



SEED CREW WORKER REFERENCE

The Food Project • 10 Lewis Street • Lincoln, MA 01773

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

1. Write YOUR NAME HERE: _____
2. Give this form to an adult who knows you well but who is not a member of your family, such as a teacher, coach, employer, minister, etc. You may make copies of this form to give to more than one adult.
3. Explain to that person why you want to work for The Food Project.
4. Ask that person to fill out the reference and mail, scan and email, or fax it to The Food Project.

**ALL REFERENCES
& APPLICATIONS
due by
March 13, 2017**

TO BE COMPLETED BY REFERENCE WRITER

Thank you for taking the time to offer your perspective on this youth! Please follow these steps:

1. Read the fact sheet included with this reference form.
2. Submit the requested information below, including additional information about the youth in support of their application.
3. Mail this reference form to:

Attn: Seed Crew
The Food Project
10 Lewis Street
Lincoln, MA 01773

Or, it can be scanned and emailed to seedcrew@thefoodproject.org, or faxed to 781-259-9659.

If you have any questions, contact us at 781-259-8621 x 23.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Title: _____ Organization/School: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to be contacted about recruiting youth for Seed Crew? Yes: No:

The Food Project works with a diverse groups of youth. We are looking for youth who want to make a substantial commitment of time and energy. Within this group, we accept at-risk, middle of the road and high achieving young people. There is no right answer to these questions. Please be honest and transparent in your assessment of the youth's abilities as it will help us build a well-rounded Seed Crew.

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TO BE COMPLETED BY REFERENCE WRITER (cont'd)

How long have you known this young person and in what context?

Is it likely that this young person will be required to attend summer school this summer? Yes: No:
N/A:

Seed Crew works in teams of young people from the city and suburbs. Has this young person spent significant time outside of their own neighborhood or cultural context? Yes: No: N/A:

Please explain:

Compared to other youth, how would you rate this young person in terms of:

No Basis		Below Average	Average	Very Good	Outstanding
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Concern for others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Making & upholding commitments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Working in groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Accepting direction from adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please use the space below (or additional pages if desired) to add comments regarding your answers above or to offer any additional information that you feel is important about this young person.



FACT SHEET FOR SEED CREW WORKER REFERENCE WRITERS

For more information, visit thefoodproject.org/seedcrew

Since 1991, The Food Project has brought together youth from cities and suburbs to make a difference in the lives of people in eastern Massachusetts. Young people connect powerfully with the land by growing thousands of pounds of vegetables on suburban and urban farms, learn about themselves and each other, develop strong workplace skills, explore social justice and food access issues, serve others, work hard, and have fun!

Who Do We Hire?

- Youth, ages 14-17
- Youth from the communities where we farm in Greater Boston and on the North Shore

Why Do We Hire Them?

- Part of our mission is to bring together the most diverse group of youth that we can
- We hire a mix of high-achievers, youth struggling to get by, and youth walking the middle road. Our goal is to break down the walls that exist between these youth by having them work together
- We are looking for youth who are excited about our mission and have a willingness to work hard and learn

What Do They Do?

- Work full-time for six and a half weeks, from the beginning of July through mid-August
- Learn to grow vegetables on urban and suburban farms
- Serve each Wednesday in a hunger relief organization preparing or distributing the food they have grown

How is Seed Crew Structured?

- Seed Crew is highly structured and supervised
- Youth work in crews of 13 – 15 youth with one college-aged leader
- Crews stay together for the entire summer—and each crew is very diverse
- Each youth signs a standards contract at the beginning of the summer, and receives weekly feedback from their leader; each youth receives feedback from their peers as well
- Youth receive a \$275 stipend every week, which is paid bi-weekly, and a monthly MBTA transportation pass

What Happens Over the Summer?

- This is a youth development opportunity as well as a job
- At the beginning of the summer, each youth sets personal goals which are supported by each member of the crew
- Workshops are held to address food system and social justice issues, such as food access, personal identity, and group affiliation
- Each week focuses on a theme that may include, community, initiative, courage and more
- Daily team-building activities

How Can You Help?

Each year we receive many more applications than we can accept. Only applicants with completed applications and references are interviewed. For the sake of this young person, please be sure to get your reference to us as soon as possible. We also encourage you to check in with this young person throughout the summer, should they be accepted. Thank you for all your help!