

Allegheny Mountain Institute

Growing Food, Building Community

www.alleghenymountaininstitute.org

PDC Partner Organization

Shenandoah Permaculture Institute (<http://www.shenandoahpermaculture.com>)

Fellowship Overview

- 18-month Fellowship program that prepares and empowers individuals to become teachers and ambassadors for a more vibrant and accessible local food system.
- Fully funds passionate individuals to spend **six months in immersive training on our farm campus** (Phase I) and **one year in service work** with relevant partner organizations working to create vibrant, healthy food systems (Phase II).
- Program of AMI, an educational non-profit organization with the mission to cultivate healthy communities through food and education.
- Applications are due by February 19, 2017 and are available at our website www.alleghenymountaininstitute.org

Phase I (April 30-November 1, 2017) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQgkIrf21w0&t=209s>

- Live, work and study in community on the mountain farm campus in rural Highland County, Virginia.
- Gain a full season of experience in sustainable growing methods, small animal husbandry, and rotational livestock grazing on a diversified farm.
- Study topics such as permaculture design, whole foods preparation and preservation, wellness and nutrition, land stewardship, leadership, and community development
- Teaching methods include: hands-on experience on the farm, expert guest instructors, field trips and daily educational sessions.
- Upon successful completion, Fellows receive a \$1,000 stipend. Room and board provided.

Phase II (January 1- December 31, 2018) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkKHnrZFIOg>

- Opportunity to apply their Phase I training as they work on community projects focused on building healthy communities through food and education.
- Build organizational capacity and launch new programs such as: building community gardens, developing school gardens and site-based curriculum, advocating for sustainable land use, and teaching nutrition and cooking for a healthy lifestyle.
- Continue to meet regularly for leadership and professional development.
- Fellows receive a monthly stipend of \$1,500 (subject to payroll taxes) and a Permaculture Design Certificate upon successful completion

FAQ Responses

What's the schedule like?

Phase I: Typical day from 8-5, hour for lunch. Occasional events on Saturday, Sundays always free.

Daily: Garden how-to education in morning meetings.

Weekly: discussion of short reading/article, field trip and/or workshop led by guest instructor, Digging Deeper garden Class.

Monthly: Permaculture Class, Internal workshops/class on Public Health/Food Systems Class, community development and nutrition/cooking

Phase II – 40 hour week, hours dependent on Partner Org

What do AMI fellows go on to do?

Many of our alumni continue to be involved in a variety of community and educational programs after completing the two-phase Fellowship Program. Some of the work our alumni has gone on to do includes: founding a Permaculture Institute, managing gardens for a non-profit seed company, coordinating an urban farm program, serving in non-profit executive leadership, and furthering their education in pursuit of food-related graduate degrees.

Is there an age restriction?

Though our fellows are typically near the beginning of their careers in the age group of 21-30, we do not have a set age restriction and consider each applicant on a case-by case basis. All Fellows must over the age of 18.

Are pets allowed?

Fellows are not permitted to bring pets to live with them during the six months on the farm.

May I bring my spouse or partner?

Fellows are required to live on the farm during the six months of Phase I. Though the campus is open to visitors on most weekends, spouses or partners are not permitted to live on the mountain farm campus

I'm graduating this year. May I start the program after the start date?

All fellows must be on-site at the start date because spring planting and bonding as a cohort are critical to the success of the program. In the past, college graduates have arranged to take exams early and travel back for their college graduation.

What are the Phase II Partner orgs for 2018?

As of now, Phase II partner organizations with include AMI Village Manager, VSDB Urban Farm, The Highland Center, and Project Grows. We will work with Fellows to ensure a good fit for both Fellow and Partner Organization. Partner Organizations are limited to Augusta and Highland Counties to increase our impact.