Specialty Crop Growers Apprenticeship Program

The Local Foods Network is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. All educational programs are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender, age, disability or Vietnam-era veteran status.

Program Description

2000 hours of on-the-job-training (OJT) and 357 hours of related technical instruction

$11.00 hourly pay rate for OJT for first 1000 hours and $11.25 for the second 1000 hours (Minimum)

OJT on an operational working specialty crops farm

Rick Dinovo
President,
Local Food Network (LFN)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Steve Fortenberry
LFN Apprenticeship Coordinator and Education Committee Chair
Phone: 330-507-8951
Email: steve.fortenberry@gmail.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Steve Fortenberry
LFN Apprenticeship Coordinator and Education Committee Chair
Phone: 330-507-8951
Email: steve.fortenberry@gmail.com

http://ocdc.osu.edu/localfoodsnetwork
Specialty Crop Growers Apprenticeship Program

Application Process and Requirements:

Applicant must be 18 years of age or older.

Must successfully complete an interview with potential farm employer.

Must successfully complete Work Keys Test in Reading, Math, and Observation skill knowledge at a local testing center.

Local Testing Centers Include:
- Mahoning Co. Career and Technology Center
- Scarlet Oak Career Center
- Other local career centers

Program Schedule:

Classroom and on-the-job-training (OJT) will begin annually April 1.

Apprentice will work 20 to 40 hours per week until 2000 OJT hours are completed.

Classroom training will occur for two semesters for 36 weeks.

Hands-on Experience

Plan Seasonal Crop Production
Maintain Equipment & Facilities
Prepare Growing Medium for Planting
Maintain Crop Production
Respond to Environmental Variables
Manage Harvesting & Packing
Coordinate Product Delivery
Comply with Government Regulations
Develop Marketing Strategies

Apprentice Certification

Research-Proven Techniques

Hands-on Experience