



VIVA FARMS

Position: Viva Farms King County Farm & Education Assistant

Reports to: King County Farm & Education Manager

Location: Woodinville, WA

Compensation: Salary Full-time Exempt, DOE, Benefits Package, Paid Time Off

Farm Overview & Position Summary

Viva Farms aims to preserve sustainable farming and create a more resilient and just local food system. Viva Farms empowers aspiring and limited-resource farmers by providing training in organic farming, as well as access to all the essential resources needed to run a successful farm.

The Viva Farms King County Student Farm & Farm Incubator is a 10-acre farm and training facility in the Sammamish Valley. At the farm, students attain practical ‘seed-to-sales’ experience and farmers launch new businesses with Viva’s support. Program participants learn to grow annual and perennial crops using sustainable and certified organic methods and learn the skills to grow successful farm businesses. Both farm programs have access to arable land, essential infrastructure, and a suite of equipment and tools for use in small-scale farm production.

The Farm & Education Assistant will assist in the operation of the agricultural campus and training facility including both the 1-acre Student Farm and 9-acre Farm Incubator programs. In addition, the Farm & Education Assistant will execute a variety of education and training objectives while pursuing community relations and fulfilling grant objectives.

Essential Responsibilities

- General Farm Operations – Sustain and develop farm-site infrastructure, equipment, and tools; restore and enhance farmland soil health and biological diversity; comply with Organic, GAPs, and other certifications; operate heavy equipment, including tractors
- Student Farm Program – Assist with farm production and operations (crop planning; succession planting; weeding and IPM; harvesting and packing; sales and distribution) and integrate education programs’ objectives and activities
- Farm Incubator Program – Assist in establishing and supporting new and existing incubating farm businesses; administer handbook policies and equipment and facility logs; provide on-going, technical assistance and participate in ongoing monthly meetings
- Education Programs
 - Practicum in Sustainable Agriculture (PSA) – Assist in instructing the 8-month, on-farm, training program in sustainable and certified organic agricultural production, management, and entrepreneurship
 - Workshops – Develop and implement workshops and associated materials, resources, activities, and evaluations for students and incubator farmers

- Volunteers – Promote and coordinate year-round volunteer opportunities for community members and K-12, college, and university students and educators
- Research, tours, and guest speaking – Facilitate student research, host on-farm tours, and guest speak at workshops, conferences, and other special events
- Outreach and Community Relations – Maintain and develop relationships or partnerships with neighboring, King County, and western Washington farmers and sustainable agriculture and food system organizations, businesses, academic programs, and government agencies; sustain a quality presence through social media and public events
- Assist with collecting data and reporting in line with program evaluation and meeting grant requirements
- Other duties as assigned

Required Qualifications

- Critical thinking and problem-solving skills to improve, maintain, and/or repair farm and educational systems
- Excellent written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills, in-person and virtually.
- Mechanical skills, including experience with farm tractors, PTO implements, and other small-scale farm tools
- Ability to self-direct and take initiative
- Direct experience building relationships with farmers, landowners, agricultural and conservation organizations, and/or academic institutions
- Collaborative, team player with a sense of humor and ability to maintain a positive attitude
- Lived experience and/or training exploring principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice
- Ability to lift up to 40 lbs repeatedly. Willingness to work in all weather conditions
- Ability to work evenings and weekends, as needed, especially during the farming season.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience with curriculum development and facilitation (formal or informal)
- Knowledge of agricultural communities and food systems in the Pacific Northwest
- Inclusive leadership and management skills
- Language proficiency in Spanish, Hmong or other common languages of non-English speaking communities in King County
- Proficiency with Microsoft applications and cloud-based programs, such as Google

Education & Experience

- 2+ years farming, teaching, and/or other related experience
- Experience with certified organic row crop production, preferably in the Pacific Northwest.

Benefits / Why Apply.

- The salary range for this position is: \$39,000-\$43,000 per year
- Viva Farms offers a competitive benefits package, including health care and retirement
- Paid Time Off and Paid Holidays

- Be a part of a purpose-driven, knowledgeable, experienced and positive team
- Take part in a vision and mission that supports social and environmental sustainability
- Gain experience outdoors on a certified-organic, working farm
- Free organic produce from the farm
- Flexible scheduling

At Viva Farms, we are committed to creating and sustaining an inclusive culture that values diversity and where everyone feels empowered to bring their authentic selves to work each day. We provide equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, pregnancy, disability, marital status, military status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, or any other status or condition protected by applicable federal, state or local laws, except where a bona fide occupational qualification applies.

If interested, please send a resume and a cover letter explaining why you would be a great fit for this position to jobs@vivafarms.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, however the priority deadline to apply is February 25th, 2022.