



National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) for Seasonal Farm & Ranch Workers

Frequently Asked Questions by Prospective Participants

What is the National Farmworker Jobs Program for Seasonal Farm & Ranch Workers?

This jobs training program is for farm, ranch and other agricultural workers who earn a wage, but still don't make enough to get by on. REO helps these workers and their family members find year-round job opportunities, both in and out of agriculture. The goal of the program is to help participants increase income and improve financial security. REO staff members work closely with participants, helping them determine the best ways they can reach their employment and educational goals.

Who is eligible to participate in NFJP?

- Individuals with limited income (see chart below).
- Must be a US citizen or is legally authorized to work in the U.S.
- Workers who've done seasonal farm, ranch or other agricultural work within the past two years.
- All males must be registered with the US Selective Service or be eligible for a waiver.
- Spouses & dependents of eligible workers qualify for REO's services.

How do I apply?

First you complete a pre-application (call 1-800-546-1140 or speak with an E&T Specialist in your area to have one mailed to you). If you have farm or ranch work in the last two years and are close to the income guidelines, an E&T Specialist will schedule an intake with you. At the intake meeting, the E&T Specialist will complete the full NFJP application and other required paperwork with you.

REO will then review your application and verify your work history. If any additional information is needed, REO staff may contact you in order to verify your application.

What can I expect if I enroll in REO's program?

You will work with your E&T Specialist to set employment goals and identify ways to reach those goals. That might mean working on job applications, creating a resume or perfecting your interviewing skills. Enrolling in a two year school or short term training to increase your skills is also an option. You will also have the chance to improve your financial literacy.

It is very important that you keep in touch with your E&T Specialist every two weeks (in-person, phone, texting, emailing, etc.) and update them with your progress on your employment goals.

Family Size	Yearly Income 2015-2016
1	\$11,770
2	17,649
3	24,232
4	29,909
5	35,299
6	41,284
7	47,269
8	53,254
For each additional person add:	\$5,985

10 Items to bring for your NFJP intake meeting

1. Two IDs (1 with Photo)
2. One ID for each other member in household
3. Marriage license or jointly filed Federal 1040 tax form
4. Selective Service registration
5. If under 25 years of age and single
- cannot be claimed by your parent(s) as a dependent.
Bring:
 - a. Copy of your own Form 1040
 - b. Copy of your parents' Form(s) 1040
6. Any paystubs or W2's for the past 24 months
7. Know your past 24 months work history
 - a. Employer/supervisor name
 - b. Employer address and phone number
 - c. Beginning & ending dates for each employer
 - d. Amount paid – per hour, per month, etc.
 - e. Hours per day/days per week, which days?
8. Items 6 - 7 will be needed for any household member who has had income in the past 24 months

How do NFJP participants receive assistance with their employment and educational goals?

Participants receive job and skills training assistance.

- SMART Goal training. Self-improvement and skills evaluation.
- Application, resume, interview and cover letter preparation.
- Financial education: including debt management and financial planning with the Money Skills Program.
- On the job preparation, negotiation and conflict management.

Based on your financial need, REO can help with the cost of tuition and supplies needed for work or school. Plus, assist with the skills and tools you need to find a job and keep that job. The following would need to be completed for financial assistance.

- Complete the intake assessments with E&T Specialist that will identify your strength and growth areas.
- Help write your Individual Employment Plan (IEP) which will map out how you plan on reaching your goals.
- Enroll in school, job training program, certificate program or entered employment.
- Maintain bi-weekly contact (mail, email, phone or face to face meetings) with a E&T Specialist

What types of financial assistance does REO offer?

Direct Payments – Tuition and other school costs are expensive. REO can help by making direct payments to an accredited institution or Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) vendor on behalf of our participants.

Training Stipends – It is difficult to work and go to school at the same time. Our training stipends are given to eligible students who are working hard to finish their education.

On the Job Training (OJT) – Don't want to be in a classroom? OJTs are hands on training experiences. The OJT contract will outline all the skills you will learn and financial benefits of the agreement. REO will pay up to 50% of your wages for the employer to train you for a job at their business.

Supportive Service Costs – Transportation, tools and even clothing. Whether you are staying in agriculture, going to school for better paying work or making a career change, REO can help meet the challenges. We know items like these can be essential to getting a job or staying in school.

What happens when I finish school or get a job?

Once you finish school, you are expected to work with your E&T Specialist to find employment using your training. Once you go to work, your E&T Specialist verifies your job with your new employer and works with you to make sure you are happy with your new job. You will need to stay in touch with your E&T Specialist once a month for at least 12 months after you go to work to report your employment. The future success of our program depends on the success of our participants.

Is the NFJP right for me?

This is a question that you and an E&T Specialist can answer together. If you meet the eligibility requirements and are passionate about your employment and educational goals, then NFJP could be for you. Each person and situation is different so take time to ask questions and learn as much as you can about the program from our staff. All REO staff members will be happy to help you determine whether it is an appropriate program for your own goals.



Our services are free and so is the call.

1-800-546-1140

www.reomontana.org

