

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Farm Alliance of Baltimore, 2025

OUR MISSION:

<u>The Farm Alliance of Baltimore</u>, founded in 2011, is a membership organization of urban farms, neighborhood growers, and friends. We use connection, resource sharing, and collective advocacy with respect to food, land and water to expand communities' self-determination and power.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES & DUES:

FARM MEMBERSHIP

Agricultural operations that produce more than \$2000 worth of farm products for sale or donation annually and have been in production for at least one year in Baltimore City.

Dues:

- Farms that are privately owned: **\$200**
- Farms belonging to nonprofits, companies, or institutions where the farms operating budget is:
 - less than \$100k: \$200
 - o greater than \$100K but less than

\$300K: **\$300**

- between \$300K and \$1M/yr: \$400
- o greater than \$1M/year: **\$500**

GARDEN MEMBERSHIP

Garden membership includes homesteads, community gardens, cooperative gardens, apiaries, and school gardens producing less than \$2000 worth of farm products for sale or donation annually and have been in production for at least one year in Baltimore City.

Dues:

• \$125. For gardens that this amount is prohibitive, you may make arrangements to cover your dues in the form of service.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Fellowship & Community Networking

- **Fellowship and Peer Support**: Opportunities for fellowship and networking through monthly member meetings, social gatherings, and farmer-to-farmer support.
- **Networking Support**: A collaborative environment that encourages peer learning and shared experiences among urban farmers.

Resources & Technical Assistance

- One-on-one technical assistance: support from FAB staff, including at least 1 annual site visit and additional assistance upon request
- **Referral Network:** Connections to farm agencies such as UMD-Baltimore City Extension, FSA, NRCS, MDA, and other farm support agencies as needed
- Digital Resource Folder: Access to a comprehensive folder containing resources, supply lists, videos, and a digital library.
- Active Email Listserv: A communication channel for job opportunities, funding, donated items, professional development, and more. Members can also post volunteer requests, tool or supply shares, event announcements, resource inquiries, and seek support from the FAB community.
- Member Calendar: Stay informed with a calendar that highlights upcoming FAB events and opportunities.

Promotion & Marketing

- **Event Promotion**: Member events and activities that align with FAB's mission are promoted through the FAB newsletter, social media, and marketing materials (members should submit event details to FAB staff).
- **Increased Visibility:** Enhanced exposure for your farm or business through FAB's membership network and media channels.

Grant & Advocacy Support

- **Grant Application Support**: Letters of support for grants and advocacy (one week's notice) and grant application reviews (two weeks' notice).
- Policy Advocacy for Urban Agriculture: FAB builds support for urban agriculture by organizing
 farmer testimonials, submitting testimony, engaging with officials, and representing members at
 relevant meetings.

Voting Rights & Leadership Opportunities

- Voting Rights: One vote per member on group decisions impacting FAB.
- **Leadership Roles:** Members may be eligible to serve on the FAB Board of Directors or an executive committee
- Experienced Member Opportunities: Members with 5+ years of experience and 5+ years of membership may be eligible to host field days, complete member site visits, mentor trainees or teach workshops.

AND access to exclusive program benefits detailed on the next page...

2025 PROGRAM BENEFITS:

*numbers listed are the approximate dollar value per program benefit
**programs may have participation requirements to access benefits

Program	Benefits For Membership	Farm	Garden
Education & Outreach	Option to host cooking demonstrations at your site sponsored by FAB (\$275 each)	3 demos \$825	1 demo \$275
	Access to field day workshops (up to 10 field days at \$15 each: \$150)	\$150	\$150
	Access to FAB professional development scholarships up to \$100 , offered per year as available	\$100	\$100
	Access to professional development classes and trainings (up to 12 per year, approximately \$35 each)	\$420	\$420
Sustainable Production	Access to seedlings through local organic contract growers as available (\$33 each)	8 trays \$264	4 trays \$132
	Soil & compost tests and 1 coaching session (up to 5 soil samples and shipping: \$80 , coaching session: \$75)	\$155	\$ 155
	Soil amendments and cover crop seeds as available (approximately \$50)	\$50	\$50
Collective Sales	Option to participate in the 32nd Street Market, valued at \$755	\$755	n/a
Member Engagement	Annual Member Care package: FAB merchandise, member resource folder and 20% discount on all other FAB merchandise.	\$35	\$35
	Access to member exclusive events, donated goods & guest speakers (up to 13 per year)	priceless	priceless
	TOTAL APPROXIMATE VALUE	\$2754	\$1317

MEMBER EXPECTATIONS:

As a collaborative membership organization, the Farm Alliance of Baltimore (FAB) depends on the active participation and input of its members. All members are expected to:

- Adhere to FAB's Membership Agreement: Commit to supporting the <u>Farm Alliance's mission</u> and aligning with its stated values.
- **Active Participation**: Engage in FAB activities and respond to communications in a timely manner. Attend at least 50% of monthly membership meetings.
- **Respectful Conduct**: Treat all FAB members, staff, and board members with respect and compassion.
- **Serve on FAB Committees**: Participate in a committee, the Board of Directors, a working group, or a caucus to support FAB's organizational needs.
- **Complete Required Surveys**: Participate in FAB's annual survey and any additional surveys administered throughout the year.
- **Update FAB on Operational Changes**: Notify FAB of any updates to your operation that directly impact your membership (e.g., changes in staffing, land tenure, mailing address).
- Pay Dues Promptly: Ensure annual dues are paid within 30 days of receiving the invoice. If a
 farm's parent organization covers dues, the member representative is responsible for
 completing paperwork and confirming payment within 30 days of signing.
- Support FAB Programs: Understand that membership dues fund FAB's programmatic work.
- Assist with Strategic Planning: Contribute to the organization's strategic planning efforts.
- Commit to Mutual Aid: Offer mutual support to other members in times of need.
- **Commit to Sustainable Practices**: Engage in farming practices that improve environmental quality and promote the well-being of farmers and communities.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- Enrollment is open annually from December–January.
- Applications are reviewed by the Membership Committee, with farm applicants requiring a site visit and garden applicants an introductory call or site visit.
- New members complete an orientation and 6-month review.
- Membership is renewed yearly with a signed agreement and dues, which support the organization's programs.