



UNH Sustainability Institute

Sustainability Fellowship New Hampshire Food Alliance Market Development Research Durham, NH

The [NH Food Alliance](#) (NHFA) is a network of businesses, organizations and institutions working to influence and shape the future of New Hampshire's emerging local food economy to build a food system that works for all: people, businesses, communities, and the environment. NHFA has five action teams that coordinate implementation of its priority projects: Market Development, Food Access, Land resources, Fisheries and Education.

The Market Development Action Team's role is to enhance the capacity of service providers in New Hampshire to provide technical, educational, and financial assistance to new and experienced food entrepreneurs related to production, efficiency, value-added processing and meeting regulatory demands of wholesale markets. While surrounding states have sustainable funding mechanisms through each State's operating budget efforts in New Hampshire to provide similar funding mechanisms have failed to pass the legislative process. The Market Development Action Team is working to identify and implement a (non-State) funding mechanism to fill this gap.

The NHFA Market Development Action Team seeks a research fellow to help advance these efforts. During the summer of 2017, the NHFA Research Fellow will work with Market Development Action Team and other key stakeholders to collect and synthesize primary and secondary research on sustainable funding mechanisms for technical and financial assistance. The Fellow will:

- Research and identify best practices used in other states or regions for providing technical, educational and financial assistance to food entrepreneurs
- Research and identify potential interested public and/or private funders whose goals are aligned with the NH Food Alliance work, and for whom existing and/or potential service providers meet funders' criteria,
- Identify service providers in the region who have expertise in needed services that could fill existing gaps identified by the action team,
- Present results and provide recommendations to the Action Team.

The final deliverable will be verbal and written report(s) on the findings and best practices, to inform the development of new funding solution(s).

This project is an exciting opportunity for a Fellow interested in food production and markets to play an integral part in finding realistic solutions to the a long-term challenges of providing on-going technical, educational, and financial assistance to new and experienced food entrepreneurs in New Hampshire. The Fellow will be actively involved in a real world undertaking of aiding the development and expansion of the market for locally produced food products, and will be able to network with and learn from a wide array of leaders and subject matter experts from across New England and New Hampshire.

Location: UNH Sustainability Institute, Durham, NH

Time commitment: 40 hours per week, June 5-August 18, 2017

Compensation: \$6000 stipend

Desired Qualifications:

- Graduate student or undergraduate (junior or senior) with academic background in related field/s (i.e. policy/law, sustainable agriculture, economics)
- Demonstrated skills in legal and scientific research
- Basic familiarity and comfort with economic and business concepts
- Professionalism, attention to detail, flexibility, and creativity.
- Exceptional interpersonal and communication (verbal and written) skills
- Demonstrated ability to work well independently and with a team—and with varied types of stakeholders (from the public and private sectors)
- Experience with Microsoft Office applications including Word, Excel, Powerpoint.

UNHSI Sustainability program eligibility:

Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates are eligible. We will encourage, but not require, an academic sponsor or reference for each fellow, and where possible we will ask that course credits are awarded.

Supervision, Training, Mentoring and Evaluation

This fellow will receive supervision from members of the NHFA Market Development Team, as well as mentoring and professional development offerings from UNHSI.

Fellows will be expected to participate in three MANDATORY events:

- A three-day, two-night orientation in Durham, NH, May 31st- June 2nd. Lodging and food are provided; Fellows are responsible for any associated travel costs.
- Midterm project presentations to UNHSI staff, faculty and relevant project partners (can be done remotely).
- A summative evaluation and feedback session at the end of their placement.

Apply by February 19th at www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows