



FrontLine Farming Immersion Program Overview

This document intends to give a deep understanding of what to expect as a Farm Immersion participant. Please read this carefully so you are fully informed about the program before applying.

Who the Immersion Is For

This space is offered exclusively for Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC). This is an intentional space for BIPOC to find community, support, and healing. America's contract with capitalism has oppressed those with marginalized identities and has inflicted generations of pain and trauma. For the safety and protection of this group, **this is not a space for white allies**. This time together is to center and hold space to address and dismantle inequities, injustices and systemic racism. A space where folks can show up as their authentic selves and be seen, heard, and held. A space that honors our uniqueness but also our shared identities of color.

If you do not identify as BIPOC, we kindly ask that you do not apply. There are many ways you can support our work as an ally. We encourage your support and engagement of the program through sponsorship (see section below). You can also join us on our farms during our community volunteer days, farmer knowledge series, and annual events such as our Farm to Table, just to name a few!

Are you an Ally Interested in Sponsoring our Immersion Program?

Please visit our website to donate to our 2025 Immersion Program at <https://www.frontlinefarming.org/giving> using the Give to our 2025 Immersion Program button. Your generous support helps us offer scholarships to participants that increase the accessibility to this immersive, culturally rooted program.

Summer Program

2025 Summer Immersion date: August 4th-15th, 2025

2025 Summer Application Deadline: Rolling applications with a deadline of June 16th, 2025. Applicants will be notified of acceptance within 2 weeks of application submission. Earlier applications will be prioritized for scholarship consideration.

Purpose

Frontline Farming's 2-week Farm Immersion program focuses on supporting both aspiring and experienced BIPOC farmers and food advocates who seek to learn more about the afro-indigenous origins of regenerative agriculture, ceremony making, and food sovereignty as it pertains to BIPOC community empowerment and resilience in land-based systems. Our hope is that participation in this program will provide participants a nature-based and culturally rich experience to build on their own connections and commitments to community and personal food sovereignty.

Participants in the program will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about afro-indigenous farming practices, with an emphasis on sustainability, culturally appropriate foods, and land-based ethic systems. Topics covered include, but are not limited to, soil health management, mushroom cultivation, seed saving, herb harvesting and medicine making, and food preservation.
- Participate in a ceremony with other immersion participants and the FrontLine community. Connect the importance of spirituality with our actions, through intention-making, reflection, and collective processing of our shared experiences in land-based work.
- Exchange knowledge and build relationships with BIPOC producers and food advocates in the Front Range.
- Work closely with Frontline's farm team and staff through our farm work days, shared meals, and community events.
- Gain an understanding of non-profit farm models, how to increase access to farm and land resources to communities in need, and break down barriers to land access and BIPOC farmer empowerment.
- Experience and learn about the unique ecology of the Front Range through FrontLines's urban farms, some of our rural partner farms, and the greater natural landscapes just outside of the Denver metro area through on-farm education, work exchanges, and a trip in the Rocky Mountain foothills.

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Description

We are a community engaged in food production and education along the Front Range. We grow high quality, organic food that supports fair wages for our farmers and is

distributed through sales to a network of restaurants and institutional purchasers, sliding scale sales at farm stands, and donations to a variety of non-profit partners. We undertake our work to honor the land and the community we cultivate. As educators, we engage a range of individuals from elders to toddlers in ethical and sustainable growing practices that enhance land and community connections. We have done all of this while helping to build and expand a network of farms and farmers who mutually support one another's work and vision of agriculture in Denver.

During our immersion programs, FrontLine Farming will be joined by participants eager to learn land-based skills and farm knowledge to expand a growing community of food equity practitioners and advocates. We're honored to have participants from across the country join us for a 2-week experience where they will have hands-on experience in an abundant space where food production and community thrive together.

By the end of the program, participants will have gained knowledge and experience in the following areas:

- Soil health and management
 - Afro-indigenous farming practices (soil health, seedsaving, mushroom cultivation, herbs and herbal medicine production, food preservation)
 - Climate change resilience in semi-arid environments (water conservation and management)
 - African, Arab, and Bioregional
- Foodways
- Ceremony-making
 - Policy and practice of food sovereignty
 - Farm worker rights and opportunities
 - Youth engagement in agriculture and land-based work
 - Urban and rural farm development

Daily, the program begins at 9:00 am. Knowing that we all operate best at different times of the day, we ask that participants do the work they need ahead of the program to make sure the early start is doable for them for the duration of the program. For lunch every day, a plant-based meal will be provided by our catering family. In reciprocity, we

ask that you bring your own dish (plate and bowl can be helpful) and a set of utensils to minimize the amount of waste on the farm.

