



Grow With Us!

Food and agriculture is one of the largest industries in Michigan. Grow with us and make a difference.

If you desire to work in a professional and supportive environment that fosters personal investment in our workforce, then the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) is the place for you.

MDARD encourages and embraces innovation, creativity and growth so we can provide the best service possible to Michigan's food and agriculture businesses, our communities and our colleagues.



Opportunities for Growth

MDARD offers its team members opportunities for growth throughout their careers.

Training – Newly hired employees receive on-the-job training and are paired with experienced staff to learn the ropes firsthand. Advanced, position-specific training and emergency preparedness training are also available.

Professional Development – MDARD encourages participation in mentoring and job shadowing programs, professional development and leadership courses, including the Great Lakes Leadership Academy at Michigan State University and the state's Quality of Life Leadership Academy. Financial support or discounted tuition rates are available through select colleges for staff interested in furthering their education.

Community Service and Outreach – A dedication to serving our community and the generosity of our employees shines through with activities like the annual Michigan Harvest Gathering, which raises food and funds to benefit the Food Bank Council of Michigan. We also support United Way charities through the State Employees Combined Campaign and serve as mentors in the Big Brothers Big Sisters at-school Lunch Buddies program.

Team Building – We spend a lot of time with our work family, so nurturing personal relationships is key to our professional success. Our team is strengthened by events and activities coordinated by our Special Events Committee and Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Workgroup. From group outings at baseball games to lunchtime potlucks and events that encourage sharing of our cultural roots, we get to know, understand and appreciate each other.