

AMERICORPS SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: Assistant Grower

Field of Service: Agriculture

Service Site: Highwater Farm

Address: 7001 Co Rd 346, Silt, CO

Site Supervisor's Name: Sara Tymczyszyn, Executive Director, Highwater Farm

Slot Type: Half Term **Minimum # of hours to complete term:** 900

Start Date: May 20th **End Date:** October 31st

Healthy Futures Program Overview

Localizing our food system is one of the most impactful and actionable steps we can take to solve many of our global problems. Across the central Rocky Mountains and southwestern Colorado, AmeriCorps service with Mountain Roots Healthy Futures Program builds social, economic, and environmental health for rural communities. We work with ten organizations throughout the region who are leaders in their fields, activating community-driven initiatives including Farm to School, Regenerative Agriculture & Community Gardens, Hunger Solutions (Community Food Security), and other programs in public health, conservation, and the environment. Join us for anywhere from one season to up to two years of mentored service, where you'll build a bridge from college to career while building and sustaining healthy communities, healthy people, and a healthy environment.

Highwater Farm Overview

Highwater Farm is growing food, empowering youth, and fueling community on 5 acres in Silt, Colorado. Using sustainable agricultural practices, we steward public land, increase access to healthy local food and engage teens in meaningful work.

Service Description

The Assistant Grower will report directly to the Farm Manager to assist in all areas of field production and help ensure the farm is operating efficiently. Responsibilities include preparation for and management of on-farm CSA distribution and wholesale orders, managing volunteers on the farm, and training/leading youth program participants in field work and farm tasks. This position requires participation and leadership in all aspects of vegetable production and land management on 5 acres. Daily tasks include but are not limited to: seeding; greenhouse management; cultivation and bed prep; transplanting; irrigation; weed and pest management; harvesting, washing and marketing crops.

AmeriCorps Member Duties

- Stay informed of crop production schedules, log data and capture field notes
- Assist Farm Manager in preparation and management of CSA and wholesale accounts
- Ensure youth crew workers, and volunteers are trained and motivated to accomplish scheduled work
- Work alongside crew members to achieve efficient and successful crop production
- Share animal chores, including feeding and watering laying hens, collecting and cleaning eggs, and rotating chicken pasture
- Assist with pest and disease scouting; implement Integrated Pest Management tactics
- Regularly work with drip and overhead irrigation systems
- Manage produce processing, distribution and delivery
- Lead select workshops focused on building introductory knowledge of agriculture and food systems
- Share social media management and provide community with storytelling about the farm and produce sales



Location and Service Conditions:

This position is based at Highwater Farm, 7001 Co Rd 346, Silt, CO 81652. Position will involve frequent days of service outdoors and/or in a school or community building.

Qualifications:

- One season of farming experience or equivalent outdoor exposure.
- Demonstrated flexibility to work with shifting timelines and schedules.
- Ability work under pressure in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to work outside in extreme weather conditions and maintain a positive attitude.
- Strong commitment to organic and sustainable farming practices
- Capacity to uphold high standards set by the organization, and ability to motivate a group of young people while fostering their potential.
- Excellent organizational skills, dependability, flexibility, and capacity to manage time effectively both independently and on group projects.
- Able to lift 50+lbs.
- Valid driver’s license
- Ability to safely operate tractors and other farm equipment preferred, but not required.

AmeriCorps Required Qualifications:

- At least 18 years old at start of service
- Must be a high school graduate, GED recipient, or working toward attaining a high school diploma or GED during the term of service. Members must obtain either a diploma or GED before using an education award.
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States
- Able to pass a National Service Criminal History Check (state, FBI, and National Sex Offender Public Website checks) per 45 CFR 2540.202

Healthy Futures AmeriCorps Program Benefits

- \$13,552.00 Living Allowance - AmeriCorps Member(s) will receive a total stipend paid out bi-weekly at \$797.18 over the course of the term.
- \$4,826.50 Education Award / Tuition Assistance - AmeriCorps Member(s) can receive an Education Award upon successful completion of service. This can be used to pay back student loans, or to further your education.
- Eligible AmeriCorps Members can receive childcare assistance.
- All Members receive professional development and training, plus covered travel costs for attendance at state or regional conferences.
- All members may be eligible for Federal program assistance (SNAP, Medicaid, etc.)
- All members may qualify for student loan forbearance (postponing the payment of loans) while in service.
- Alumni benefits may include priority hiring with organizations that are part of Employers of National Service and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to eliminate educational debt.
- Housing stipend provided to all serving members directly by Highwater Farm

About the Living Allowance

An AmeriCorps Living Allowance is not a wage, salary, or hourly pay. You are enrolling in a SERVICE position, not a job. The Living Allowance is a stipend designed to support the basic necessities of the individual while in service, such as room and board, utilities, and transportation. Carefully consider this when applying.

Place an “X” beside all that apply.

EDUCATION PREFERRED FOR THIS POSITION <i>(select all that apply)</i>	
X	High School Diploma or equivalent
X	Technical / Vocational School or Apprenticeship



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Some College or AA Degree
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bachelor's Degree
	Master's Degree

ESSENTIAL SKILLS			
	Youth Education / Teaching	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Communications
	Environment / Conservation		Community Organizing
	Social Services / Health & Human Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Teamwork
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture, Farming, & Gardening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Outreach & Engagement
	Animal Husbandry		Working with vulnerable populations
	Trade / Construction		Language (<i>specify</i>)
	Cooking		Other [<i>specify</i>]

OTHER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Car Recommended
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permits attendance at school during off hours
	Permits working at another job during off hours
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Typical schedule, Monday-Friday
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flexible hours are required, including some weekends or evenings
	Remote / teleservice is allowed

