

The Aspiring Farmer Fellowship Application

* Required

Your Information

1. Name

2. Address 1

3. Address 2

4. City

5. State

6. Zip Code

7. What is your driver's license number and state of issuance?

N/A if you don't have a driver's license

Emergency Contact

8. Full Name

9. Phone Number

10. Relationship

Education

Please use the space below to briefly list relevant experience. You will have the opportunity to elaborate in the essay section of the application.

11. List any colleges, universities and/or other education institutions you have attended.

12. Describe any relevant experience related to the environment, agriculture, or gardening.

Note: Experience is not a requirement to apply. We pride ourselves on being a starting place.

13. Describe any relevant experience related to social justice or community organizing.

14. List any relevant experience related to conflict resolution, leadership, or intentional communal living.

Health and Wellness

We seek awareness on these matters. No application will be rejected because of a condition or impairment that, with reasonable accommodation, does not prevent the performance of farm responsibilities.

15. Do you have any health needs (physical or emotional) that will require special accommodation in food, housing, transportation, communication or farm work? Please include dietary restrictions.

16. Please list any significant illnesses and/or health challenges, physical or emotional, that you are currently facing or have faced in the past.

17. If you are currently taking any medications, please list here.

Legal History

Having a criminal record does not exclude you from consideration for the Fellowship. Please be aware that we conduct background checks on all Fellows upon enrollment. This is a legal safeguard we have in place due to the communal nature of the program.

18. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

19. If yes, please explain.

20. Do you currently have any legal charges against you? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

21. If yes, please explain.

Fellowship Guidelines

The Aspiring Farmer Fellowship is a structured, intensive program. We provide the following details to help you understand the nature of the Fellowship and help you make an informed decision about applying.

Please click I Agree after each section to indicate your understanding.

22. Commitment *

The quality of the fellowship experience hinges on the commitment levels of all fellows. The commitment made by fellows is participation in all workshops and tours, farm work hours, assigned community engagement activities, house meetings, and evaluations. Fellows are expected to be at all activities unless there is a health issue or family emergency that prevents attendance. The Fellowship programming is rigorous and our days are very full. Through grant funding and community support, we are able to provide housing, stipends, and tuition coverage for fellows in support of personal and professional development and learning while in the fellowship experience. A live-in commitment and 40 hours a week toward farming and community engagement is required for the full duration of the term. There will be some evening and weekend hours during the growing season. We encourage fellows to protect adequate time and energy for engagement in community life, commitment to partnerships, exploration of the city, and to live simply and within the means of the program. We ask fellows to limit substantial regular commitments during the fellowship term.

Check all that apply.

I agree

23. Farming *

In order for the farm to run smoothly, Fellows must take responsibility for their tasks and chores, maintain high quality and speed in tasks, and build relationships over work. Fellows work within varied conditions throughout the fellowship as farming requires physical stamina for tasks that can be repetitive, often done in weather that can be challenging.

Check all that apply.

I agree

24. Community Living & Consent *

Our intention is to support the development of a safe and inclusive community built on mutual trust, deep sharing and listening, and open and direct communication. We also expect Fellows and staff to uphold a culture of consent within the community, particular around touch, offering support, private space (bedrooms) and use of personal items. If there's a conflict between two or more Fellows, or between Fellows and staff that cannot be resolved directly, a mutually agreed upon member of staff, board, or community will mediate between the parties in the conflict.

Check all that apply.

I agree

25. Drugs & Alcohol *

Illegal drugs are not permitted for consumption during Fellowship program hours, nor at any time at the Fellows' residence. There is no smoking of any kind on the property. Limited and responsible consumption of alcohol is allowed in the house during non-program hours for all Fellows who are of age. Both because of liability concerns and the core intentions of the program, that consumption must be limited and responsible. That said, having alcohol in the home at all can be sensitive for many people (reported or not), and this is a house in which all members should feel safe. We request that you have a conversation about this early in the Fellowship, and hold each other accountable to not using alcohol in a manner that makes others feel uncomfortable.

