

# CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS 2009-2010 PROGRAM APPLICATION

## PRIMARY APPLICATION

### PRIMARY APPLICANT'S CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (h): \_\_\_\_\_ (c): \_\_\_\_\_

(w): \_\_\_\_\_ May we call you at work? Yes No

Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Will a family member or business partner attend CIFB with you?

Yes

No

If yes, **please have partner complete a Partner Application.**

Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's relationship to you \_\_\_\_\_

## PRIMARY APPLICANT'S BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

1. Please indicate your highest level of education:

- Some high school
- High school diploma
- Some college
- Bachelor's Degree
- Grad/Professional Degree

2. Provide a brief summary of your work experience including present occupations:

---

---

---

---

---

3. How long have you been interested in farming?

---

---

---

---

---

**PRIMARY APPLICANT’S BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION CONT.**

4. Describe any and all experience you have related to farming or farm planning and management.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5. Are you currently farming?\* (Circle one)

Yes

No

If you answered “yes,” please complete the *Farm Information* section on pages 4 and 5 of this application. If you answered “no,” please proceed to the *Goals and Expectations* section on page 6.

**\*Please note that for the purposes of this application, “farming” can include 1) starting a farm, 2) transitioning an existing farm from conventional to sustainable, 3) working as a manager, employee or intern on someone else’s farm.**

## FARM INFORMATION

1. What is the name of your farm?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Please describe the location where you are currently farming if different from your contact information above:

City/State:

County:

3. What arrangement best describes you in the current growing season?

Working on my own farm

Renting farmland

Full-time internship/mentorship

Part-time internship/mentorship

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many acres are you currently farming? \_\_\_\_\_

5. How many years have you been farming? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What products will you produce in 2009? (Check all that apply)

Vegetables

Fruits

Dairy

Beef

Hogs

Sheep

Flowers

Honey

Alternative/specialty grains

Goats

Other (specify)

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Which best describes your farming methods during the 2009 season?

Organic practices-not certified

Certified organic

Transitioning to certified organic

Certified Naturally Grown

IPM

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## FARM INFORMATION CONT.

8. Where will you be marketing your products in 2009? (Check all that apply)
- Chicago metropolitan area
  - Springfield and its suburbs
  - Champaign-Urbana and their suburbs
  - Bloomington-Normal and their suburbs
  - Other (specify)\_\_\_\_\_
9. Please describe how you are marketing your products in 2009: (Check all that apply)
- CSA
  - Farmers' markets
  - Co-op
  - Roadside stand
  - Internet sales
  - Direct marketing to restaurants
  - Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
10. What percentage of your household income in 2009 do you *expect* to come from farming?
- 0-20%
  - 21-40%
  - 41-60%
  - 61-80%
  - 81-100%
  - Mentorship arrangement—will not receive income
11. What do you expect to be your total income from farming in 2009?
- Less than \$5,000
  - \$5,000-\$9,999
  - \$10,000-\$14,999
  - \$15,000-\$19,999
  - \$20,000-\$29,999
  - \$30,000-\$39,999
  - \$40,000 or more

## GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

1. What farming enterprise(s) are you considering? (Please check all that apply.)

- Vegetables
- Fruits
- Dairy
- Beef

- Hogs
- Sheep
- Flowers
- Honey

- Alternative/specialty grains
- Goats
- Other (specify)

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What are your future goals and how do you think this program can help you?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

3. What do you see as your biggest obstacle in starting your own farm operation or achieving your other farming goals?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS CONT.

4. After completing the CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS program, when do you anticipate farming?

- Already farming
- Within 1 year
- Within 2-3 years
- Within 4-5 years
- Sometime after 5 years

5. The 2009-2010 CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS program will include a series of six On-Farm Field Days that will run throughout the spring and summer of 2010. Please describe any conflicts that would prevent you from participating in the CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS Field Days:

---

---

---

6. The 2009-2010 CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS program also includes a one-on-one mentorship with an experienced farmer that will take place throughout the 2010 growing season. Please describe anything that might prevent you from participating in a CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS mentorship:

---

---

---

7. Please share any questions you have about the CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS program:

---

---

---

## REFERENCES

1. How did you hear about CENTRAL ILLINOIS FARM BEGINNINGS?

---

---

2. Please provide one work reference and one personal reference.

Work reference: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h): \_\_\_\_\_ (w): \_\_\_\_\_

Personal reference: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h): \_\_\_\_\_ (w): \_\_\_\_\_