



# Position Description

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**Type of Position:** LINKS AmeriCorps Member

**Service Dates:** Spring thru Fall 2009

**Length of Term:** 40-50 hours/month; 6-8 months of service. 300 hours total.

**Interviews:** Applicants are interviewed & placed on an on-going basis until positions are filled. Interviews are underway.

**Application Deadline:** Open until filled.

**Position Title:** Gardens Program Assistants (10 positions)

**Project Sponsor:** FOOD for Lane County's Gardens Program ([www.foodforlanecounty.org](http://www.foodforlanecounty.org))

**Sponsoring Organization's Mission:** To eliminate hunger by creating access to food.

**Project Location:** GrassRoots Garden, 1465 Coburg Rd.(4-5 positions), Eugene; Youth Farm, 705 Flamingo Ave., Springfield (3-4 positions); Churchill Community Garden, 2200 Bailey Hill Rd., Eugene (1-2 positions)

**Transportation Information:** All gardens are accessible by Lane Transit District bus routes.

**Position Summary:** The Educational Gardens Assistants will work with the Gardens Program staff at the three gardens to 1) support the efforts of volunteers, community gardeners, and youth working in the gardens to grow fresh, organic produce for the local food bank 2) help maintain the garden sites, 3) expand educational programming and mentorship to schools, churches and service organizations, 4) acknowledge and appreciate the work of volunteers and community partners, and 4) assist with nutritional activities and cooking classes in the gardens.

**General Responsibilities (to include, but not limited to):**

1. Become familiar and participate in day-to-day garden tasks: general garden work, irrigation, greenhouse care, and composting systems.
2. Conduct outreach to the community about service learning, work experience, and educational opportunities available at the FOOD for Lane County Gardens.
3. Assist with activities for students that focus on organic gardening, nutrition, food systems and hunger.
4. Assist with organizing and leading volunteer work days and community gardening workshops.
5. Complete and submit all necessary LINKS AmeriCorps Program paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
6. Attend and complete LINKS AmeriCorps Program orientation and enrollment session.
7. Wear an appropriate LINKS identifier and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.

**Requirements:**

1. Strong sense of responsibility, commitment and reliability.
2. A willingness to work irregular hours and on Saturdays; ability to maintain punctuality on a shifting schedule.
3. Experience and comfort working outdoors.
4. Current driver's license and acceptable driving record.
5. Commitment to safe work practices.
6. LINKS members must be at least 17 years of age at the time of enrollment in the program.
7. U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
8. Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving an education award.
9. Ability to commit to the full term of service for which they are applying.
10. Submit to a criminal history background check and National Sex Offender Registry search.
11. Regular and reliable attendance.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

1. Comfortable speaking in public and to large groups.
2. Good communication skills and ability to keep accurate records.
3. Some experience in organic gardening methods, community building and youth mentoring.

**Member Benefits Include:**

- Upon successful completion of a term of service, eligible members receive an education award of \$1,000. The education award can be used to repay qualified student loans, for further education in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational or for trade schools. The education award is taxed in the year that it is used.
- Loan forbearance (after successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps will pay a portion of the accrued interest on qualified loans, which is taxable).
- Training in organic gardening, teaching, youth empowerment, and leadership.
- Potential to receive internship credit through members' academic program.

**How to apply:**

**Step 1** - Email your résumé to [links.recruitment@esd112.org](mailto:links.recruitment@esd112.org) and to [gardens@foodforlanecounty.org](mailto:gardens@foodforlanecounty.org).

**Step 2** - Complete your application online at the AmeriCorps website. [AmeriCorps Application](#)

1. If you do not already have a username and password, you must create a profile. [Create A Profile](#)
2. Once you have created a profile, log in and complete an application by clicking "Applications" under the "My AmeriCorps" menu.
3. To apply to this specific position, click "Search Listings" under the "My AmeriCorps" menu and search for program name **LINKS**.
4. Select the position listing and click "Apply Now" at the bottom of the page.

**Questions about the project? Contact:** Jen Anonia, FFLC Gardens Program Manager, 541-343-2822, x314, [gardens@foodforlanecounty.org](mailto:gardens@foodforlanecounty.org).

**Questions about AmeriCorps, LINKS or our recruitment process? Contact:**

LINKS

2500 NE 65th Ave

Vancouver, WA 98661

p 360) 750-7500 x 114

f 360) 360-694-2491

[links.recruitment@esd112.org](mailto:links.recruitment@esd112.org)

**Unable to Apply On-line?** Click here: <http://www.esd112.org/links/resources.html>.

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[www.esd112.org/links](http://www.esd112.org/links)