

GROWER'S ASSISTANT - BOSTON

Who We Are

Youth. Food. Community. Three important issues that intersect in one place: The Food Project. Through our programs, we bring together youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build local and sustainable food systems. While we produce healthy food for residents of the city and suburbs, we consider our hallmark to be our focus on identifying and transforming a new generation of leaders by placing teens in unusually responsible roles, with deeply meaningful work. These young people inspire and support others to create change in their own communities.

We believe that food is a unique vehicle for creating personal and social change. Nothing else ties us so intimately to each other and the planet we share, affecting our health, the climate, culture, and global poverty. If we—young and old from all walks of life—can unite to change the food system, we can change the world.

What We Seek

The Food Project is seeking a Grower's Assistant for our Boston farm for the 2017 season. The Grower's Assistant will work at The Food Project's site in the Dudley neighborhood – which includes 2 acres of urban farming land and a 10,000-square foot greenhouse. Our urban farms and greenhouse produce over 30,000 pounds of produce each year which are sold through our neighborhood farmer's markets and to restaurant partners as well as donated to hunger relief organizations and community partners. This is a Tuesday through Saturday position ideal for an outgoing candidate passionate about urban farming and food justice. Our growing is done in partnership with youth and volunteers, so a candidate must have a passion for teaching and leading others. Our youth and neighbors reflect a multitude of diverse cultural, racial and socio-economic backgrounds, and candidates with experience working in multicultural settings are strongly preferred.

The Grower's Assistant will work in partnership with the Boston Farms Manager overseeing production on two urban farm sites throughout the season, including field preparation, planting, cultivation, harvest, and ongoing maintenance. The Grower's Assistant will also be the lead staff overseeing the management of two weekly farm stands starting in June. During July and August, the Grower's Assistant will lead once a week field work with participants in our Seed Crew, an intensive 6-week summer job for teenagers. This work is done in partnership with dedicated youth development staff. The Grower's Assistant also plays a lead role in ensuring strong coordination between youth crew staff and farm operations. In the spring and fall, the Grower's Assistant will lead volunteer groups in farm work 1-2 days each week, and will work with individual volunteers an additional 1-2 days/week.

In addition, the Grower's Assistant will collaborate with the Dudley Farms Manager to support other aspects of the Dudley farm operations as needed, including:

- Seeding and assisting with management of 4000 square feet of greenhouse tomato production
- Delivery of produce to local restaurants and hunger relief organizations
- Supervising a Northeastern University co-op student who assists with farms and markets
- Participation in regular staff meetings and trainings



Applicants for this position should have high energy for and interest in sustainable agriculture and youth development, as well as a commitment to teamwork. They should also have creative energy for making a difference in the world and a passion for the vision of The Food Project. This position is well-suited to an individual with at least one season of experience working on a production farm who is ready to take on a leadership role in implementing an aggressive farm plan, with close oversight and support from an experienced grower. This schedule for this position is Tuesday-Saturday.

Required Qualifications:

- At least one season of field experience on a production farm
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Dependability, responsibility, independence, and openness to learning
- Ability to work a Tuesday-Saturday schedule throughout the season. Once the farmers markets start, the grower's assistant will work a long Thursday (8 to 7:30), and a shorter Friday and Saturday
- Valid driver's license and ability to drive in the city

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience working with or teaching youth in outdoor settings
- Experience leading groups safely and productively
- Experience working in multicultural community settings
- Knowledge of Spanish or Cape Verdean Creole

Compensation

This is a full-time, seasonal position from April 1 – November 4th, 2017, with a salary of \$600 per week. The compensation package includes worker's compensation and employer-sponsored health insurance. The Grower's Assistant has 4 paid holidays (Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day and Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day), which can be taken on the day of the holiday, or amassed in order to take a longer holiday over the course of the summer.

Recruitment Process

We will review all submissions, identify viable candidates and contact ONLY those individuals selected to continue in the search process. Interviews will start in mid-January and continue until a desired candidate is found.

Please send resume and cover letter via email to: jobs@thefoodproject.org. In the subject line, write your name and the position for which you are applying, eg: "Will Smith – Boston Grower's Assistant".

Electronic submission is greatly preferred, or correspondence can be mailed to:
Human Resources, The Food Project
10 Lewis Street
Lincoln, MA 01773
Or fax to: (781) 259-9659

The Food Project is an Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to creating a multicultural organization. We actively seek a diverse pool of candidates for this position.

