

*Are you interested in gardening?  
Do you enjoy working with youth? Do you want to  
enhance your school or community garden?*

# Come Learn About the UC Garden Nutrition Extender Training!

**When: Thurs., Feb 16, 2017 @ 12pm**

**Where: Seven Sisters Garden, UCCE  
2156 Sierra Way San Luis Obispo**



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
cal  fresh Nutrition Education



Become a UC GNE!

San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties  
School Garden Sustainability Program



**University of California**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Questions or to RSVP:

Lisa Paniagua

[lmharrah@ucanr.edu](mailto:lmharrah@ucanr.edu)

805.781.5947



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### ***What is the UC GNE Program?***

The University of California Garden Nutrition Extenders (UC GNE) program has been developed to fill a need in school garden education. The 30-hour training program focuses on developing skills to conduct garden enhanced nutrition education including: planning school gardens, planting with the seasons, tasting food from the garden, and connecting California state standards with outdoor education. Participants that complete the training will be able to lead comprehensive garden nutrition education programs with youth. The UC GNE program is vital to establishing the farm-to-school link through evidence-based curriculum and engaging youth with service learning projects in the garden.

### ***How many hours is the training program?***

The training program is 30 hours over a period of 10 weeks .

### ***Who can apply? If I don't have any gardening experience can I still apply?***

Individuals at least 18 years of age who are interested in volunteering in garden enhanced nutrition education should apply. The UC GNE Program encourages a diverse population to apply, no garden experience necessary.

### ***What will I learn in the UC GNE training program?***

The training program includes hands-on, inquiry-based learning engaging participants to study and present garden and nutrition curriculum: *Learn, Grow, Eat & Go!* Jr. Master Gardener™ and practical garden education™ as well as outdoor classroom management and food safety. UC GNE trainees can expect a rigorous, comprehensive program to prepare them for work with educators and students in the school garden.

### ***What are the goals of the UC GNE program?***

After completion of the training program, UC GNE volunteers will develop a plan to work in local school gardens to provide a minimum of 36 hours of evidence-based garden enhanced education to students and/or educators. UC GNEs will become 4-H volunteers and lead in school nutrition and garden leadership clubs. UC GNEs work with the UC Master Gardeners and UC Master Food Preservers for cross-consultation and technical assistance.

### ***How do I become and remain a certified UC GNE?***

Complete the 30 hour training program, deliver 36 hours of direct garden nutrition education and fulfill 12 continuing education units (CEU's) to be approved by UCCE SGSP Project Coordinator.

### ***What curriculum and program support materials will be provided?***

The training will equip UC GNEs with the skills and materials necessary to deliver the *Learn, Grow, Eat & Go!*- Jr. Master Gardener™ curriculum. Depending on funding availability UC GNEs will also be provided garden literature and curriculum materials for participants (i.e. garden journals, parent letters, etc.). UC GNEs will have opportunities for school garden support funds to support set-up and maintenance of school gardens (tools, soil, planter boxes, seeds, etc.). In addition, all UC GNEs will receive ongoing technical assistance and support from the UC Cooperative Extension School Garden Sustainability Project Coordinator and other UC GNEs.

### ***Is there a fee for the UC GNE training program?***

Yes, there is a \$150 program fee to pay for trainings, educational materials, program support and supplies. Scholarships are available. Donations to support the program are always accepted. Please contact UCCE SGSP Project Coordinator for information on assistance with the program fees.

### ***Will there be further opportunities for UC GNE training if I cannot attend the next training cohort?***

Absolutely! Annual training classes are planned for future UC GNE volunteers.

### ***What are the benefits of becoming a UC Volunteer?***

Becoming a UC volunteer broadens the scope of work beyond volunteering during the school day such as after-school garden clubs. UC volunteers complete a background and fingerprint check (for a small fee) to conduct their work with youth.

### ***What if I cannot afford the cost for fingerprinting?***

Please contact UCCE SGSP Project Coordinator for information on assistance with fingerprinting fees.

### ***What are the benefits of becoming a UC GNE volunteer?***

Your work and service as a UC GNE volunteer are invaluable to the local community as you guide both youth and educators through garden enhanced nutrition education. By becoming a UC GNE you will enhance your professional capacity to educate, grow nutritious and sustainable food, advocate for local food systems and network with other UC Cooperative Extension programs, professionals, volunteers and resources.