

FARM EDUCATOR INTERN



ABOUT SEEDS AND ITS MISSION

Located in a historically marginalized neighborhood of Northeast Central Durham, SEEDS empowers youth and dismantles institutionalized racism in the Food System by teaching participants how to grow and cook food, by sharing food with their families and communities, and by providing the opportunity to sell the produce they grow at market and to our partners. The SEEDlings Program is for youth ages 6-10. The SAPLINGs Program is for youth ages 11-13. The DIG Program is for youth ages 14-21.

ABOUT THE FARM EDUCATOR INTERN POSITION

Reporting to the Farm Manager/Educator, this role's primary responsibilities are to assist the Farm Manager/Educator and Co-Farm Educator in providing outdoor educational programming for the SEEDlings Program (ages 6-10). Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Assisting the Farm Manager/Educator and Farm Educator with their lessons on farming and sustainability.

- a) These lessons involve outdoor activities, usually only in fair weather, and may require physical labor.
- b) Helping students understand the activities and engaging with those struggling one-on-one is a major component of lesson-execution
- c) After one month, the Farm Educator Intern will work with the Farm Manager/Educator and Farm Educator to plan and execute three (3) lessons of their own on topics they feel comfortable sharing with youth. These lessons may cover basic farm skills, such as tool use, concepts related to or impacted by agriculture, or sustainability.

A little more about the SEEDlings Program: SEEDlings learn both hands-on skills in growing their own food, as well as some of the basic scientific concepts behind doing so, such as:

- i) soil composition, composting, and managing different types of soil,
- ii) critters on the farm and the farm's ecosystem,
- iii) plant needs and the water cycle/water usage,
- iv) seasonality and companion planting,
- v) and others as identified by the FM/E or the Programming Team.

Required Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:

The Farm Educator Intern will be inspired by our mission, have excellent people skills, and have the ability to relate to youth, ideally having experience working with Youth of Color and/or people living under Food Apartheid (sometimes called Food Deserts). They will have strong

communication skills, patience, and will know how and when to show empathy and active listening skills. Some farming or vegetable gardening experience is strongly preferred. Farm knowledge can be acquired on the job but it will be difficult to follow lessons without a foundation.

The Farm Educator will be able to work as a team to execute lessons successfully, and be able to adapt when lessons are not going successfully.

Working Conditions

This position is physically active. The Farm Educator Intern must be able to stand and walk for long periods of time, to bend at the knees and hips and to lift at least 30 pounds overhead. They must also be able to physically exert themselves for at least two (2) hours, using heavy farm implements such as hoes and shovels.

This position is a part-time position with “after-school” hours: 2:30-5:30pm, at least three days per week (Monday through Friday). The position may be filled by two people with non-overlapping schedules if necessary/possible.

Compensation

Internship is unpaid; there is a possibility, however, for this position to segue to paid full-time work with benefits, starting Summer 2020.

Please submit a cover letter and resume with at least two references (at least two professional/academic) to thyde@seedsnc.org. No phone calls please.

We value a diverse workforce and an inclusive culture and encourage applications from all interested persons, including people of color, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ individuals.