



Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont

*Growing local farms, healthy food, and strong communities
in Vermont since 1971.*



Farm to School Program Director

(40 hours/week, salaried, exempt)

The Farm to School Program Director is responsible for all Farm to School work at NOFA-VT, including maintaining the VT Food Education Every Day (VTFEED) partnership with Shelburne Farms and participating in the VT FTS Network. The Farm To School Program Director will report to the Executive Director, and will supervise the Jr. Iron Chef Coordinator.

Job Summary:

Overall responsibilities include strategic development and implementation with Shelburne Farms staff to scale up FTS programming statewide with a focus on the farmers and school nutrition directors and staff who are, or want to be, involved in local food purchasing for schools. In addition, this director will maintain relationships with multiple partners through this work and in the broader Farm to Institution food supply chain that NOFA-VT is engaged in.

Specific responsibilities of the Farm to School (FTS) Program Director include, but are not limited to:

- Understanding and sharing passion for the strategic vision of the organization.
- Working closely with our Farm to School project partner Shelburne Farms, other organizations and state agencies.
- Understanding and applying best practices in adult education and professional learning models.
- Demonstrating sensitivity for food choices and behavior, hunger, poverty and food access.
- Demonstrating ability to engage and build relationships among diverse audiences.
- Providing direct technical assistance and professional development opportunities for farmers to sell, and school nutrition personnel to purchase and use local foods and engage in nutrition education.
- Participating in fundraising, sponsorship development, planning, and implementation of Jr. Iron Chef–MS and HS culinary competition, as well as supervise the Coordinator.
- Providing coaching, support, and training of school teams in the development and implementation of their FTS Action Plans.
- Planning and implementation of FTS events, programs, workshops, and professional development courses collaboratively and independently.
- Working with regional partners on building their capacity to support the sourcing and procurement of local foods by schools.
- Staying informed on and building relationships with the larger Farm to Institution supply chain including food hubs, distributors, and producer organizations.
- Managing the Farm to School program and projects, budget development and oversight, grant writing, public speaking, and public relations.
- Actively reinforcing positive organizational culture.

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QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree required and a Master's degree preferred or equivalent life experience, (in education, environmental science, public health, nutrition or agriculture, food systems or related field).
- 5+ years' experience in Farm to School, food, agriculture, and/or nutrition education. Relevant professional experience in school food procurement, food systems education, and Farm to School programming. Proven track record of successfully working with schools.
- Knowledge of NOFA-VT's work, VT FEED, and the VT food system preferred.
- A personal interest in and passion for public schools, local foods, whole foods nutrition.
- Experience working with school nutrition personnel on local food purchasing, use of seasonal products, introducing new foods to children and adults.
- Basic understanding of public school systems including food policy, education policy, and curricular requirements.
- Successful implementation of engaging and interactive workshops, presentations, or trainings.
- Experience organizing and managing projects independently and balancing competing priorities while maintaining attention to detail.
- Strong organizational skills and the ability to multi-task effectively.
- Knowledge of current education, food, nutrition and agricultural issues highly desirable.
- Proven track record of successfully working with schools on Farm to School Programming.
- Demonstrated commitment to accountability, measuring outcomes and a results-oriented culture.
- Strong leadership, interpersonal, supervisory, management skills, and ability to work on teams with diverse groups of people
- Excellent communication skills - written, oral and presentation and a strong public presence
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office and Google Suite programs.
- Sound judgment, professionalism and a positive attitude.
- Resourcefulness, creativity and strong problem-solving skills.
- Must have access to a personal vehicle in order to travel weekly and statewide as needed.

Compensation commensurate with experience.

To apply: Please submit a cover letter, resume and contact information for three references to jobs@nofavt.org with “**Farm to School Program Director** Application” in subject line. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.