

# Fast Track Farmer Program Application

Central State University Extension Services and the Coit Road Farmers Market are producing a beginning farmer program, for aspiring farmers interested in starting their own farm business. The program is designed to provide one growing season of support for beginning farmers with a hands-on demonstration farm site.

**Program participants will receive one season of support in growing their farm business, including the following benefits at no charge:**

- ❖ Over 40 hours of hands-on farm experience and training from CSU Extension on all aspects (growing, planning and business skills) of operating a market produce farm.
- ❖ Access to a demonstration vegetable plot to apply skills learned and grow produce. Participants can keep any income generated from farm sales at the Coit Road Farmers' Market.
- ❖ Support in developing a farm business plan, accessing USDA grant and loan programs and finding land at the end of the program.
- ❖ A certificate from Central State University Extension while attending at least 70% of the program sessions.

**Program Requirements:**

- Participation in weekly on-farm classes from April thru October.
- Commitment working in demonstration plots for an additional 2 hours/week during the growing season for planting, plot maintenance and sales at the Market.
- Please check one of the following:

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  - I do not plan to grow food to sell as a business. I am eligible to attend all on-site classes and sessions. However, I will not be eligible to attend off-site training and conferences.
  - I plan to grow food to sell as a business. I commit to attending the on-site sessions to be eligible to receive my certificate.

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Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ (alternate number) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact and Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have reliable transportation (car, bus, etc.) to the farm on the Coit Road Famers' Market site at 15000 Woodworth Rd, East Cleveland, 44110?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the days and times you cannot be available because of other commitments.

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How would you prefer to receive communication about classes and class material?

- Email
- Online class software (such as Google Classroom)
- Phone/Text
- Other (please write in)

Describe your experience growing food. (How many years? For sale or personal/family consumption?)

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Why are you interested in participating in this program? What would you like to be able to do at the end of this program?

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