

Urban Farm Manager

Food Literacy Center

Sacramento, California



About Us:

At Food Literacy Center, *we inspire kids to eat their vegetables*. Food Literacy Center came to life in July 2011 to fill a critical gap: we engage volunteers and staff to help kids improve their knowledge, attitude, and behavior towards healthy food. Partnering with SCUSD and community partners, we teach food literacy education to K-6th graders in low-income schools, using fun, approachable lessons teaching kids to cook, about nutrition, and how to improve their health. Our kids become food adventurers!

Why our work matters:

- Despite being America's Farm-to-Fork Capital, Sacramento has a 40% childhood obesity rate, and many students and families live in food deserts.
- Obesity disproportionately affects low-income and minority children.
- Obesity is now regarded as more damaging than smoking or drinking.
- Being overweight can negatively impact a child's self-esteem, behavior, and academic performance.
- All of these problems are preventable--if we eat our vegetables. But we have two generations of Americans who do not know how. That's where we come in.

We believe food literacy matters. Learn more about us at www.foodliteracycenter.org.

About this peachy position:

This is an exciting new role at Food Literacy Center as we have just opened our cooking school and 1-acre student farm next to Leataata Floyd Elementary School. The Urban Farm Manager role is a hands-on, get your hands dirty (literally!) role designed to keep our farm site operational for student and community programs. This role reports directly to the Operations Manager.

This role is an exciting opportunity for a results-oriented and thorough professional with a passion for inspiring kids to eat their vegetables and a love of animals.

Here's what you'll do as the Urban Farm Manager:

Project manage the build of the farm to implementation.

- Understand the CEO's dream and vision of the farm and work with contractors, volunteers, and your own hands to make it come to life.
- Work with landscape architects and recruit pro-bono support to build out all aspects of the farm.
- Coordinate with the city, school district, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure appropriate compliance.
- Work with the development team to ensure appropriate recognition of sponsorships.
- Oversee plantings, animal care, construction of fencing and other farm needs,, irrigation, and maintenance of the farm site.
- Design a kid-friendly garden in every aspect of design, implementation and final product.

Provide day-to-day support for all farm management, logistics, and operations.

- Coordinate with program staff to ensure appropriate production schedule and availability for upcoming cooking and garden class schedules.
- Track all supplies needed and related expenses, following grant guidelines.
- Handle cleaning, food preparation, hauling supplies, and other physical labor.
- Assist with the farm curriculum in partnership with the Program Manager.



- Maintain farm so that students and community members are able to grow, harvest and taste local produce.
- Maintain the farm, provide repairs, regular pruning, overall organization, orderliness, cleanliness, and overall health of the farm and farm animals.
- Proactively seek ways to improve the farm to provide best-in-class experiences to students, volunteers, and community members.
- Oversee volunteer work days, including planning work schedules, prep, and logistics.
- Assist with fundraising to keep the farm funded, including online campaigns, grants and grant reporting.

Assist with direct program support as needed.

- Provide training of garden educators, volunteers, and staff to ensure high quality education and experiences.
- Assist with student education and cooking school instruction.
- Provide garden education to students and community members.

Other duties as needed.

You'll exhibit these competencies:

Achievement-orientation:

- Demonstrates an ability to meet and exceed goals and expectations. Lives up to the high standard the community expects of our nonprofit, showing attention to detail. Identifies problems and seeks to solve them quickly. Strategizes ideas for program improvement and communicates ideas effectively with supervisor.

Problem Solving & Decision-Making:

- Demonstrates a strong ability to recognize problems, solve them quickly, and appropriately message changes. Make decisions that consider all stakeholders, and act accordingly.
- Displays comfort with ambiguity but has a strong bias for structure and results. Flexibility, resilience and perseverance when faced with obstacles and competing deadlines with limited resources. Shows sound and thoughtful decision-making ability.

Project Management:

- Demonstrates a strong ability to balance multiple competing priorities daily. Demonstrates an ability to prioritize, and take action accordingly.

Innovative Thinking:

- Demonstrates an ability to create processes and systems to streamline internal operations. Demonstrates a high level of comfort with ambiguity, and an ability to create order. Demonstrates an aptitude for framing problems as opportunities, and always pushing to further streamline.

Positive Attitude:

- Exudes a positive outlook and attitude, especially during stressful or difficult times. Helps maintain the joyfulness of the Food Literacy Center culture.

All about you!

You'll be successful in this position if you:

- Have a deep commitment to the mission of Food Literacy Center
- Have a passion for and experience working with children.
- Have 5-10 years of farming experience planning, planting, and growing food and trees.

- Are highly motivated, able to self-manage, flexible, able to multitask, and maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information
- Reflect our team's values and behaviors
- High degree of comfort with change and ambiguity
- Have an understanding or familiarity with local food, food systems, and nutrition.
- Comfortable working with animals, including daily feeding, watering, waste management, etc.,
- Have a bachelor's degree or equivalent experience



Extra points if you

- Have experience working in a small, entrepreneurial, growing team
- Have experience working with food literacy
- Have experience working with nonprofits
- Have basic cooking skills. (Home cooking is OK!)
- Speak Spanish or Hmong

Other things to know:

We offer a unique, healthy work culture that celebrates teamwork and vegetable eating!

- This is a non-exempt, hourly position that is benefits-eligible. Compensation is competitive with a range of \$26-\$34 per hour DOE.
- Given that we are a start-up nonprofit in growth mode, a flexible schedule is necessary. This position works a Tuesday to Saturday schedule and does require some nights and weekends.
- There is minimal travel required for this position. Expect to travel 1-3 times per year.
- You'll need to be able to lift 50 lbs of food and animals
- This position requires you to travel throughout Sacramento, so a California driver's' license is required
- We love our veggies, so a vegetable costume may be worn on occasion!
- Because food literacy is at our core, we require all employees to successfully complete Food Literacy Academy certification and become a certified food handler. Food Literacy Center will provide the resources to certify you in these areas.
- Additionally, you must pass a Department of Justice background check and have a negative TB test.
- Proof of COVID vaccination is required.

Ready to apply? Great!

Please submit a resume and thoughtful cover letter to amber@foodliteracycenter.org, subject: Urban Farm Manager. In your letter, please describe the most important lesson you have learned as a farmer--and tell us why it's made you a stronger farmer. This position will remain open until filled. *No phone calls, please.*

Food Literacy Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We encourage applicants of a diverse background to apply. Benefits include cell phone reimbursement, health care, and a generous PTO package.