breeze)
- No Preference

Employment and Education Experience

Please list your employment history. This may include volunteer work experience.

Employer 1: _____ Job Title _____

Address: _____ City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Supervisors Name _____

Reason for leaving: _____ Dates Employed: _____ to _____

Employer 2: _____ Job Title _____

Address: _____ City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Supervisors Name _____

Reason for leaving: _____ Dates Employed: _____ to _____

Employer 3: _____ Job Title: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Supervisors Name _____

Reason for leaving _____ Dates Employed: _____ to _____

Education

School Attended: _____ Years: _____

School Attended: _____ Years: _____

Qualifications

Please circle or check YES or NO on all of the following questions

I am at least 18 years olds	YES	NO
I am able to lift at least 25 lbs.	YES	NO
I am able to stand, stoop, kneel, and bend repeatedly as needed in performing activities associated with this work, for hours at a time.	YES	NO
I am able to dedicate at least 20 hours per week for 12 weeks including Saturdays occasionally	YES	NO
I am prepared to work in extreme indoor and outdoor conditions: heat, cold, rain	YES	NO

Questions

Please respond to these questions in the space provided. If you need more space, feel free to use the lines on the next page of the application.

1. What are your hobbies and personal interests?	
2. Why are you interested in this position?	
3. Are you interested in farming/gardening? Have you gardened before?	
4. What do you hope to do in the future and how might this apprenticeship help you reach your future goals?	



References

Please list the contact information for two different people that can be contacted to provide either character or employment references (at least one employment reference). If you do not have an appropriate employment reference please include an education reference (i.e. past teacher).

Note: References will not be contacted until after an in-person interview has taken place.

Reference 1 :

- Personal/character reference
- Employment reference
- Education reference

Reference Name

Relationship to Applicant (former employer, teacher, etc....)

Reference Phone number

Reference email address (optional)

Reference 2 :

- Personal/character reference
- Employment reference
- Education reference

Reference Name

Relationship to Applicant (former employer, teacher, etc....)

Reference Phone number

Reference email address (optional)

To Apply

Deadline: All applications must be received by March 5th, 2017.

Option 1: Email a completed application to Robert Grey at: Robert@growpittsburgh.org
Please note in your email subject line: "Urban Farm Apprenticeship"

Option 2: Mail or deliver a completed application to Robert Grey at:

Robert Grey

Grow Pittsburgh

6587 Hamilton Ave. #2W

Pittsburgh, PA 15206

I CERTIFY that answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I authorize investigations of all statements contained in the application for employment as may be necessary in arriving at an employment decision. I understand that this application is not intended to be a contract of employment. In the event of acceptance into the Urban Farmers Apprenticeship Program, I understand that false or misleading information given on my application or interview may result in removal or dismissal.

Signature _____ **Date** _____