

river valley co-op

wild about local

Low Income Ownership Assistance Program



The Low Income
Ownership Assistance
Program gives everyone,
regardless of income, an
opportunity to become an
owner of River Valley Co-op
and enjoy all the benefits of
being a co-op owner.



330 North King Street • Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 584.2665 • www.rivervalley.coop

This program is for local residents who are committed to supporting our co-op by becoming owners, but who might not otherwise be able to afford to join.

How does the program work?

An owner equity share in River Valley Co-op costs \$150. Participants in the Low Income Ownership Assistance Program pay 15 monthly installments of \$5 (for a total of \$75) and River Valley Co-op pays the other half of the share (\$75).

The \$75 paid by the program is a loan. Repayment is optional, but if you find in the future that your circumstances allow you to repay the \$75, that amount will then be contributed back to the Low Income Ownership Assistance Fund to help future owners.

Who is eligible?

You are eligible if you value cooperative Ownership rights and responsibilities and you find that you have difficulty affording either the full \$150 membership or the \$25/month installment program.

You alone determine whether you need the support of this program to become a co-op owner. The funding comes from co-op owners who have donated to the program to ensure that ownership in the co-op is accessible to everyone, regardless of income.

If you would like to learn more about the benefits and responsibilities of being a co-op owner, stop by the Customer Service Desk.

How may I apply?

If you are interested in receiving assistance to become a co-op owner, please complete the application form and return it to the Customer Service Desk. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis and granted if funding is available.

Application Form

Please complete the co-op ownership form below and return to the Customer Service Desk in the store. *This application will be kept confidential.*

- I want to become a co-op owner of River Valley Co-op and request the financial support of the Low Income Membership Assistance Fund to do so.
- Enclosed is the first payment of \$5 toward the full owner equity requirement of \$150.
- I will make 14 additional monthly payments of \$5 until \$75 has been paid in full. I understand that the Low Income Ownership Assistance Fund will donate \$75 towards the cost of my owner equity share.
- I also understand that I am under no obligation to repay the \$75 but if I am, in the future, able to pay the full amount of my ownership, the co-op will use the \$75 that I pay to help other low income owners join the co-op.
- I understand my equity share investment is unsecured and redemption requests cannot be guaranteed.

(New Co-op Owner Signature Required)

This ownership is for:

Name _____

(Co-op Owner: Representative of the ownership as defined in bylaws 2.1)

Email _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Note We do not share our mailing list with anyone.

Additional adult household/family members:

(Residing at the same address and authorized to use this ownership for purchases)

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

- I would like to volunteer. To get started, attend one of our monthly Outreach Committee meetings. Visit www.rivervalley.coop to learn more.