

OLD FORT AT HESPERUS Farmer In Training

2025 PROGRAM INFO

May 13 - October 2



What is the Farmer In Training Program?

Farmers-in-training (FITs) gain hands-on experience growing vegetables at high elevation. Through morning field work and afternoon classes and field trips, the FIT program provides a strong foundation for aspiring and beginning farmers. FITs work with program staff to tend about three acres of vegetables, learning new and traditional skills and techniques vital to farming at high elevation.

Program graduates complete:

- Six Farming Courses
- Over 200 hours of paid field work
- At least four field trips to regional farms

Work and class schedules requires a minimum of 22-hour/week commitment:

- Field work T/W/Th 8 a.m. – noon
- Classes T/Th 1 – 3 p.m.
- Field Trips: W 1 – 4 p.m.

Americorp Positions are approximately 40 hours per week with additional duties.



Details

Compensation Options:

Non Americorp:

May 13- Oct 2

\$192 stipend per 12 hour work week

Americorp Position

May 1 - November 15th

Approx 40 hours per week

\$2700/month stipend

Full and partial scholarships are available to cover the \$2400 cost for classes.

Living stipends of up to \$2,500 available for Native American Farmers. Low cost housing may be available on site.

Email farmertraining@fortlewis.edu with questions . Apply by Feb 15 at <https://tinyurl.com/FarmerinTraining25>

The schedule works for students

- Earn the FIT Certificate
- Early summer break
- Late summer break

Courses include:

- Tools of the Trade
- Intro to Market Farming
- Seed to Seed: Plant Basics for Farmers
- Growing Specialty Crops at High Elevation
- Intro to Farm Business Planning
- Practices of Ecological Farming

FORT LEWIS
COLLEGE