Check all that apply.

I agree

26. Food and Kitchen *

Fellows have a monthly food budget. Food purchasing, cooking, and kitchen organization is done during Fellows' time-off from structured program activities. Food responsibilities, as well as all household duties, are shared among Fellows.

Check all that apply.

I agree

27. Maintenance *

Fellows are expected to help with general upkeep of farm plots and house area including shoveling, mowing, and taking out the trash. These duties are shared amongst fellows. Every month, we perform team home care to address anything slipping past us and to be intentional as a group in caring for our surroundings and living environment.

Check all that apply.

I agree

28. The Residence *

Fellows agree to return their living spaces in the condition they were received at the start of the Fellowship. Any damage to the residence — beyond normal wear and tear — will be charged to the individual Fellow who caused the damage. If damage cannot be attributed to one person, the cost for repair will come out of the collective equally. Fellows agree to the following: 1) Not to hang items on the walls of the residence except in their individual bedrooms or on the mounted cork boards provided without permission from director. 2) To hang items in bedrooms using only the tacks provided. Making tiny holes with these tacks is acceptable. 3) Not to hang any items on the windows or the exterior walls of the residence.

Check all that apply.

I agree

29. Timeliness *

Fellows are required to show up on time for every scheduled activity. Repeated tardiness will lead to termination from the program.

Check all that apply.

I agree

30. Program Dates *

Fellows are expected to participate in the full Fellowship season. Exceptions for starting late or leaving early are rarely made.

Check all that apply.

I agree

31. Changes To The Program *

The activities in which we engage at Big Muddy Urban Farm are chosen based on their ability to meet the environmental, leadership, and community goals of the program. If Fellows come to consensus and present suggested additions or changes to the program, staff will do their best to accommodate those changes within the bounds of the goals, resources, and time of the program.

Check all that apply.

I agree

32. Guest Policy *

Big Muddy Urban Farm has a guest policy designed to protect and ensure the health of each Fellow who dwells in the house, and to support the container of the Fellowship created by the Fellows. The policy sets an upper limit on how long a guest can stay and protocols for their visit. [Click here to view the guest policy.](#)

Check all that apply.

I agree

33. Termination *

Big Muddy Urban Farm makes every effort to ensure a positive and growthful experience for every Fellow and for the Fellowship group as a whole. Big Muddy Urban Farm also recognizes this is not always possible, given individual Fellow's needs and/or expectations. Fellows who are unable to or uninterested in participating fully in the Fellowship experience may be asked to leave the Fellowship. If a scenario arises and a fellow leaves, Big Muddy Urban Farm may enroll a new Fellow to start mid-program, with staff providing dedicated orientation and support, while fellows would be encouraged to provide helpful integration into the program. Additionally, Big Muddy Urban Farm reserves the right to require a Fellow to leave the program if the Fellow is considered to represent a threat to their own well-being or that of the community.

Check all that apply.

I agree

34. Age Range *

The eligible age range for the Fellowship is 20 – 30 years of age.

Check all that apply.

I Verify that I will be within this age range when the program begins.

Short Answer

35. What draws you to the Aspiring Farmer Fellowship and how does it fit into your path?

36. Describe an experience you have had living communally (outside of your family). Please include what was difficult, what you enjoyed, and any insights you gained about yourself.

37. How do you respond to situations of interpersonal or group conflict? What strategies do you employ when you feel challenged?

38. Please list any talents, hobbies, skills, and/ or special interests you would like us to know about or that you would like to share with others at Big Muddy Urban Farm.

References

39. First Reference Name, Phone Number, Email Address

example: 1. Shelly Nick, (555)555-5555, s.nick@email.com

40. Second Reference Name, Phone Number, Email Address

example: 2. Nick Shelly, (555)555-5555, N.Shelly@email.com

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms