



CULTIVATING BERNALILLO COUNTY 'GROW THE GROWERS' PROGRAM

- Farm Training and Business Incubation -



Deadline: November 25, 2022

2023 Full- and Part-Time Internship Application

The Cultivating Bernalillo County *Grow the Growers* program is a comprehensive beginner farmer training and business acceleration initiative designed to attract new and emerging farmers into professional food production. The program is coordinated by Bernalillo County Open Space on county property in conjunction with partner organizations.

Each year, the program accepts Bernalillo County residents as participants into one of three stages – internship, business incubation, and independent business. From March – November, volunteers, interns, and business incubators of the '*Grow the Growers*' program will be based at Hubbell Open Space in Bernalillo County's South Valley.

As farming is resource-intensive and often challenging for new and emerging farmers in Bernalillo County to enter, the program partners are working together to nurture the next generation of food entrepreneurs by providing the following support:

Internship Phase

- One year of practical in-field/on-farm experience
- Educational workshops
- Paid stipends for full-time interns

Business Incubation Phase

- Continued access to affordable land and water on County Open Space
- Ongoing mentoring in small farming techniques
- Continued educational opportunities

Independent Business Phase

- Assistance in connecting with Bernalillo County partners and other agencies to help identify potential, long term access to land and water

Through this process, we develop skills in emerging and entrepreneurial farmers who will go on to support local food production and small business growth. To enhance their educational experience, '*Grow the Growers*' interns will also visit partner farms throughout the County to learn diverse agricultural production and business operation methods.

Through *Grow The Growers*, the County along with partners and collaborators, reach the goal of stewarding natural and cultural resources for the public as well as impacting the local economy and food system for the well-being of the community.

General Requirements**

Bernalillo County Open Space and other funders are investing significant time, energy, and money to provide a supportive learning environment for program participants. In return, interns accepted into the program must be prepared for demanding physical labor both indoors and outdoors, have reliable transportation, and are expected to work in a collaborative and cooperative manner with County staff, program personnel, partner organizations, interns, volunteers, and Incubators.

- Full-time interns make a commitment to participate 40 Hours per week to qualify for stipends (\$13.50/hr).
- Part-time interns make a commitment to participate a minimum of 12 hours per week as volunteers.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FORM LEGIBLY.

Include your resume to this application packet. Attach additional pages if you need more room to answer questions

Name:	Date:
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Physical Address:	Mailing Address: <input type="checkbox"/> check box if same as physical
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Email Address:

Primary Phone:	Secondary Phone:
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Gender (Optional):	Ethnicity (Optional):
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I am applying for	
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Time Intern - 40hrs/wk Commitment	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Time Intern - 12hrs/wk Commitment

Current Employer/Volunteer Organization:	Your Job Title:
Address:	List Days/hours:
Phone Number:	Description of Your Responsibilities:
Contact person*: <i>*May we call this person?</i>	

What is your level of experience in farming or agriculture?
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- None
- Less than 1 year
- 1 to 2 years
- 3 to 4 years
- Other, explain

Please describe your farming and agricultural work/volunteer experiences and any knowledge, skills, and abilities you gained:

What aspects of farming or agriculture do you find challenging?

Please list any certificates, job and life skills training, educational courses, or personal development trainings, which you have completed in the past two years that would demonstrate your willingness and ability to complete a specialized program such as *'Grow the Growers'*?

How will your participation in the program help you achieve personal and professional goals of becoming a food producer or agricultural entrepreneur?

Is there a business concept that you are already working on? If so, please describe.

How will your participation contribute to stewardship of natural resources, continuation of agriculture, and strengthening the Bernalillo County community?

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Please List Three Professional References That We May Contact

Name & Position:	Phone Number:
Email:	City:

Name & Position:	Phone Number:
Email:	City:

Name & Position:	Phone Number:
Email:	City:

How did you learn about the Bernalillo County Grow The Growers program?
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**I understand the General Requirements of the program and that Grow The Growers is a public program of Bernalillo County, a government agency.	
Signature:	Date:

Please email the application (scanned or pdf) to growthegrowers@bernco.gov with the subject line "Grow The Growers Application". Please call if you cannot submit the application via email and need an alternate arrangement.

If you have any questions or do not receive a confirmation of receipt of your application within 48 hours of submittal, please contact Mari Simbaña or Terry Gurule at 505-314-0400.

Thank you for your interest in the 'Grow the Growers' program and your time and effort in completing the application.