

Internship Program

Stella Maris Environmental Research

2021-2022

155 Duval Street
Melbourne Beach Fl. 32951
www.stellamarisenvironmentalresearch.org



Description

As a major contributor to environmental stewardship, Stella Maris Environmental Research (SMER) strives to protect, conserve and assist in identifying solutions for inshore, near-shore and offshore coastal ecosystems through use of scientific research, monitoring and public education.

SMER offers a variety of exciting and challenging internships in Florida for individuals interested in pursuing careers in engineering, environmental law, environmental science, and Marine biology and other science, technology, art and math subjects. Other professional, technical and administrative positions including field work, surveying, hydrology, communications, and information technology also are available.

Internships allow students the opportunity to learn about careers in STEM fields. In addition to hands-on experience, SMER's Internship Program coordinates a comprehensive calendar of events which includes regular seminars, educational outreach opportunities with department leadership and other public sector professionals.

In addition, each department intern is assigned a "partner," who is not necessarily the intern's supervisor, but a staff member who provides support, insight into department operations and serves as a resource during the semester.

Typically, interns do not receive any form of financial compensation from SMER. The internship is completed by the student for the purpose of earning hands-on experience and/or academic credit.

Eligibility

Applicants are eligible if they meet the following criteria:

- Are currently a degree-seeking student enrolled in a college, state/community college or university;
- Have completed their sophomore year of academic courses; and
- Are pursuing a Bachelor's or Master's degree.

In addition, all applicants must also:

- Maintain a 3.0 grade point average; and
- Be able and willing to work between 10 - 20 hours per week during the Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. work week.

Applicants from a variety of academic majors are sought, including those who are in, but are not limited to, the following program areas:

- Biological Sciences and Ecology
- Chemistry and Physical Sciences
- Environmental Engineering
- Public and Environmental Policy

- Environmental Studies
- Mechanical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Other Physical or Biological Sciences, Geology, Ecology, Wildlife, Fisheries Biology, etc.
- Information Technology
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Environmental Law
- Communications

Since the academic requirements of participating institutions of higher education may vary, each intern should arrange individually with his or her college or university for specific academic requirements and credits to be awarded for participation in the program.

Application Procedures

Interested applicants must complete SMER's Internship Program Application. The application is available [via email to Ashley@stellamarisresearch.org](mailto:Ashley@stellamarisresearch.org). Completed applications should be submitted [back as well](#).

The deadline for applying is:

- Spring Semester Internship: November 1
- Summer Semester Internship: March 1
- Fall Semester Internship: July 1

Placement Procedures

The specific number of internships available throughout SMER is determined each semester based on office need and capacity. Opportunities exist in a variety of programs and schedules are flexible based on the needs of the program.

Applications will be reviewed by SMER's director who places applicants in offices that best suit each office's individual need. Applicants chosen for each semester's internship program will be notified at least two weeks in advance of their potential start date via phone, email or letter.

Orientation

After being accepted into SMER's Internship Program, all interns must complete orientation and trainings. They will be assigned an intern "partner" within the office they work.

Work Requirements and Expectations

Each intern must be able and willing to work between 10 – 20 hours per week within the 7am a.m. – 8 p.m. work week. Specific schedules will be finalized directly with the office in which the intern is placed. The length of the internship will be no less than a full semester/season

(approximately four months) unless predetermined and approved both with the Internship Coordinator and the office's director.

All interns will be required to adhere to all SMER policies and procedures.

Potential Positions

Eco Explorers Intern

Locations: Brevard

The Eco Explorers intern will be responsible for:

- Observing and participating in trainings and educational outreach events .
- Interns will lead eco explorations once per week @1 hour per week at designated beach/ outdoor classrooms, and develop science labs.

Sea Turtle Program, HOI Intern

Locations: Brevard, Indian River

The Sea Turtle Program intern will be responsible for:

- Participating in data collection and permitted activities
- Interns will be trained on the FWC MTP handbook and on-line trainings, and working with Environmental Specialists to observe their office and field work

Wesley's Island Eco Camp Intern + Youth Mentorship Program

Location: Port St. Lucie/Ft. Pierce

- This position will learn environmental regulatory knowledge through participation in outdoor educational activities pertaining to the IRL and Wesley's Island (SI 17)
- Activities for interns will include work on the Indian River Lagoon and State Parks.

Administration/Technical Services Program Intern

Locations: Brevard County, Virtual

— This position will assist with Office Management. Duties may include: file organization, data entry, answering phones, program assessment, data management, vehicle maintenance, computer program installation, computer trouble shooting, and information technology support.

— A background in computers, office management, or data entry is preferred.

Social Media Intern

Locations: Virtual

— This position will assist the outreach committee. Duties may include correspondence and press release writing, research, answering media calls and assisting with draft responses, crafting speaking points, social media and communications planning.

— A background in journalism, public relations, communications, English or political science is preferred.

Marketing Intern

Locations: Virtual

— This position will assist the committee of Education and Outreach. Duties may include writing and editing website content, writing and submitting articles for publication, social media, graphic design and video production.