

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ritchie Wai, Farmer Training Coordinator
ritchie@learnrowconnect.org
608-371-9329
[Media Assets/Press Kit](#)



Stateline Farm Beginnings® - Now accepting applications for 2023

CALEDONIA, IL January 24, 2023 --- **Launch or expand your farm enterprise!** [Angelic Organics Learning Center](#) is accepting applications for [Stateline Farm Beginnings®](#), a farmer-led, community-based, robust training program focused on the business management skills of sustainable and regenerative agriculture. Over 12 months, beginning farmers clarify their goals and strengths, establish a strong enterprise plan, and start building their operation through a combination of farmer-led classroom sessions, farmer connections and on-farm experiences, and an extensive farmer network. Nearly 300 aspiring and beginning farmers have graduated from Stateline Farm Beginnings® over the last 17 years.

Cost: Complete 12-month, 3-part training program: \$1400. [Tuition FAQs](#)

*Robust & Extensive Scholarships are Available! All interested applicants are encouraged to apply.**

Dates: March 2, 2023 - December 6, 2023

Location: Virtual and in-person/hybrid at [Angelic Organics Learning Center](#), [McHenry County College](#)

Apply: Submit [applications](#) by **March 12, 2023**. *Applications received after March 12, 2023 will be considered for 2024.*

Benefits of Stateline Farm Beginnings®:

- Over 100 contact hours of class time
- Holistic approach to a sustained agricultural and social enterprise
- Assess values, goals, network, and resources while developing plans for a farm business
- Learn to set goals and scale, manage finances and lending options, budgets, and recordkeeping
- Explore regional land access approaches
- Understand enterprise development and management
- Sessions led by young and established farmers, agricultural experts, supporters, and service providers.

Results of Course Completion:

- An actionable learning plan
- Actionable, holistic farm and business plans
- Working enterprise budgets
- Working timeline for appropriate scaling, regional relationships, and resources
- **Completion of Farm Business Intensive and Stateline Connection may be counted towards United States Department of Agriculture - Farm Service Agency (FSA) loan requirements for management and/or education.**

*Thanks to support through the [Illinois Department of Agriculture](#) and [Food:Land:Opportunity](#), tuition for *Farm Dreams Intensive* has been reduced from \$800 to \$200. Members of the LGBTQ+, women, BIPOC, Immigrant, and US Military Veteran communities are strongly encouraged to apply for financial assistance. Scholarship applications are included in the application packet.



[Angelic Organics Learning Center](#) is a regional leader building sustainable local food and farm systems through experiential education and training programs in partnership with rural and urban people and is a regional member of the national alliance - [Farm Beginnings® Collaborative](#), who use the [Farm Beginnings®](#) curriculum to increase the number of beginning farmers building food and farm economies that are environmentally sustainable, equitable, and healthy. Visit [Illinois Farm Beginnings](#) to view all Farm Beginnings® programs offered across Illinois.

###

