



Grow Pittsburgh Pre-Apprenticeship at Shiloh Farm Instructions and Application

What is the Pre-Apprenticeship?

- The pre-apprenticeship is a program in partnership with [Pasa Sustainable Agriculture](#) for those who have little or no growing experience but are interested in **exploring a farming career**. Completing this pre-apprenticeship will give you the required experience to participate in [Pasa's Diversified Vegetable Apprenticeship](#), which provides paid intensive farmer training by pairing participants with farms with a proven track record and a farmer-led, expert-designed curriculum.
- The curriculum is based on the core duties and skills for Pasa's vegetable farming apprenticeship program such as plant propagation, soil fertility, crop planning, harvest and post-harvest handling, and more. More details on the pre-apprenticeship can be found here:
<https://pasafarming.org/soil-institute/farmer-training-development/diversified-vegetable-pre-apprenticeship/>
- Participants commit to at least 4 hours a week from April 16-Nov 12, 2023, helping with: preparing fields, plantings, cultivation, harvesting and packaging crops to be distributed in the communities surrounding our farms at farm stands, donations to local groups, and other outlets.
- To graduate from the program, a pre-apprentice must complete **225 hours** of on-the-job training and **25 hours** of related technical instruction. Pre-apprentices can choose to work a weekly **4-hour shift** or **8-hour shift**. Please note that 4-hour shifts will require **two seasons** to complete the hour requirements and graduate from the program.

Benefits

- Participants receive a **weekly CSA share** of our produce in exchange for 4 hours of help. This will likely include seedlings and mushrooms in the spring before we start harvesting for farm stand season.
- **Membership to Grow Pittsburgh.** Membership includes: free admission to Grow Pittsburgh workshops, membership to our [Garden Resource Center](#), and a t-shirt.
- **Free admission to:** Pasa workshops and the annual [Pasa conference](#) in Lancaster, PA
- Participants gain valuable experience working side by side with Grow Pittsburgh farmers.

Requirements

- Pre-apprentices must commit to a whole season.
- Must be prepared to work outside in all types of weather including heat and rain, where you'll be on your feet and moving for hours at a time.
- Requires bending, kneeling, squatting, or lifting loads up to 40 lbs.

What's Next?

- Complete and submit the application below by March 22nd to silvan@growpittsburgh.org



Grow Pittsburgh Shiloh Farm Pre-Apprenticeship Application

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address (Street, City, Zip Code): _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please indicate which of the following shifts you would prefer. Select all if there is no preference.

Tuesdays 9 am to 1pm	Tuesdays 12 pm to 4 pm	Tuesdays 9 am to 5 pm	Wednesdays 8 am to 12 pm	Wednesdays 12 pm to 4 pm	Wednesdays 8 am to 4 pm

Why are you interested in a pre-apprenticeship at Grow Pittsburgh?

Do you plan on going on vacation this summer? (It's ok, we just want a heads up about your plans! Please indicate the approximate dates you'll be unavailable.)
