

Apprenticeship Title:	Food Safety at the Farmer's Market
Duration:	12 weeks (approximately May – August, 2017 – <i>dates are flexible based on applicant's home university's summer semester start and end dates</i>)
Compensation:	\$500/week plus benefits and travel allowance for job-related travel
Minimum age:	18
Minimum requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be currently enrolled in a four-year accredited college or university in food science, nutrition, public health, animal science, or closely related field and relevant to the mission of Extension. • Must have completed sophomore year prior to the start of the program. • Must have completed an Introduction to Food Science and/or Nutrition course (or similar) prior to the start of the program. • Must possess a minimum GPA of 3.0 based on a 4.0 scale at the time of application (exceptions will be considered with substantial justification). • Must be a U.S. citizen, national, or permanent resident. • Have a valid driver's license and reliable personal vehicle. • Must be willing to travel (regionally and possibly internationally) and work flexible hours. In other words, this position requires travel connected with official duties, including attendance at night and weekend meetings, conferences, etc. (Travel reimbursement will be provided.) • Must be familiar with food science principles and food safety practices at farmer's market and/or retail level. • Must be willing to complete ServSafe examination and Farmer's Market Training Program.
Preferred qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have experience working with the community. • Able to work effectively and build relationships with others. • Have good organization and planning skills and be able to demonstrate effective project coordination, facilitation, and implementation based on past work or school experiences. • Possess deductive reasoning skills and be able to analyze and synthesize information. • Have a personal commitment to working with diverse clientele and colleagues. • Have good observational skills and can quickly assess environments for food safety.
Physical requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
Additional requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

**Specific
Apprenticeship
Duties:**

Overview:

The aim of this apprenticeship opportunity is to identify, through the development of an evaluation tool of farmer’s markers and a survey of market manager’s food safety knowledge, the current needs of farmer’s market food safety educational materials.

Specific Duties in which the apprentice will be engaged:

- Identify information sources for food based information and determine their reliability
- Interpret food laws and regulations from Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce(MDAC), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Analyze material from other state programs and extension based guidance on food safety practices that are relevant at farmer’s markets
- Develop a tool based checklist to assess food safety practices at the farmer’s market
- Visit and interact with clients and stakeholders at Farmer’s Markets in regions across Mississippi
- Apply the tool at farmer’s markets in the state to assess food safety practices
- Develop a survey for farmer’s market manager to assess food safety competency
- Perform on-site evaluation of farmer’s markets
- Analyze on-site evaluations to meaningful data
- Analyze surveys of market’s managers to meaningful data
- Draw conclusions from on-site evaluations and surveys to determine if there is a correlation between market manager’s knowledge and farmer’s market’s food safety practices
- Develop summary of findings and compose a research abstract
- Develop extension publication based on findings from study
- Develop and present research poster based on findings from study

The apprentice will have the opportunity to work with a full spectrum of stakeholders and partner including:

- Farmer’s Market Managers
- Farmer’s Market Vendors
- State Regulatory Agencies
- Research and Extension Faculty
- Extension Agents and County Coordinators

**General
Apprenticeship
Description:**

- Works with an MSU Extension faculty specialist/mentor and other Extension personnel to coordinate research and implement related outreach program events and activities.
- Maintains an ongoing, professional relationship with your assigned faculty mentor.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participates in meetings where local issues are identified and prioritized, and program results and plans are discussed. • Assists in preparations for planned events and activities by gathering information, assembling materials, contacting participants, and soliciting support from external sources. As appropriate, conducts the teaching, training or other program presentations. • In some cases, the apprentice may identify and develop a value-added process, program, or training tool that may be implemented within the hosting unit's current operations. • Maintains a reflection journal outlining apprenticeship experiences. Completes and submits journal at the conclusion of the apprenticeship. • Will be expected to develop and present a poster or presentation at an industry-related conference or professional meeting identified by the Extension faculty specialist.
<p>Other Information:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing is not provided. However, program administrators may be able to assist you in finding an affordable place to live. • Must submit abstract of research findings at IAFP Annual Meeting 2018 - International Association for Food Protection (Deadline January 2018). • Must be willing to attend and present research findings at IAFP Annual Meeting 2018 - International Association for Food Protection (July 8-11, 2018 - Salt Lake City, UT). Travel expenses will be covered through the apprenticeship.
<p>Apprenticeship Faculty Mentor:</p>	<p>Courtney Crist Assistant Extension Professor 945 Stone Blvd, PO Box 9805, Mississippi State, MS 39762 662-325-0852 cac400@msstate.edu</p>
<p>Application Process:</p>	<p>Online application and supplemental documentation due by 11:59 PM on February 28, 2017. Supplemental documentation for this apprenticeship opportunity includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Essay • Current Resume • Unofficial Transcripts • Two Letters of Recommendation (submitted to mdd269@msstate.edu by Feb 28th)