



School Garden Educator Community of Practice

San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) and the Edible Schoolyard Project (ESY) are co-hosting a community of practice to support school garden educators! This program is for educators (both certificated teachers and non-profit professionals) looking to expand their garden programming or build a new school or learning garden. School gardens are invaluable as outdoor classroom spaces for students that enrich academic studies and provide a space to learn about healthy eating and sustainable agriculture practices. This program will support the development and utilization of school gardens across San Joaquin County.



Twenty educators will be selected for a ten-month program from September 2023 through June 2024 that covers best practices for everything school gardens. The program will include hands-on sessions and guest lectures on the essentials of building, planting, and maintaining a garden, along with workshops and discussions on how to design and implement equity-focused garden lessons.

Participation in the community of practice includes a stipend of \$2,500 for participation and up to \$1,500 in program materials budget to support your garden's growth. We will also map strategies for ensuring your garden program's financial sustainability after the conclusion of this program.

Interested parties should plan on attending an informational session at the Edible Schoolyard Community Farm at 466 S Ventura Street, Stockton, CA 95203, on April 22nd or May 13th at 10 am or on Zoom on May 4th at 7 pm. Please click to <u>RSVP for the information session</u> or use the QR code. Applications to the program will open April 22nd and close June 2nd. The application is brief but does require a recommendation from a site administrator or program director.



Whether you've been dreaming of having a garden on your school site or you've had one for years, we're here to convene a community that will support the growth and development of the teachers who lead youth in garden-based learning.

If you have any questions, please contact Aubrey@edibleschoolyard.org.