

Position Title:

Farm Apprentice

Position Details:

Three (3) full-time, seasonal Farm Apprentices, April through November

Farm Apprentices are involved in almost every aspect of the farm's operation, from weeding to selling at weekly Farmers' Markets. Farming is a lifestyle that requires rigorous work but is also very rewarding.

During the early season we hold informal classes on various aspects of farming. Much of the learning during the rest of the season is hands on and in the field. Among other things, we discuss details of financial planning, crop planning, planting and greenhouse schedules, animal care, grazing management, equipment use and maintenance, and anything else Apprentices express specific interest in. Ultimately, how much an Apprentice gains from this experience is up to them and their level of motivation to ask questions and get information.

The typical schedule is five days a week, Monday through Friday, alternating shifts at the Farmers' Markets, CSA pickups on Wednesdays and rotating weekly animal chores.

Responsibilities can at times be physically demanding, so all candidates must be capable of lifting heavy and awkward items up to 50 lbs., capable of performing repetitive tasks with endurance, and able to work for long durations even in inclement weather.

Please note: Candidates must be able to lift 50 pounds and move heavy items. If you have a history of chronic back pain, hand or wrist pain or other serious physical ailments or limitations, this position would not be a good fit for you.

Responsibilities:

- Transplanting
- Hand-weeding
- Harvesting
- Produce washing and processing
- Packing for CSA, wholesale and Farmers' Market
- General farm labor as needed

Qualifications:

- Prior experience that is applicable to this position (farming/produce) is desired but not a must
- Punctuality and strong time management skills
- Positive and energetic disposition with strong interpersonal skills and ability to communicate well
- Maintain a clean and sanitary working environment
- Ability to work well in both a team setting and independently
- Attention to detail, fast learner and ability to adapt to new positions and working with new people
- Ability to take direction, accept constructive feedback and to ask for help when needed
- Ability to work for long durations in inclement weather
- Ability to perform and endure repetitive physical work

- A desire to learn farm work
- A valid driver's license and a clear background check

Physical Requirements:

- Ability to repeatedly lift 50lbs
- Ability to repeatedly kneel, bend, and squat
- Ability to withstand exposure to varying weather conditions
- Ability to withstand prolonged standing or walking

Schedule:

40-45 hours per week, with no more than 80 hours worked in a 2-week period (hours can change with the seasons). We work Monday through Friday with the work day starting at 7:00 am and ending at 4:00 pm, though some days might be different due to weather conditions. Rotating hours on weekends for Farmers' Markets. We have a 1 hour lunch each day. (For example, we might start earlier on days of extreme heat or work a little later if the next few days will be rainy).

Compensation and Benefits:

After a Trial Period of one month, Apprentices receive a monthly stipend of \$600 (subject to taxes). Payday is the last Friday of each month. Workers' Compensation is provided, which covers medical bills and lost income from work-related injuries, but no other benefits are offered.

Apprentices live in shared housing on the farm. The staff farmhouse includes private furnished bedrooms, and shared bathroom, kitchen and living space. Electric, internet, laundry facilities and wood for heating are provided. Apprentices have access to farm produce and eggs throughout the season.

Reports to:

Farm Managers

To Apply:

Please complete an application, resume upload, and 3 references using the forms on our website at www.robinettefarms.com/job-descriptions. Please email a letter of interest to:

Chloe Diegel and Alex McKiernan

Robinette Farms

farmers@robinettefarms.com

The responsibilities & duties listed above are intended to communicate general priorities of this position, but should not be understood as an exhaustive list of all work requirements to be completed at Robinette Farms. Farms require flexibility! We are committed to training, developing, and promoting from within the company based on performance. Robinette Farms provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics, marital status, or sexual orientation.