



## Food System Educator

**Positions:** Food System Educator

**Reports to:** Youth Grow Manager

**Application deadline:** November 19 (or until filled)

**Term:** Year-round, starts January 3rd, 2022

**Wage:** \$19.10/hour

**Location:** David Douglas High School 1500 SE 130th Ave, Portland, OR 97233

**Schedule:** 28 hours per week. Primarily afterschool hours.

Do you want to join a team of driven educators working to get youth excited about growing food, building community, and advocating for environmental justice?

Growing Gardens uses the experience of growing food in schools, backyards and correctional facilities to cultivate healthy, equitable, communities. We believe that access to nourishing, culturally-appropriate food is a basic human right. We are working to become an anti-racist organization through our programs and internal operations.

Youth Grow is a program of Growing Gardens that collaborates with diverse school communities to develop sustainable garden education programs at 10 schools. We offer interdisciplinary, experiential learning opportunities aimed at helping children connect with nature, and grow and eat their garden harvests.

### What the Role is:

Lead afterschool clubs at David Douglas High School

- Run after school Garden & Cooking Club
- Design curriculum and compile materials
- Support after school student-led Environmental Justice Club
- Keep records of curriculum and participation
- Facilitate connection between teens and Youth Grow elementary programs

Garden Production:

- Garden production- plan for 4 season garden, get plants, plant, water, fertilize, treat for disease and pests, pruning, trellising, tying plants
- Garden maintenance: clean, weed, troubleshoot irrigation, garden beds repair, signage
- Harvest and share: harvest, bag, label, weigh, distribute and record harvests, add recipes and Home Gardens flyer to produce distribution

Lead Internship

- Recruit, interview and hire student interns with the support of Youth Grow supervisors
- Plan and implement 8-week program activities focused on garden production, student leadership and food justice.

9th Grade Counts

- Plan curriculum for 4-week daily gardening elective

- Teach daily program over the summer
- Facilitate mentorship role between student interns and 9th grade students

#### Program Development

- Craft vision for the program development
- Develop relationships with school faculty and staff for integrating garden into classrooms, including Special Education, Natural Resources and Culinary departments
- Coordinate with Schools Uniting Neighborhood (SUN) staff, school administration and faculty to involve new students in programming, purchase materials, coordinate contract and approve infrastructure projects
- Collect feedback from students to inform the program
- Actively participate in Youth Grow meetings and collaborate with other team members
- Network with other programs and partners
- Potentially expand to other high schools or middle schools (with additional hours)

#### What we're looking for:

- Enjoyment of working with teenagers, helping them develop new skills and expand their leadership
- Basic knowledge of growing food in the Pacific Northwest (you do not need to be an expert)
- Interest and curiosity about food systems issues (such as food security, agriculture, workers rights in food production)
- Comfort with cooking from scratch
- Well-organized and detail-oriented
- Experience working with diverse communities, and ability to adapt garden education to meet the needs and interests of multicultural communities
- A passion for the mission of Growing Gardens
- Open and direct communicator, asks questions and works well with a team
- Ability and time to effectively integrate a part time job into current life commitments

#### Experience that we value but is not required:

- Ability to speak another language represented in the school body such as Russian, Spanish or Vietnamese
- Existing connection to this school or neighborhood
- Since we partner with schools in diverse low-income neighborhoods, we especially value candidates with life or work experience in similar neighborhoods
- Community organizing skills and ability to engage with a broad group of community members
- Experience with anti-racism and social justice work

#### Other Requirements:

- Ability to pass background check
- Proof of covid-19 vaccination
- It is helpful to have a vehicle and drivers license to transport garden supplies, and potentially drive students on summer field trips

**Salary and Benefits:** \$19.10/hour to start. Growing Gardens provides a range of benefits dependent upon the number of hours worked, including employer-paid health and dental

insurance, IRA contribution, paid sick time, paid pro-rated vacation and holidays.

**To Apply:** Please send a current resume/list of work experience and a one page cover letter detailing your interest in the position to [apply@growing-gardens.org](mailto:apply@growing-gardens.org) with “Food System Educator” in the subject field. Studies have shown that women and people of color are less likely than white men to apply to jobs where their qualifications don’t match 100% the job description. If you are interested in the position, but don’t meet all of the criteria, we still encourage you to apply. If you have any questions, please reach out to us ([anna@growing-gardens.org](mailto:anna@growing-gardens.org)).

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