

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

A full-time position in the BFREE Fellowship Program is now available. The current opening is for a **Cacao Agroforestry Fellow** assigned to BFREE's sustainable agriculture program.

The **BFREE Science and Education Fellows Program** is a two-year immersive work-training opportunity for recent Belizean junior college and college graduates who exhibit leadership potential combined with a clear interest in the conservation of the country's natural resources.

By working in the field alongside seasoned professionals on a daily basis, BFREE Fellows have the opportunity to become budding experts in their area of focus. Fellows are based at the BFREE Field Station and Privately Protected Area which adjoins close to 1.5 million acres of lowland tropical rainforest. BFREE is dedicated to the preservation and conservation of the Maya Mountains Massif through environmental education, outreach, training, and research.

Compensation and Schedule:

Fellows receive a regular salary, room and board, and a two-week vacation after one year of work. Fellows live at BFREE during their 10-day work shift.

Eligibility:

Candidates must have completed a degree at the Junior College or University level, have a strong interest in the conservation of Belize's natural resources, be committed to a strict work program in a remote rainforest environment, and have strong references from their academic advisors and past employers.

This job is a balance between the administrative and physical tasks that are required to successfully run a program in a remote and wild location. Successful candidates must:

- Be citizens of Belize
- Be fluent in English
- Have completed junior college or higher
- Be in the early stage of their career, with some volunteer and practical experience
- Have an interest in becoming a leader in conservation efforts for Belize
- Be capable of doing physically taxing work to care for captive turtles and assist in maintaining the facility on a daily basis

This is a competitive application process. BFREE selects candidates based on their academic achievements, level of scientific competence, aptitude for conservation, leadership potential, likelihood of bringing back new ideas to their community, and flexibility and aptitude for success in a cross-cultural and ever-changing environment.

Description of Work:

Primary duties within the Cacao Agroforestry program for your work assignment include but are not limited to the following:

- Assist in the daily activities with the Cacao Agroforestry Program including planting, chopping, watering, creating shade, grafting and thinning.
- Assist international and local researchers and co-workers on research projects and activities related to the cacao and chocolate programs
- Assist in the creation of reports for the Cacao Agroforestry Program.
- Data collection – records on experimental plots.
- Learn and implement best practices for the nursery and plantation.
- Assist with maintaining the tools and equipment for the project.
- Compile photographs and written documentation to be used in reporting.
- Assist in teaching and providing informative experiences to visitors as well as BFREE staff.
- Assist with development and submission of grants with BFREE staff for both increased cultivation and research.

Application Requirements:

Applications are due by May 19, 2025. Successful applicants will be required to interview via phone and then in-person. Applicant finalists will be invited to spend one trial week of work to determine suitability for living and working at BFREE.

To apply, email Heather Barrett at jobs@bfreebz.org. The following complete information is required to be considered:

- Letter of interest and description of relevant experience with a paragraph detailing why you believe you can be successful in a remote, jungle environment
- Two letters of recommendation
- Official copy of transcript for college/university degree received
- Copy of social security card