

AMERICORPS SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: Food Security Fellow

Western University Graduate Student Position

Field of Service: Food Security

Service Site: Western Colorado University

Address: Chipeta Garden, 1 Western Way, Gunnison, CO 81231

Site Supervisor's Name: Kate Clark

Slot Type: Half Term

Minimum # of hours to complete term: 900

Start Date: January 15th

End Date: December 15th

Program Overview

Localizing our food system is one of the most impactful and actionable steps we can take to solve so 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.

Organization Overview

The Center for Cold Climate Food Security amplifies experiential educational opportunities around high-alpine and cold-climate food production, with the goal of increasing students' food security and preparedness for food system careers. The Organics Guild is a key platform for these objectives, providing students an arena to develop skills around food production, food system resilience, and teamwork.

Service Description

The Cold Climate Food Security Fellow works to serve and expand the Center for Cold Climate Food Security. The position centers are two major roles:

First, serving as the Organics Guild Mentor, the fellow runs the campus gardens. Working in partnership with the OG Garden Co-Directors, mentors are expected to successfully guide and support a team of undergraduate Organics Guild members in this work. The fellow also manages big picture planning. For example, in addition to planning for and managing the campus growing spaces, the OG Mentor plans for the long-term viability of those spaces and the student leadership of the OG. Lastly, the fellow oversees the OG Budget. While consulting the OG leadership team and advisor, the OG Mentor develops a budget strategy to distribute work study and operational funds strategically.

Second, the fellow facilitates and expands the Community Food System internship program for Western undergraduate students. This involves updating and refining internship curriculum, delivering that curriculum as well as onboarding and training procedures, providing support to interns, responding to internship host needs, and identifying new internship hosts. In addition to these major roles, the fellow would explore new educational opportunities for students in the Environment & Sustainability Food Systems Comprehensive Major.



AmeriCorps Member Primary Responsibilities

- Attend Organics Guild club meetings and events
- Take notes and attendance of meetings
- Communicate with OG Faculty Advisor and other campus stakeholders as needed about garden updates and projects
- Help plan workdays (spring cleanup, summer workdays, winterizing)
- Actively create outreach content for the Organics Guild and recruit volunteers, interns, and work-study students
- Work closely with OG Faculty Advisor to hire OG managers and interns
 - Make sure that applicants are excited, motivated, and knowledgeable
 - Take applicants on a tour of the growing spaces to familiarize them and make sure they are comfortable with the tasks associated with being a manager
- Mentor OG undergraduate students to promote learning and success across all garden spaces and in all student and club projects
- Monitor and manage club communications and the OG school email account
- Participate in all OG purchasing activities (communicate with Clark School of ENVS Admin to facilitate purchasing and budget operations).
- Facilitate the Community Food Systems Internship
 - Update curriculum, guided by onboarding and training needs of internship hosts
 - Create opportunities to process applied learning opportunities
 - Provide support and guidance as students step into internship roles
 - Identify and secure new internship opportunities

Location and Service Conditions:

This position is based at Chipeta Garden, 1 Western Way, Gunnison, CO 81231.

Qualifications:

- *Student in the Master of Environmental Management program at Western Colorado University*
- *Interest in helping students learn about and engage in the mission of the Center and OG*
- *Knowledge and expertise in small-scale, experimental, and sustainable food production (cold-climate experience a plus but not required)*
- *Eagerness to build engaging training and onboarding materials for undergraduate interns*
- *Genuine interest in undergraduate student success*
- *Knowledge and interest in project management*
- *Humble leadership*
- *Excellent organization and communication skills*
- *Strong work ethic: eagerness to model independent, hard work in the garden*
- *Ability to problem solve*

AmeriCorps Required Qualifications:

- At least 17 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

Mountain Roots Healthy Futures AmeriCorps Program
 PO Box 323 Gunnison, CO 81230
healthyfutures@mountainrootsfoodproject.org

- \$9,680.00. Living Allowance - AmeriCorps Member(s) will receive total stipend paid bi-weekly at \$403.33 over the course of the term.
- \$3,447.50 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.

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
X	Some College or AA Degree
X	Bachelor's Degree
	Master's Degree

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

OTHER	
	Car Recommended
X	Permits attendance at school during off hours
X	Permits working at another job during off hours
X	Typical schedule, Monday-Friday
X	Flexible hours are required, including some weekends or evenings
	Remote / teleservice is allowed

