



KEEP GROWING DETROIT 2020 FARM APPRENTICESHIP

The KGD Farm Apprenticeship is a 30-week, paid training opportunity for established Detroit-based growers that are over the age of 21. The program is designed to help established growers further develop the skills and connections that they need to develop a successful farm business in the city. Apprentices will work one full day per week at the KGD Farm between April and October. Each week's curriculum will include a mix of fieldwork and classroom instruction, with time for reflection and dialogue with instructors and other cohort members. There will also be periodic guest lectures, farm tours, and dedicated time to work on farm business plans.

Program Expectations & Schedule

Apprentices are expected to provide their own transportation to and from the KGD Farm. Apprentices are required to show up to work on time, actively participate until the end of the work day, and be fully committed to their work responsibilities for the duration of the program. There will also be some required off-site coursework and reading assignments.

- Tuesdays, 9am - 5pm @ The KGD Farm, 1850 Erskine Detroit, MI 48207
- April 7th - October 27th
- \$15 per hour, 1x monthly pay schedule

Curriculum Overview

Hands-on learning will include:

- Transplant Production
- Bed Preparation and Planting
- Hoophouse Planning and Production
- Weeding and Field Management
- Watering and Irrigation
- Harvest and Post-Harvest Handling
- Pest ID/Management and Soil Fertility
- Advanced Farm Tools

Classroom instruction will include:

- Navigating Local and Federal Resources for Farmers
- Marketing Strategies
- Accounting and Invoicing
- Farm Food Safety
- Crop and Business Planning
- Farm Record Keeping
- Budgeting
- Climate Smart Farming Strategies

In addition to weekly activities, participants can expect to receive individualized support based on their unique business needs. This support could include assistance with crop mix and scheduling, marketing strategies, financial planning, and/or applying for grants or loans.

Selection Criteria and Requirements

The 2020 cohort will be selected from applicants who meet all or most of the following criteria:

- Must be a Detroit, Highland Park, or Hamtramck resident with 3+ years of growing vegetables for market
- Demonstrated commitment to developing a farm business in Detroit
- Able to attend all program related activities
- Past or current participation in Grown In Detroit or demonstrated sales experience
- Current participation in the Garden Resource Program
- Able to lift 50lbs, and complete rigorous and repetitive farm tasks in all weather conditions

Application Deadline

Completed applications are due no later than March 5th, 2020. Applications may be sent by mail to Keep Growing Detroit, 1445 Adelaide, Detroit 48207 or by e-mail to Molly@keepgrowingdetroit.org. Completion of application does not guarantee a spot in the apprenticeship. Only potential interviewees will be contacted.

If you have questions about KGD's Farm Apprenticeship please contact Molly Hubbell at 313-656-4769.

Application

Please answer the following questions regarding your farming experiences, personal business goals, and interest in this program. **Applicants are encouraged to attach and submit additional pages if space is too limited.**

Name: _____ Garden Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City/ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____ Website/FB: _____

Are you a GRP member (circle one)? YES NO If yes, for how many years? _____

Describe the size and location of your farm: _____

How long have you been farming in the city? Have you participated in any other farm training programs? _____

Do you currently specialize in any areas of production (vegetables, flowers, fruit, transplants etc.)? _____

Please list any sales experience that you have (GID, farmers markets, direct sales, wholesale, etc.): _____

What do you hope to gain from this program? _____

Do you currently have a business plan for your farm (circle one)? YES NO

If YES, where do you see yourself and your farm business in 5 years? _____

Are there any immediate resources that your farm needs to become a successful farm business?

KGD may be able to match apprentices with individual learning opportunities to support their farm business. Of the following topics which would you be most interested in learning? (check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media/Networking | <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Catchment Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Profitable Farm Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Season Extension |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry | <input type="checkbox"/> Herbal Products | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching/Public Speaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Engine Repair | <input type="checkbox"/> Crop Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Microgreens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Plants | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Loan Options |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Ownership | <input type="checkbox"/> Applying for Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perennial Fruit Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Hoop House Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Value added Food Products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bee Keeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Transplant Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydroponics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CSA management | <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Husbandry/Slaughter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mushroom Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaponics | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |