



## **Job Description**

### **Part-Time Farm Educator**

Come grow with us, in a job with a purpose!

A beloved fixture of the MetroWest community, the Natick Community Organic Farm (NCOF) is a non-profit, certified-organic farm focused on educational programs for people of all ages and abilities. Our farm-based, outdoor programs focus on joyful play, purposeful work, and connecting with nature and one another.

We encourage people of any race, background, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or economic status to apply to join our team, whether or not you think you meet every qualification.

#### **The Role:**

NCOF programs are rich in community and connection, both with each other and the natural world. We are seeking teachers for the following programs. Let us know if you're interested in one or more of these opportunities.

- **Afterschool Programs**, for Grades K-4 and/or 5-8: Students spend the afternoon caring for our livestock and tackling other seasonal farm chores. Elementary students will round out the afternoon going for nature hikes, playing farm games like livestock bingo, and/or playing in our nature playscape, while middle schoolers will tackle bigger farm jobs like mucking out animal shelters, pulling small branches out of the stream and/or painting farm signage or the rabbit hutches. Offered Monday - Thursday afternoons from 3:15-4:45 pm.
- **Farming for Homeschoolers**, for ages 5-10 and/or 11-14. Homeschoolers learn the basis of sustainable farming and assist with farm tasks, such as daily animal chores, planting, weeding, harvesting, and more. Homeschool classes meet multiple times per week from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.
- **Family and Group Programs**, for ages 1.5-5, with a caregiver. Outdoor Explore + Play and Wee Farmer classes are about one-hour long programs for our youngest farmers as they are introduced to farm life. We'll wake up the animals and feed them breakfast, and round out the morning with a song, a story, or another seasonal activity. These classes meet multiple times a week.
- **Friday Farmers**, for ages 3-5. We meet on the farm to feed the animals their breakfast before having our snack, then we then hike to the woods for free play the rest of the morning. This class meets Fridays 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.

All of these programs can, and, we hope, *will* incorporate our educator's interests! If there are areas of nature, science, arts/crafts, agriculture, animals, and more, we hope you'll share them with our kids at the farm.

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**Qualifications:**

Ideal candidates are energetic and enthusiastic about kids, nature, and youth development, and can adapt on the fly while prioritizing safety for all (humans and animals). While our educators are independent and creative, they're also part of our all-farm team, so we seek individuals who communicate effectively, ask questions when they don't understand, and are eager to help where needed.

In short: if what we've described above sounds fun, we want to talk with you!

**Must-haves:**

- At least 18 years old.
- Ability and willingness to teach outdoors, in all weather, year-round.
- Have some experience working with children and/or youth. This may be in a professional or volunteer setting.
- Demonstrated communication and collaboration skills.

**Nice-to-haves:**

- Background or education in life, earth, or environmental sciences, agriculture
- Prior teaching experience
- Experience with positive behavior management
- Exposure to and/or experience with outdoor schools, Montessori, Waldorf and/or Reggio Emilia programs

**Logistics and Compensation:**

This is a year-round, hourly position. Pay rate is \$17-19/hour. Precise schedule will depend on the program(s) one is teaching. We are happy to discuss schedules and compensation with you early in the interview process.

**Other Requirements:**

Employees must successfully complete a CORI and SORI Background Check before their first day of work.

**To Apply:**

Again, if what we've described above sounds fun, we want to talk to you! Contact NCOF's Assistant Director, Kirstie Beaton, in any of these ways:

- Submit a brief application [here](#) (no cover letter or resume required)
- If you have one, email Kirstie a resume and/or and a brief cover letter/statement of interest.
- [kirstie@natickfarm.org](mailto:kirstie@natickfarm.org) // 508-655-2204 option #1

You can learn more about us at [natickfarm.org](http://natickfarm.org).