

Urban Farm Manager

Location: Boston Green Academy, Brighton, MA

Type: Part-Time (20-25 hours/week)

Salary: \$50,000/year

Reports to: Environmental Science CTE Teacher, Director of Green Programs

Boston Green Academy (BGA) is Boston's only public school with a full-school sustainability mission, serving grades 7–12. We empower students of all abilities to become college-ready, career-bound, and leaders for a sustainable future. As part of our Green Career Pathways, BGA runs a high-tech vertical hydroponic Freight Farm to grow fresh produce year-round and serve as a living lab for hands-on STEM and sustainability education.

About the Role

This is a 4 year grant funded position. The Urban Farm Manager will maintain the Freight Farm to support the Environmental Science CTE Social Entrepreneurship class. This includes growing culturally relevant produce for school meals and student projects, engaging students in farm-based learning, managing the farm's infrastructure, and running a weekly farm stand to connect the school and surrounding community to fresh food. Our goal is to triple our production to a minimum of 3,000 lbs of produce per year within the next three years. This is a grant supported position that is funded for the next four years.

Responsibilities

- Operate the Freight Farm: seed, grow, harvest, and maintain systems
- Maximize production using sustainable, efficient techniques
- Create and implement an Integrated Pest Management plan
- Manage and maintain equipment, climate control systems, and sanitation
- Set up, staff, and take down a weekly on-site farm stand
- Support student and teen engagement in their work on the farm
- Track production, distribution, and demographics of neighborhoods served for internal and grant reporting
- Coordinate with BGA and community partners for outreach and distribution
- Facilitate frequent site visits and Freight Farm "show and tell" (i.e., quick tours for BGA visitors and non-CTE staff and students)
- Develop and enforce safety protocols for student and staff use of the Freight Farm space, tools, and farm stand equipment.
- Maintain detailed logs of crops grown, yields, issues encountered, and system calibration for compliance and grant reporting.
- Maintain a steady inventory of seeds, nutrients, growing materials, and PPE; order supplies in advance to avoid disruption.

- Regularly monitor the software dashboard and troubleshoot alerts or anomalies in climate, pH, nutrient levels, or lighting schedules.

Qualifications

- 2+ years in hydroponics, controlled environment ag, agriculture or equivalent education
- Deep understanding of food justice and sustainability
- Ability to use small power tools (i.e. drill)
- Experience facilitating youth learning or workforce development
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with staff and students
- Physical capacity for farm tasks (standing, lifting, bending, tight spaces)
- Comfortable with **minor plumbing and electrical fixes**
- Ability to install equipment such as air curtains, shelving, or other infrastructure as needed
- Familiarity with (or ability to learn) **sensor calibration and monitoring systems** (preferred)
- Ability to work during school vacations and through the summer