



Program Instructor for Farm To Summer School (Grades 6-8)

Mission: ROOTS is a community-engaged 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to promoting food security. We make healthy food accessible and affordable to our low-income neighbors. We work with Connecticut farmers, food artisans and healthy food advocates. We learn from, work with, and teach with people of all ages. ROOTS provides education programs for K-12 grade students on food justice, sustainable farming, and empowered eating practices.

Farm To Summer School Program: We partner with New Britain Schools to bring food and farming education into the summer school classroom. We serve 120 elementary school students and 34 middle school students attending the summer school session.

Job Description: The Program Instructor will co-teach with a school district teacher for a full day of programming. The team will work with two groups of 17 students in morning and afternoon sessions. Each group will include 8th grade “junior leaders” and two 11th or 12th grade students who will help facilitate the activities in the classroom under the supervision of the teachers. Students will design and implement a community service project related to food and agriculture during a one-hour block two afternoons a week. Additionally, guest speakers will be contracted to provide one-hour sessions in the area of personal finance, mental wellness, health/nutrition, and physical fitness. The idea behind this concept is to give students an exposure to the programming available to the community and increase the connection to the school and local community.

The Instructor will encourage research oriented discussion that examines human impact on ecosystems through the lens of a farmer and discuss the pros and cons of various methods of agriculture. Students will be expected to identify problems, measure impact, analyze data, and test solutions in relation to food production.

The position is full time from **July 17-August 18th, Monday-Friday from 8:30-3:30pm**. The Program Instructor will use lessons that have been approved by the school district and meet the Next Generation Science Standards. Most of these lessons provide training in STEM skills through practical application including; soil testing for vegetable production, water quality testing, plant growth and harvest output, seed germination, and food handling and preparation. Experiential learning will take place inside the High School greenhouse using an aquaponics system and raised bed gardens.

The position is contract, non-staff. Compensation is DOE and includes prep time for lesson planning. All applicants must be able to pass a DCF background check and provide two professional references.

Qualifications: Bachelor’s Degree in education, environmental science, agriculture, natural science or related field OR substitute equivalent experience in a job related field. Applicant must have a minimum of 2 years in a youth development role (ages 11-18). Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate knowledge in aquaponics and/or gardening.

Submit resume and cover letter to **Joey Listro, Executive Director, at joey@newbritainroots.org**
Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.