



## HAALo Hands Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### What Does HAALo Hands Stand for?

*Did you ever wonder why the Grower's Program was called HAALo Hands? It stands for "Herbal Agriculture Network for Diverse Sustainability (HANDS)".*

### What is HAALo Hands?

*A program created by HAALo to source as many of our bulk dried medicinal herbs as locally as possible at the highest quality so that our community is as resilient and healthy as possible. This way, we maintain the highest quality and nourish our community.*

### Who this program would be best for: Interested in Growing Herbs?

*We welcome **ANYONE** interested in supporting our community's vibrant resilience through growing and processing bulk herbs for our special community apothecary-style shop, HAALo!*

### Who are our Growers/ and Harvesters?

- Gardeners
- Farmers
- Herbalists
- Wild crafters
- Plant Enthusiasts
- Naturalists

*Any gardener or farmer who becomes a member of our program always uses organic practices (never any pesticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers, or any other non-organic method). Many of our gardeners and farmers are beyond organic in their cultivation, often bio-dynamically – or permaculturally-inclined.*

### What is the process of how to become a member of our HAALo Hands Program?

***INSERT A direct link TO HAALo HANDS EMAIL.** Please contact our HAALo Hands Coordinator with your interest. Let us know a bit about your experience with organic gardening, and your land or garden space. If you are more interested in wild crafting, share about this experience.*

### What herbs does our community need?

We have a wide variety of needed herbs. Please see the list of herbs needed under the Farmer Tab on [www.HAALo.org](http://www.HAALo.org)

## **How to apply to HAALo Hands:**

### **HAALo Hands Vision**

*For any of you who have grown for us previously, we are updating and expanding the program significantly.*

*We know that many plants require seasons or multiple years to get to their harvesting state. While we understand life moves us in all sorts of directions, we hope that anyone who joins the HAALo hands program will stay with us for a few years to come. This is truly a long-term vision.*

### **Participating in the HAALo Hands Program is probably best for:**

- 1) Those who are herbalists and interested in deepening their relationships with certain plant medicines through growing these plants*
- 2) Existing organic farmers or gardeners who want to grow plant medicine as an addition to their other plants/crops*
- 3) Hobby gardeners or farmers who are interested in growing medicinals*
- 4) Those who are herb-curious and have a green thumb already or are possibly already growing medicinals whether they know it or not*
- 5) Enthusiastic individuals who want to participate in a budding community resiliency project because it matters*
- 6) Permaculture enthusiasts who see medicinal plants as an essential part of the living landscape and want to bring bounty to their community*

### **What we will offer**

In addition to monetary compensation, we offer the following perks for accepted and committed HAALo Hands members:

- \* **Full payment** for the dried herbs (more details below)
  - A grower identification card will be given to our growers who provide a minimum of 5 pounds will receive a store discount of up to 20% off:
  - *all bulk herbs (we have hundreds)*
  - *HAALo classes*
- \* **Write a relevant article for HAALo's newsletter:** We would love to have you share your experience

of growing! Perhaps highlighting one of the plants you are growing or introduce readers to permaculture practices that involve medicinal, organic medicinal herb growing tips, etc. Writing an article is a good way to offer content and promote yourself. (Article would need to be approved).

\* **Private Facebook and Instagram group** for growers to ask and answer questions, mentor each other, show photos, generally inspire and connect with each other

\* **Public wild/cultivated plant walks or garden tours on your farm or garden** led by HAALo staff, area herbalists, or you!

\* **Receive basic resource documents** (step by step process and guidelines), recommended online and book resources, and basic questions answered in relation to growing medicinal plants **(There are several links located on the last page of the Document called TIPS and Guidelines How to Process Herbs up on our web now that you can link to)**

\* Cultivate community around growing medicinal herbs and develop new connections for collaboration. Get involved in our local medicine shed. Be a part of HAALo!

#### **Payment:**

We pay 150-200% of what we would pay retail to our suppliers for each pound of local dried (that means grown, harvested, processed, dried and prepped) high quality, organically grown herbal material. Our new minimum is paying \$20/lb., and you can generally expect anywhere between \$20-30/lb. of dried and processed material.

HAALo is willing to buy 1-25 pounds of each herb you grow, when harvested and dried to our standards properly.

If you are interested in growing certain herbs, please see our top 10 herbs need list at the following link **(LINK TO OUR WEBSITE WITH THE LIST OF HERBS)**. We will let you know how much we buy yearly. We strive to keep our herbs as fresh as possible, so do our best not to buy more than what we typically go through each year. If you have extra quantity after your harvest and processing, you could consider creative ways to sell those herbs through other means.

#### **Harvest and Process:**

You will receive details and guidelines once you apply and are accepted as a member of our crew.

You will need a space that is always shaded with good airflow and a consistent eye for the drying process. This is a necessary element in producing a high quality product. We will not be able to buy plants that are sun-drenched or have lost their vitality. More info and resources will be available for you once you sign up.

If you want to just grow and harvest the plants, consider teaming up with a friend who could process,

dry, garble and prep them for sale. Or gather some volunteers for your big push work days!

**Process for Applying to our HAALo Hands program if you are interested.**

Application

- Fill out application (**link to PDF should be here**)
- Email to **herbs@haalo.org** (**link to the email id**)

If you would prefer to assist others with their projects as a volunteer, let us know. We can get you in touch those who may be seeking help!

*Primary Contact: Jasmine Noble at [herbs@haalo.org](mailto:herbs@haalo.org)*