

Women and Youth in Agriculture



Diana E. Collingwood
Founder & CEO



Virgin Islands Women in Agriculture Association Inc. (VIWIAA)
&
People's Environmental Agricultural Career Education (PEACE)
International, USVI LLC.

Women and Youth in Agriculture



WHY?



Virgin Islands Women in Agriculture Association Inc. (VIWIAA)

&

***People's Environmental Agricultural Career Education (PEACE)
International, USVI LLC.***

Nurturing Next-Generation Agricultural Environmental and Conservation Professionals



Conservation Workforce Development Program

A Conservation Career Development &
Locally-led Train-the-Trainer Program



Prepared by:

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White River NRCD
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Diana Collingwood
VIWIAA & USVI Dept. of Ag.
Virgin Islands

DECEMBER 2023

THE CATALYST



White River
Natural
Resources
Conservation
District

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ONGOING INITIATIVES

- **USVI Youth ReGeneration Corp**
- **NCF USVI Inaugural Envirothon**
- **STX Science Teacher Farm Collaboration**
- **UVI Fellows 2025-26 TAP Grant Writing Academy**
- **USDA AMS VIDA SCBG – STEAM AGRICULTURE Elementary School**
- **USDA AMS Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Grant**



ONGOING INITIATIVES

- **Global Black Food Sovereignty Collective**
- **ARC Ital Standard Certification**
- **National Agriculture In the Classroom 2026 Conference Engagement**
- **The Boy Who Loves Plants: Children's AgriScience/Indigenous Literature**
- **VI AG Student Scholarship - M-DCPS DCMH Agriscience Foundation**
- **EnVlzion Cannabiz 2026 Education Conference**



Cannabis Industry

Technical Careers & Opportunities

Our Future. Our Community. Our Opportunity.

\$57B+

Global Market by 2028

~400K

US Jobs & Growing

100+

Career Paths Available

Four Sectors. Dozens of Technical Careers.

01

Agriculture & Cultivation

- ▶ Horticulturist
- ▶ Grow Technician
- ▶ IPM Specialist
- ▶ Soil Scientist
- ▶ Geneticist / Breeder

02

Chemistry & Lab Testing

- ▶ Analytical Chemist
- ▶ Lab Technician
- ▶ QA/QC Analyst
- ▶ Extraction Specialist
- ▶ Research Scientist

03

Engineering & Manufacturing

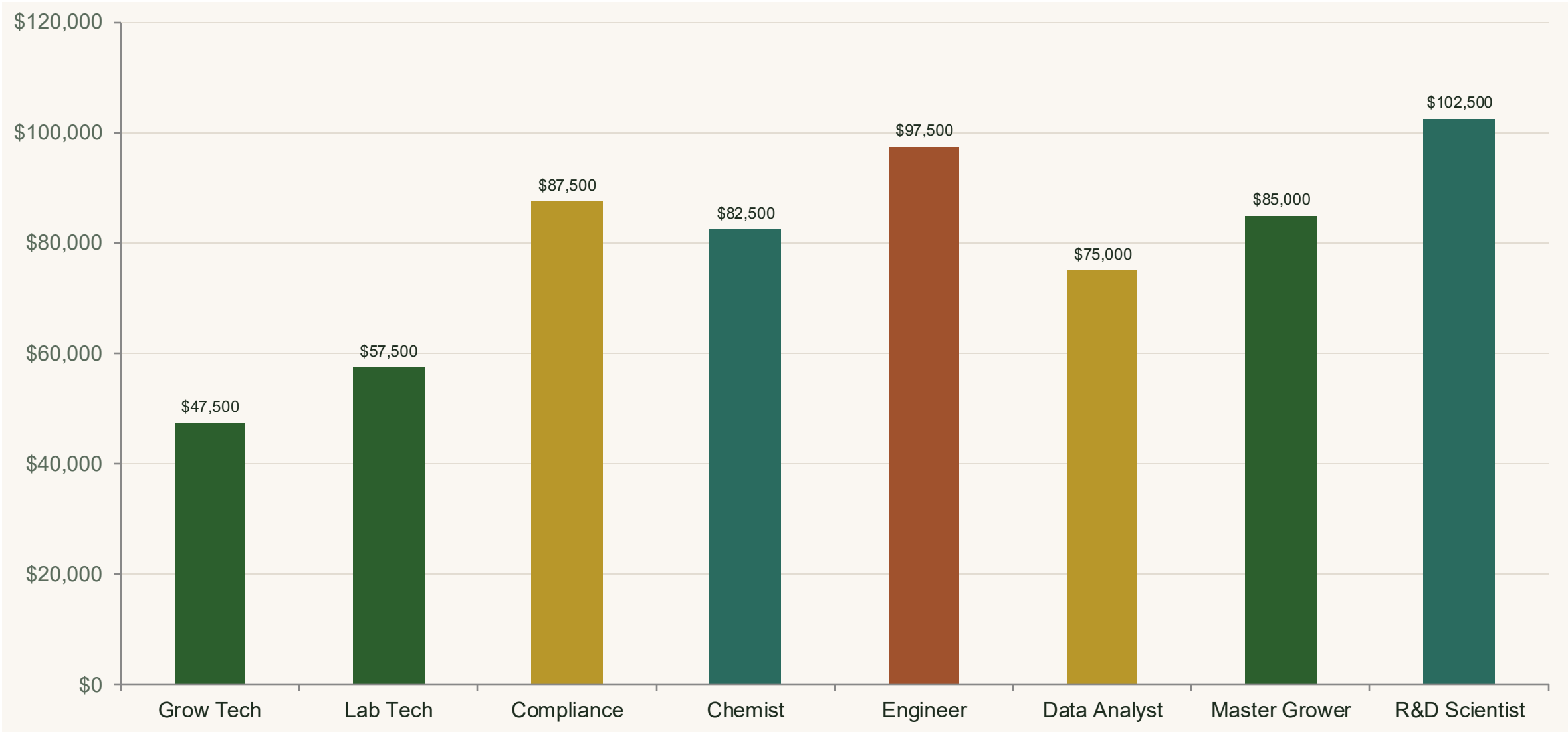
- ▶ Mechanical Engineer
- ▶ HVAC/Controls Tech
- ▶ Electrical Engineer
- ▶ Packaging Engineer
- ▶ Process Engineer

04

Business, Data & Compliance

- ▶ Compliance Officer
- ▶ Data Analyst
- ▶ Supply Chain Mgr
- ▶ Cannabis Accountant
- ▶ Policy Advisor

Salary Landscape: What Can You Earn?



Approximate U.S. national mid-range salaries. Entry-level positions start lower; senior roles exceed these figures.

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A special thank you to the
many local supporters &
collaborators who make
this work possible!



My Family, the VIWIAA Board, my VIDA, UVI & NRCS Family, Special Friends @ DPNR & WMA, SEA, NPS, STX Science Teacher Leads, STX/STT/STJ Farmers, CFVI, my former Ag Students, my current mentees, all the brilliant VI Students who are a great source of inspiration, and to you!

Join Me in My Quest To Nurture The Next Generation!

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