

Harvest Garden is Hiring!

The Chicago Park District is hiring multiple positions to support its youth gardening programs. Harvest Garden is a seasonal Chicago Park District offering that currently includes two programs: the 3-season youth gardening class program that runs in 21 parks throughout the city and the summer field trip program at our demonstration garden in Skinner Park. We are hiring three staff people for the summer field trip program and four staff for the youth gardening class program.



Youth Gardening Class Program (hiring 3 Nature Counselors)

In our 3-season youth gardening program, counselors work under the direction of the Program and Event Facilitator. Each counselor teaches 1 ½ hour gardening classes to small groups of youth at five Chicago parks each week. Groups plant, maintain, harvest and prepare food from the garden while considering their role in the garden ecosystem and their relationship to land and community. While classes are taught independently, counselors meet together each week for training on lessons, and also work as a team to maintain gardens between sessions.

Ideal candidates have an interest in gardening, food prep, and environmental health, along with a desire to connect with kids while gardening and cooking together. Experience in all areas is ideal, though training will be provided as needed.

This is a part-time, 6-month position that runs from mid-April to mid-October. The hours range from 15-25 per week and pay is \$20.80 an hour. During the spring and fall, classes take place after school. During the summer, classes take place during the day within the summer day camp program hours.

Candidates must be willing to work outside in varying weather conditions, travel to all areas of the city, work independently, and have some college education.

Summer Field Trip Program (hiring 2 Nature Counselors and 1 Camp Coordinator)

The **Coordinator** will work under the direction of the Senior Program Specialist and will lead a team of two counselors. The coordinator will plan for and oversee the everyday operations of the field trip program including proactive communication with park staff and transportation services, training and oversight of counselors, provision of daily supplies, and maintenance of the garden site at Skinner Park. Professional communication, attention to detail, and knowledge of gardens are required. This is a 12-week, 30 hour/week position beginning in mid-April. Pay is \$26.01 per hour.

The **Counselors** will teach field trips session 4 days each week at our demonstration garden in Skinner Park. The field trip program will serve children from the Summer Day Camp program at Chicago Parks. Lessons will include planting, tending, harvesting, and preparing food along with composting lunch waste and playing games. Duties will include garden maintenance and positive communication with park staff and park visitors. This is an 8-week-30 hour a week position with a start date in the beginning of June. Pay is \$20.80/hour.

Candidates must be willing to work outside in varying weather conditions, work independently, and have some college education.

How to Apply

The deadline to apply is March 9th. For counselor positions in the Harvest Garden class program and the Harvest Garden field trip program, apply for the [Camp Counselor – Nature Camp](#) position. This job description is written to cover the most general activities for a number of positions in nature education including camping, nature camps, and field trips to natural areas. When applying, refer to this job description and mention your gardening experience and interest.

For the field trip coordinator position, apply to the [Camp Coordinator – Nature Camp](#) position. This job description is also written to cover the most general activities for a variety of positions within the Outdoor and Environmental Education team including camping, nature camps and Nature Oasis. If you are particularly interested in the gardening position, note your garden experience and interest in your application.

Reach out to Julie Hunefeld, julie.hunefeld@chicagoparkdistrict.com, with any questions.

