

Position: Education Associate

Hours: Part-time (24 hours/week)

**Description:**

The Education Associate assists with education programming, including [Closed Loop Labs](#), classroom visits, and on/off site talks. The Associate collaborates with the education team to lead and improve workshops/labs focused on ecology, sustainability, urban agriculture and the circular economy. They will also have the opportunity to learn how to operate and maintain urban agriculture systems such as aquaponics, hydroponics, vermicomposting, chickens and mushroom growing.

The Associate will help facilitate hands-on, informal STEM programming with schools and residents on the southwest side of Chicago. The ideal candidate should be comfortable becoming a subject-matter expert in circular economy, highly collaborative, and ambitious about expanding and evolving educational programs.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- Conducting educational programs such as hands-on workshops and interactive education displays. Informal education opportunities. (60%)
- Working with Education Manager to create new lesson plans and improve existing workshops (10%)
- Assist with maintaining educational spaces, laboratory equipment and living systems, which may include hydroponics, aquaponics, fungi, chickens, bees, and outdoor growing spaces. (20%)
- Other tasks as necessary such as farmers market and food access support (10%)

Required Skills & Experience:

- A passion for teaching and engaging diverse audiences in science and sustainability concepts
- Experience working with K-12 students
- Ability to present and interact with people from different backgrounds
- Occasionally lift and move workshop materials and equipment, up to 50 lbs
- Ability to pass CPS level 2 background check

Preferred Qualifications:

- Acquired or working towards Associates or Bachelor's degree in education, science or related field, or equivalent professional experience; professional experience might include working in either formal or informal education environments, curriculum development,
- Proficiency with MS Word programs and Google Drive
- Familiarity with informal education environments
- Familiarity with the Back of the Yards neighborhood and other Southside communities
- Proficient in Spanish
- Agriculture, gardening, nutrition or culinary experience

Reports to: Education Manager

Compensation: \$20/hour

Suggested Schedule: Saturdays from 9 am - 5 pm, other weekdays depending on availability

To apply: Please fill out the google form on Plant Chicago's [website](#).

Deadline: Rolling applications, priority given to those applications received by February 29th, 2024