



TILLERS INTERNATIONAL: 2026 INTERNSHIP

RESILIENT SKILLS FOR FARMING AND HANDCRAFT

About Us

Tillers International is a non-profit working farm and folk school located in Southwest Michigan. We aim to implement a resilient, sustainable agriculture on-site with a focus on draft animal power, in addition to teaching a variety of classes on heritage craft skills—blacksmithing, timber framing, cooperage, and more. We have a long history of international partnerships and strive to share our knowledge with farmers at home and abroad.

The Position

We are seeking a full-time, on-site intern for the remainder of the 2026 season. You will assist with the fieldwork, landscaping, animal husbandry, facilities maintenance, and more. You will receive a stipend, a free room (including utilities), on-the-job training, and free classes through our folk school program.

Qualifications

- A valid U.S. driver's license is required.
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
- Farm work can be strenuous and physically taxing. Interns must have the ability to lift at least 75 lbs and walk three miles.
- A strong work ethic, personal integrity, a positive attitude, and strong communication skills are essential.
- Interns must be willing to learn a wide variety of skills including animal handling, hand tool work, and equipment operation.
- Previous experience with agriculture or large animal care is preferred, but not required.

Intern Responsibilities

Interns may sign on for the warm season (from signup until the end of October), but are encouraged to commit to a full calendar year.

Interns are expected to work 40 hours per week. The details of intern schedules will be worked out with the Farm Coordinator. Occasionally, farm work necessitates work in excess of 40 weekly hours; a flex-time system will be employed to compensate for time overages. Work areas include the following:

- Farm and fieldwork, including :
 - Field preparation
 - Planting, weeding, and harvesting produce
 - Cover crop management
 - Irrigation
 - Pest Control
- Animal husbandry, including:
 - Feed and water management
 - Grooming and routine veterinary care
 - Bedding and manure management
 - Barn cleaning and organization
- Facilities Maintenance, including:
 - Landscaping duties, including the use of mowers, string trimmers, and chainsaws
 - Assisting with plumbing, light carpentry, and assorted building maintenance and improvement
 - Fence inspection, maintenance, and repair
 - Assisting with tool and implement maintenance
- Timber and Firewood Management, including:
 - Felling, limbing, and bucking trees
 - Transporting and stacking firewood
 - Feeding wood boilers during the cold season, if applicable

At Tillers International, we strive to use animal power to execute as much of the above work as possible. You will be trained to drive oxen, horses, and donkeys and to use them in conjunction with animal-powered implements to do useful work.

Compensation

- \$500 monthly food stipend, paid biweekly
- Free room in the Tillers bunkhouse
 - Private bedroom
 - Shared bathroom, kitchen, and living space
 - All utilities paid, including Wi-Fi in bunkhouse
- Access to shared laundry facilities
- Free access to any courses offered by Tillers International, contingent on the farm's labor needs
- Access to small plots of land for personal agricultural use, including but not limited to gardening, beekeeping, and animal stewardship

Please send your resume, cover letter, and three references to tillers@tillersinternational.org. Any questions about the application process or the position may be directed to the same email address, or you may call 269-626-0223.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

Tillers International is an equal employment opportunity employer. Tillers International will not engage in or tolerate any discrimination in the workplace prohibited by applicable local, state, federal or international laws. It is against Tillers International policy for any employee to engage in discrimination against another employee on the basis of his or her race, religion, gender, pregnancy, age, citizenship, genetics/genetic markers, physical or mental disability, marital status, national origin, amnesty or status as a covered veteran, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal or state law.