



**LAND
STEWARDSHIP
PROJECT**

FARM BEGINNINGS®
Application 2016-2017

Name (Primary Contact): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Ph #: (h) _____ (w) _____ (cell) _____

May we call you at work? Yes or No

Best time to call: _____

Which class location you will be attending: Northfield, MN__ or Glenwood, MN__

How did you hear about Farm Beginnings (please mark box and list a specific source)?

Internet Magazine Newspaper Conference/Event Word of Mouth Other

Specific source in relation to above: _____

Will you be applying for a scholarship? Yes or No

Do you have any special needs we should know of? _____

The \$1,500 tuition fee covers up to TWO applicants who are farming partners on the same enterprise.

Name (Farming Partner): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Ph #: (h) _____ (w) _____ (cell) _____

EACH APPLICANT must answer the following questions; if you need more space, attach additional sheets.

Why are you interested in farming?

What are you currently doing?

Please list ALL agricultural experience or training you have received so far (**include conferences, workshops, internships, employment, field days, farm tours, volunteer positions, etc...**):

The following questions can be answered JOINTLY, or SEPARATELY by both applicants:

What are your future farming goals:

1-5 years:

5-10 years:

How do you think Farm Beginnings can help you move toward your farming goals?

What do you see as your biggest obstacle in starting your own farm enterprise?

Which farming enterprises are you considering (**rank your top 3 choices by marking #1, #2, #3**):

dairy ___ beef ___ sheep ___ goats ___ hogs ___ crops & hay ___ vegetables ___
flowers ___ fruit ___ poultry ___ other _____

Check the statement that best describes your access to land for your current or future farming enterprises:

I do not have access to land _____
I have access to rented land _____
I own land _____

Please list any addition questions or considerations you have about the Farm Beginnings program?

PERSONAL ASSESSMENT

Rate Your Farming and Business Skill Levels

No experience	Some Exposure	Competency
1	2	3

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS	Rating (1,2,3)	
	Applicant 1	Applicant 2
Production		
Goal setting		
Acquiring land (e.g., rent, lease, purchase)		
Developing production, marketing & financial plans		
Maintaining and repairing tools & equipment		
Maintaining & repairing infrastructure		
Managing soil fertility		
Managing pests, weeds & diseases		
Managing pastures		
Feeding & watering animals		
Monitoring & treating animal health problems		
Managing manure		
Preparing a crop production plan		
Operating equipment & implements safely		
Seeding, planting & harvesting		
Post-harvest handling & storage		
Financial Management		
Setting up bookkeeping & record-keeping systems		
Record keeping (e.g., financial, production, sales)		
Preparing financial statements & tax forms		
Bookkeeping; paying bills & taxes		
Monitoring cash flow		
Managing debt		
Strategic planning		
Grant research and/or fundraising		
Marketing		
Market research		
Networking		
Developing promotional materials and advertising		
Proper communication with customers/buyers		
Selling farm products & services		
Web design and social networking		

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

To streamline our application process, please refer to the following:

- **Farm Beginnings Application Packets must be completed and sent to:**
Land Stewardship Project
Attn: Karen Benson-Farm Beginnings
PO Box 130
Lewiston, MN 55952
- **Applications will only be accepted via the U.S. Postal Service (no electronic or faxed applications will be reviewed).**
- **Only complete Application Packets (see checklist below) will be reviewed.**
- **A \$200 deposit is required (please make check out to Land Stewardship Project).**
- **The application deadline: POSTMARKED by SEPTEMBER 1st.**
- **EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT of \$100 will apply to applications received by August 1st.**
- **Applicants will be notified via e-mail or phone by or before September 30 of acceptance into the program.**
- **Applicants will be notified via e-mail or phone by September 30 of scholarship awards.**
- **Correspondence will be sent to the “primary” applicant only.**

Does your Application Packet Include: (make a checkmark to verify)	
	Farm Beginnings Application
	Personal Assessment
	\$200 Deposit Check
	Scholarship Application forms (if applicable):
	Statement of Need
	2 References **for each applicant**
	2015 Tax Return **for each applicant, if not filed jointly**
	Net Worth Statement **for each applicant**

*****Please complete this checklist and include it with your application*****

www.landstewardshipproject.org