



Garden Educator at Gardeneers

Who are we? Gardeneers is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to cultivate customized school garden programs to ensure that each space and the students and communities who care for it connect with healthy food and grow to their full potential. Founded in 2014, we now sustain school gardens and farms on the south and west sides of Chicago. From Spring through Fall, we work with more than 2,000 students on a weekly basis, teaching about nutrition, community, and nature through hands-on lessons in the garden.

Who are you? First and foremost, you believe in our mission, and you want to work tirelessly towards achieving it. The garden educator role is responsible for ensuring the delivery of high-quality programming across Gardeneers sites by supporting students, schools, and communities. Below are attributes that we have found helpful to ensure the success of the position and thus provide the best program to the students we work with:

Education & Experience (required):

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Passion for Gardeneers mission
- Minimum six (6) months' experience with outdoor growing
- Minimum six (6) months' experience with direct service work with youth in low-income communities

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities (required):

- Self-starter with the ability to excel in unconventional environments
- Strong communication skills
- Good computer skills especially with Microsoft Office (i.e. Excel, Word, etc.) and Google Suite
- Strong work ethic, professionalism, and positive attitude
- Growth mindset
- Ability to lift 35 lbs and be on your feet for an extended period of time

Below are a list of Essential Duties & Responsibilities for the Garden Educator Role:

1. Prepare for and lead garden programming with the assistance of Americorps Service members by creating lesson plans, ensuring all materials and supplies are prepared, and ensuring successful execution of lessons.
2. Provide guidance and mentorship to 1-2 Americorps Service Members to ensure success of school programs and garden spaces.
3. Ensure beauty and productivity of school garden spaces; properly close garden at end of season.
4. Maintain accurate records on each assigned school including, but not limited to: *Eat What You Grow* data, surveys, school and volunteer contact info, pictures of students and gardens, harvest and program logs.
5. Communicate with school staff through email and in person.



6. Coordinate and carry out school community events
7. Participate in various staff meetings and trainings
8. Perform other duties as assigned

Benefits:

- Salaried, escrow position
- Minimum 5 PTO/ sick days, flex time and work from home days available
- Paid holidays and all staff days off as outlined in staff handbook
- \$300/ mo of covered health insurance, options for dental and vision
- Paid Professional Development opportunities
- In-season travel reimbursement up to \$60/mo

Additional Information:

- 9 mo. Employee
- 40 hours per week, set schedule during in-season, flexible option available
- Attend all weekly staff meeting
- Direct Reports: 0
- Travel Requirements: None
- License and Certification Requirements: None

How do you apply? Email Alex (alex@gardeneers.org) with a résumé, cover letter and two (2) references. This is a full-time 9 month position (off December- February). Compensation is dependent upon experience.

Gardeneers provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity, national origin, age, disability or genetics.