The Growing New Farmers Program provides 6-months of introductory level classroom and hands-on training in farm production and business planning, with graduates earning a Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture through the College of Charleston School of Professional Studies. This combination of classroom and field experience that has proven to be invaluable when venturing in to the world of small to mid-sized sustainable farming.

PROGRAM DATES:
March 5 - August 27, 2018
(includes a 2-week break in early July)

COST:
$2,000 program fee
Scholarships are available via application. A $400 deposit is required to secure enrollment. The remaining cost can be paid monthly.

SCHEDULE
• Monday evenings at Local Works, 6 - 8 p.m.
• Wednesday OR Thursday mornings at Middleton Place Organic Farm, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
• 1-2 hours reading on your own throughout the week

To learn more, email brian@lowcountrylocalfirst.org or call 843-801-3390

Participants must be 18 years or older and provide their own housing and transportation. Lowcountry Local First is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

CORE CONCEPTS
• Bed and Field Preparation
• Beekeeping
• Business Planning
• Certification Programs (Organic, GAP, etc.)
• Equipment Selection and Use
• Farm Design and Management
• Fertility and Soil Management
• Financial Management
• Greenhouses and Season Extension
• Harvesting
• Irrigation
• Labor
• Land Access
• Livestock
• Pest and Disease Management
• Plant Care and Culture
• Post-Harvest Handling
• Sales and Marketing
• Weed Management and Cultivation

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
• Optional match with one of more than 20 local farmers and food system leaders for a paid, hands-on apprenticeship.
• Field trips to local farms and businesses.
• Peer-to-peer networking opportunities.
• Printed and digital access to curriculum, readings and resources.
• Real-world project-based learning experiences.

APPLY NOW
Deadline FEB 16, 2018

LOWCOUNTRYLOCALFIRST.ORG

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SCDA Specialty Crop Block Grant
Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
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Charleston County Economic Development
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