During the 2-weeks, we will visit our three farm sites and greenhouse that sit across the

Denver Metro area. These three sites will give participants insight into diverse growing methods in urban farming and an understanding of the resilience and possibilities that come from operating in multiple locations. Each day, we will meet at one of FrontLine's farm sites for our daily learning and practice. Timely attendance is vital to the success of our days. In addition, we will have trips to rural partner farms and farming organizations as well as some of our most well-known and appreciated natural areas of the Rocky Mountain foothills. The program will end with a day exploring some of Denver's Black historical and cultural hubs.

Community Expectation Agreement

Before going further, please carefully read the following Community Expectations Agreement and decide for yourself if you are in alignment with it. While we invite participants from all walks of life on the farm, we uphold community standards for all who work the land with us. This is a living document and was last updated April 2025.

Upon acceptance to the program, you will be asked to sign a copy of the Community Expectations Agreement on the first day.

1. *We affirm* that this is an asset-based organization that is fortified and not lacking for resources (for example: we are not a “food desert” but rather a “community building food sovereignty”).
2. *We affirm* everyone has the right to be heard.
3. *We affirm* gender identity and pronouns are not suggestions or preferences.
4. *We affirm* people of all mental & emotional health levels are welcome on the farm and it is their responsibility to communicate their current state, related to the work, with the site leader.
5. *We affirm* that all people are welcome here regardless of legal status. 6. *We affirm* that all people are invited to speak in the language of their heart.
7. *We affirm* that we will only ask you to do what your body can handle the day you are working with us.
8. *We affirm* that all will come prepared & that care for self is always the priority. 9. *We affirm* we welcome all spiritual practices but we center land-based practices.
10. *We affirm* that we will speak from our individual experiences alone and not speak on behalf of others.
11. *We affirm* we are here to uplift each other.
12. *We affirm* that we have a system for reporting and documenting conflict and harm and affirm that we are responsible to report and follow through with harm reduction, repair and Restorative Justice as the conflict dictates.
13. *We affirm* that we respect elders.
14. *We affirm* children are welcome here & that we will be mindful and gracious to them. 15. *We affirm* that we will carry out waste that we bring to the farm.
16. *We affirm* we will be aware of plant, animal and insect safety on the farm.
17. *We affirm* that the food grown at the farm is for the community, and that we are stealing if we are taking food without permission.
18. *We affirm* that this organization is part of a larger movement and if we are interested in learning more, we will seek out resources for Food Security, Food Justice, and Food Sovereignty.
19. *We affirm* a space free from homophobia, transphobia, racism, ableism, sexism, hate speech, patriarchy, xenophobia, and classism.

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Cost

\$2,000 with scholarship tiers available. Upon acceptance, all participants - regardless of scholarship amount - will be asked for a \$100 deposit to secure their enrollment.

Payment Options

Full Moon Attendee: you pay \$100 deposit

Waxing Moon Attendee: You pay \$500

Half Moon Attendee: You pay \$1,000

Waning Moon Attendee: You pay \$1,500

New Moon Attendee: You pay \$2,000

Starry Night Attendee: Sponsor/Employer will pay \$2,000

Where We Will Be

FrontLine has the honor and commitment of stewarding multiple spaces across Colorado as a result of relationships with partners and an organizational commitment to finding space to provide culturally relevant foods for our communities. *You are welcome to visit any of our locations before the program begins to get a feel for the land.* While we recognize and use the contemporary names of the spaces we care for, we acknowledge the land we inhabit is traditionally stewarded by the Cheyenne, Ute, and Arapahoe peoples who have been in continuous struggle against colonial aggression to preserve and pass on their traditional foodways and lifestyle as caretakers and relatives of this land. We work to hold these truths with us as we collect the seeds of plant relatives we see thrive here and return them to the soil in following springs. We let these truths guide our work as we push to educate our communities about the variety of both local and global indigenous foods and foodways that have been restricted from us through policy or forced upon us through monocultured corporate grocers. The spaces you may visit are described below.

Majestic View Farms

7000 Garrison Street, Arvada, CO, 80004 ([Google Maps](#))

Our largest location (2 acres) and where we process and pack our produce. Our main farming vehicles and buildings are here. This land is owned by the City of Arvada and leased to us on a long term basis. Restrooms on this site are portable bathrooms, one is accessible. There is very limited trash and recycling on site, but as we are a Zero Waste organization please pack in and out all items. This plot is located within a residential neighborhood, so food options here are hard to get to. Snacks are a fantastic way to

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keep yourself healthy and start a conversation. There are facilities for storing food and a microwave and other cooking gadgets.

Parking: There is a small public parking lot at Majestic View that fits 8-10 vehicles. For additional parking, we ask our participants to drive through the gate, past the solar

cooler and fowl coops on the left, and park near our tractor and farm truck at the top of the hill. Limited street parking is available, but we strive to respect our neighbors and avoid street parking when possible.

Public Transportation: The closest RTD bus stops from Majestic View are about a 15 to 25 minute walk from the farm. Route 100 will take you to Washington Street and 80th Ave, a 15 minute walk from the farm. Route 76 will take you to Wadsworth and W 68th Blvd, a 25 minute walk from the farm.

Sisters Gardens

5270 N Federal Blvd., Denver, CO, 80221 ([Google Maps](#))

This was our first location that we have been stewarding since 2015 and is split into 2 garden areas: Center Garden and Wedge Garden. Originally run by the Sisters of St. Francis, a nunnery that still operates in the development. In 2023, FrontLine became landowners of this farmland and are grateful to Marycrest Land, LLC and Sue Powers, its manager and President of Urban Ventures for advocating for our work and recognizing the importance of land ownership for Black farmers in Colorado and the Denver metro area. As of 2025, this site is also home to a hydroponic greenhouse recently acquired by FrontLine. Restrooms are currently located in a trailer across from the greenhouse, at the top of our Wedge Garden. There is limited access to trash and recycling on site, we are a Zero Waste organization so please pack everything in and out. Along Federal Blvd in the area, there are somewhat limited food options. There's multiple fast food chain restaurants, two tasty family-owned Mexican restaurants, and a Thai restaurant. There are facilities for warming food brought from home but we are very limited on storage for food items.

Parking: Starbucks at 5202 Federal Blvd., Denver, CO, 80221

Public Transportation: This location in Denver proper has a few more public transportation options depending on the direction you are coming from. The stop on Federal and 52nd is the closest bus stop with a 3 minute walk to The Center of Sister Gardens and a 5 minute walk from The Wedge.

Celebration Garden

1650 S Birch Street, Denver, CO, 80222 ([Google Maps](#))

Celebration Garden is our smallest plot, taking up a portion of a neighborhood block shared with the parking lot for Celebration Community Church. All farming at this site is

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done in raised beds which makes it easier for more people to navigate and work together. We host most of our children's programming here, our World Heritage Potlucks, and our annual Farm-to-Table Dinner and Fundraiser. Restrooms for this garden are accessed in the church across the grounds, a key is needed. There is limited access to trash; all recycling or compost must be packed out, we are a Zero Waste

organization. Celebration is 4 blocks from Colorado Blvd, which has many different food choices including various American and international cuisine. There are no facilities for warming food brought from home.

Parking: This site has a sizable parking lot right outside the garden fence. This parking lot is shared with the church, though it's unlikely they would have an event during the week while we are there.

Public Transportation: There is a nearby bus stop at S. Birch St. and Iowa with a few routes that service it. This stop is just a few feet from the garden. There is also a stop on S Colorado Blvd and Iowa Ave that is about a 10 minute walk from the garden. Finally, there is a light-rail station, the Colorado Station that is a 20 minute walk from the garden, however you can also catch a connecting bus at that location.

BIPOC Nonprofit Development Center (BNDC)

2900 Welton St, Denver, CO 80205 ([Google Maps](#))

We maintain office space at the BNDC with the RTL Foundation, which endeavors to be a convener and to provide support infrastructure to BIPOC-led nonprofits in the Denver area. The BNDC's mission is to support the operation and growth of minority-led and serving nonprofits. Additionally, this Center is located in the Five Points neighborhood, a historically Black community in Denver that has been battling gentrification in the last few decades. FrontLine Farming is honored to plan roots and hold space within this urban environment to maintain Black representation and continue our historic presence here. [Read more about Five Points.](#)

Parking: 2900 Welton has an onsite parking lot and guests are welcome to part in spots marked for the RTL Foundation. Additionally, there is ample free street parking.

