Future Generations University is excited to announce the opening of a new opportunity to join their team. The University is seeking an energetic and motivated Field Associate to support the Appalachian Program. The Field Associate will provide support to the Appalachian Program Research Faculty, Field Coordinator and Program Manager by participating in field research data collection, research assessment activities, and education and coaching for non-timber forest products. Future Generations University is a small school, where everyone, regardless of seniority is expected to bring a positive mindset to teamwork, be self-driven, have effective time management, and believe that positive social change is possible. Team members are expected to think creatively, participate in University-wide strategic planning, and bring dedicated drive and passion to their work.

The Field Associate should have experience working in the Appalachian Region and some experience in or an academic understanding of forest farming and maple syrup production. They must have a willingness to spend time outside in all types of weather and participate in data collection throughout any season. This job will require regional travel as well as a flexible work schedule that may at times require attending meetings outside of normal business hours to accommodate deadlines, community meetings, and coordination with producer or project partner schedules.

This position is full-time. This position is partially remote with a requirement to be at Future Generations University's office in Franklin WV at least eight days per month plus field time.

Interested candidates will be expected, following any necessary training, to perform the following functions:

- Serve as the assistant on field research projects
  - Collect and report field data
  - Perform administrative duties in support of the program
- Management of field equipment
  - Cleaning of equipment in the off-season
  - Organize and inventory equipment
- Perform ag-service provider and producer education activities
  - Perform woodlot assessments and on-site coaching and problem-solving
  - Participate in/Teach at education events
  - Provide direct coaching
  - Collect regional industry tracking information
- Assist other members of the team on an as needed basis including data reporting, coordinating education activities, and participating in the grant-writing
Preferred Experience & Skills:

- Experience producing maple syrup a plus
- Basic knowledge of tree and plant species and identification skills
- Comfort with basic power tools, experience operating a chainsaw preferred.
- Strong attention to detail and a commitment to complete tasks and follow-through on
- Knowledge of Google Drive, Zoom, Microsoft Office
- Must be energetic, positive, imaginative, well-organized, and capable of functioning effectively in an independent environment and on a small team.
- Must be able to lift 75lbs
- Valid driver’s license and means of transportation

Salary based on prior experience and the candidate’s portfolio of skills. Anticipated Salary Range: $36,000-$38,000. Interested candidates should send an email including the following to Stephanie Hartman at HR@future.edu

1. Cover letter, clearly stating your relevant experience, your interest in this position, and why you feel you are the best candidate for the position.
2. An updated resume / CV
3. Three relevant and recent professional references

The Appalachian Program at Future Generations University strives to successfully combine learning, research, and actions to lift up communities throughout the central Appalachian region (West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Tennessee). The majority of the program’s activities focus on improving local agricultural economies through atypical season-extension and value-added opportunities, especially featuring maple and alternative tree syrups. Increasingly, work has also included furthering the Non-Timber Forest Products industry throughout the region. The Appalachian Team partners with state and local government agencies, land grant universities, and numerous non-profit organizations working in the region. Additional background information about the University and the Appalachian Program (formerly the Maple research initiative) is available on the websites www.Future.Edu & www.Future.Org