



— RIVERSIDE, CA —

NEXT-GEN FARMER

TRAINING PROGRAM

A Program of the Riverside Food Systems Alliance

Application Form for Cohort 1

Application Instruction: Please complete each of the application questions. Email completed applications to both Sandy Ramirez at SandyR@riversidefood.org and Joyce Jong at JJong@riversideca.gov. **Applications are due by March 7, 2019.**

Program Information:

- Cohort 1 Program Dates:
 - Semester 1: March 11, 2019 to June 28, 2019 (Modules 1, 2, 3)
 - Semester 2: August 19, 2019 to December 13, 2019 (Modules 4, 5, 6)
 - Summer session optional
- 10-hour commitment per week required (mandatory)
 - Monday through Friday: Morning Session from 11:30 am to 12:35 pm or Evening Session from 6:45 pm to 7:50pm
 - Saturdays: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, lunch from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm
- Tuition: \$4,000.00

Application Materials Required:

- Completed Application Form for Cohort 1
- Two letters of recommendation
- Recent resume
- Interview (scheduled after the Review Committee reviews applications)

Name:			
Address:			
Phone:		Email:	
Farm Name, Address, Website (if any):			

1. Participant Minimum Age. This program requires that participants be at least 18 years of age. Do you meet the minimum age requirement?

Yes No

Date of Birth:

2. Do you have a high school diploma or GED?

Yes No

If so, which degree?

High School Diploma GED

Institution Name & Address:

Year of graduation or GED attainment:

3. What is your highest level of education?

4. Have you ever been adjudicated guilty or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony?

Note that you are not required to answer "yes" to this question, or provide an explanation, if the criminal adjudication or conviction has been expunged, sealed, annulled, pardoned, destroyed, erased, impounded, or otherwise required by law or ordered by a court to be kept confidential.

Yes No

5. Describe any reasonable accommodations that you require.

Being a student in this course will involve strenuous physical activity (bending, squatting, kneeling, heavy lifting, maneuvering through planted rows) outside during the summer months.

6. Are you a beginning farmer? USDA defines a "beginning farmer" as someone who is: A) has never operated a farm or ranch before, or B) has operated a farm or ranch for less than 10 consecutive years.

Yes No

Which USDA definition of beginning farmer best describes you?

USDA Definition A USDA Definition B

7. Please describe your previous experience in farming, gardening and/or selling food. Please include site names, location, acreage, growing practices, and other relevant details.

8. Describe your experience in a work and/or learning community. How have you and how will you contribute positively to our community?

9. Explain your interest in the Riverside NextGen Farmer Training Program. Please also include information about your background, your current job and responsibilities, your goals for participating, and how the program will fit into your future plans. Please provide enough information so that the review committee to evaluate your application.

10. Future Goals. What are your future professional and career goals in the field of organic, local, and/or sustainable food production at the end of the program? How will you utilize the knowledge, skills and experience you will gain the program in achieving your future goals? This might include farm earning goals, career goals, infrastructure you want to install, markets you want to enter, etc.

11. Letters of Recommendations. Please include two letters of recommendation from people who know you well enough to give an informed opinion of your motivation, capacity and personal qualifications. Ask your references to include your relationship with them. Please ask recommenders to email letters to Sandy Ramirez at SandyR@riversidefood.org.

a. First Recommender's Name:

b. Second Recommender's Name:

12. Program Hours. The Riverside NextGen Farmer Training Program's 10-month curriculum requires at least 320 hours commitment with much of the coursework taking place Monday through Friday, and Saturdays for field lab work to cultivate a half-acre farm. Will you be able to meet this time commitment during the program?

Yes No

Please include details on how you plan to manage the farmer training program schedule alongside other work and personal obligations.

13. Program Tuition. The total tuition for the 10-month Riverside NextGen Farmer Training Program Curriculum which includes six modules with classroom and field training is \$4,800. Payment can be made upfront or by installation payments. Please indicate your preferences for billing.

- One Bill Installation Payments

What is your preferred payment method?

- Check Credit Card

14. Interview. Are you willing to participate in an interview as part of the application process?

- Yes No

15. Resume. Applicants are encouraged to submit a recent resume (in PDF format) along with a completed application form.

16. Program Cancellation Acknowledgement

- I understand Riverside Food Systems Alliance reserves the right to cancel this program due to insufficient enrollment or any other reason which would impact the quality or viability of the program.

Signature

Date