Public Transportation: This office is located in the city is a highly walkable area and has more than 5 different bust stops and light rail stops within 3 blocks.

The program is facilitated in English, and translation services will not be available, though our facilitators are often multi-lingual.

Childcare

While we make space for intergenerational connections on the farm throughout the season, we do not provide childcare during the Immersion program. Please do not bring children to the farms and other activities. Farms can be a potentially hazardous space and we want to prevent any incidents that could occur if children are present and unsupervised during the program.

Coming In From Out Of Town

Denver is a hard city to define right now. The influx of new community members, both respectfully joining and often harmfully entering our BIPOC communities, has shifted the social and physical landscape of the city. *We unfortunately do not have the capacity or infrastructure to provide housing, however we are happy to connect people who would like to find a place with other Immersion participants.* When you are looking for a place to stay for the week, we encourage you to pay attention to the locations of our farms for the easiest transportation options. We will mostly be at Majestic View Farm, however, the surrounding community has a limited BIPOC presence. Westminster is home to a fairly well established East and Southeast Asian community. More East is Thornton and North Denver, both areas home to pockets of Latine communities. Sister Gardens is right in the heart of a gentrification project leaving the surrounding areas with remnants of an older Latine community. The neighborhoods around Sister Gardens are central to all three sites.

Pro-Tips for Being On the Farm

Physical Requirements: We ask that all participants have the ability to:

- Physically work within a variety of weather conditions (i.e. working outdoors for 4+ hours a day in diverse weather conditions.)
- Lift and carry up to 50 pounds.
- Crouch, kneel, stand, stoop and reach.

Water Bottle: We'll supply the water, you bring the bottle. Sustainability is one of our core values. You can help us reduce plastic waste by bringing your own water bottle.

Sunscreen/Hat: Working in the sun all day can be dangerous for your body. Take the proper precautions to keep your skin safe.

Work Gloves/ Tools/ Facemask: Please bring your own gloves and facemasks. While we do have gloves, masks, and tools available, we cannot guarantee we have them in your size. Farmers develop deep connections with their gloves and other tools, and we encourage you to begin that relationship with your own, if you can. Some folks benefit

from having a facemask when working with soil and straw.

Self-Care: Please take time to assess the ways you can take care of yourself and prepare accordingly. We've seen participants bring massage and stretching aides that have benefitted them after working on the land. We've seen trace minerals and electrolyte mixes exchanged between participants that bring them into deeper relationality with each other. Folks share stretches and body hacks with each other as they experience working the land sometimes for the first time in their lives. We work to provide as many provisions as we can predict folks may need and will often have things you may need that you did not prepare, however your contribution to self-care, and community care if you feel so moved, is vital and necessary for our success together.

Weather App is Your Best Friend: Living in Colorado can make it tough to gauge the weather. When you're planning on working outside all day, it becomes even more important. We recommend you wear layers including long pants and long sleeves. In Colorado it can be 80 degrees and sunny by the afternoon, but start out as a frosty 40 something in the morning. The direct sun of Colorado can make a 70 degree day feel like 95 degrees if you don't have coverage for your skin. Loose but long clothing is helpful. *Closed-toe shoes are a must.* Check the weather for the day, *layer up*, and dress accordingly.

Sleep Is More Important Than You Think: Again, working under the sun (and manual labor generally) can be tough. During the Immersion, you can expect to be digging, moving compost or mulch, harvesting, or other laborious tasks. Without a good night of sleep, getting up early to complete these tasks can be even harder. We try our best to foster a positive, energetic environment, but we need your help to do it. Help yourself have a more positive experience, and get some good "Zzzz's" before you come. Trust me, we all need it.

Leaving the Program

We ask that all participants stay for the duration of the program. Our last day together will be spent visiting Black historical and cultural hubs of Denver, and will wrap up around 3:00 pm at one of our farm sites. The drive to Denver International Airport at that time can be 30 - 60 minutes away at that time on a Friday afternoon.