



2017 Summer Student Internship Program

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant announces the following positions for the 2017 Summer Student Internship Program. Successful applicants will spend 12 weeks working closely with a Sea Grant specialist on issues affecting the Great Lakes. Internships can include research, communications and outreach components. Applicants may also have the opportunity to participate in activities outside of their specific internship duties.

Internships are available in the following areas:

- **Fisheries Data Analysis**
- **Great Lakes Data Analysis and Outreach**
- **Microplastics Research**
- **Sustainable Communities**

Interns will be paid \$12/hour for 37.5 hours per week. Interns will be student employees of Purdue University or University of Illinois. Some travel and/or weekend work may be expected. Interns are responsible for the cost of housing plus transportation to and from their work place. Work-related travel will be funded by the Sea Grant host. **Application packets are due on February 28, 2017.** Successful applications will be notified of their acceptance by late March 2017. Internships are expected to start May 2017 and end August 2017. Start and end dates are flexible due to different school calendars. For more information on the internship program, please visit: <http://www.iiseagrant.org/funding/internship.html>

Eligibility

- Undergraduates currently enrolled in a U.S. institution of higher learning, or graduated December 2016 or after.
- Current graduate students are not eligible.
- Applicants should be U.S. citizens, permanent residents or have an active F-1 visa.
- Previous IISG interns who have participated in the Summer Internship program are not eligible.

Application

Send all application materials via email to Angela Archer, amcbride@purdue.edu, and include "2017 IISG Summer Internship" in the subject line. All questions should be directed to Ms. Archer via email or 765-496-3722.

Save the following documents in a single PDF file:

- Curriculum vitae detailing education and work experiences (2 pages maximum)
- Goal statement emphasizing your interest in the Great Lakes and how this opportunity will further your career goals. (500 words or less)
- Ranked preference of the four internship positions
- Copy of unofficial transcript(s)
- One letter of recommendation, include in your application or can be sent directly to amcbride@purdue.edu on your behalf

Summer Student Program Position Descriptions

Fisheries Intern

Supervisor: Dr. Mitchell Zischke, Research and Extension Fishery Specialist and Dr. Tomas Höök, Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University West Lafayette

The intern will be responsible for assimilating large fisheries datasets from across the Great Lakes and glacial lakes in Indiana. The intern may then use these data in a number of ways including updating websites and conducting analyses to help understand spatial and temporal patterns in fish ecology and fisheries catch rates. Preferable qualifications include previous experience with large data sets and data analysis.

The successful applicant will be an employee of Purdue University, and will be working in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University, 195 Marsteller Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907.

Qualifications: Knowledge of statistical software such R, Excel and Access software is highly recommended, good organizational skills, ability to work independently

Great Lakes Communication & Outreach Intern

Supervisor: Paris Collingsworth, Great Lakes Ecosystem Specialist, and Kristin TePas, Great Lakes Outreach Specialist

The intern will assist primarily with the development of outreach materials that convey the results of the 2015 Lake Michigan Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative* activities. The intern will work closely with Sea Grant's specialists located in USEPA's Great Lakes National Program Office in Chicago. The intern will likely interact with federal, state and university researchers when gathering content for the outreach materials. If the intern is interested, the internship could include participating in the 2017 CSMI research cruises aboard the R/V *Lake Guardian*. The cruises would provide a better understanding of the kind of science the intern will be writing about as well as be an excellent opportunity to gain field research experience, if desired.

*CSMI was created to coordinate research on the Great Lakes, focusing resources on a few key issues on one lake per year. In 2015, Lake Michigan was the lake of focus

The successful applicant will be an employee of Purdue University. The work location has not been determined; however, the intern will work at Purdue University, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources or in the Chicago region.

Qualifications: Good understanding of ecology (preferably the Great Lakes), strong writing skills, interest in conveying scientific concepts to laypeople, good organizational skills, and ability to work independently

Microplastics Research Intern

IISG Supervisor: Sarah Zack, Pollution Prevention Specialist; Leslie Dorworth, Aquatic Ecology Specialist; and Dr. Kathryn Rowberg, Chemistry and Physics at Purdue Northwest

Microplastics (i.e., fibers, fragments, microbeads, etc.) are released into rivers and lakes with treated effluent from wastewater treatment plants. They are typically classified by size, for example, microbeads are separated into <5 mm diameter and larger beads. Microplastics are of ecological interest due to adsorption of hydrophobic contaminants; ingestion by organisms may then cause adverse health effects.

The successful intern candidate will work with Sea Grant Specialists and Purdue Northwest Faculty to develop a research project to evaluate microplastics in Indiana Waterways. This will involve: identification of sampling sites, sample collection, sample analysis, and characterization of the microplastics found. Potential sampling sites will include waterways above and below wastewater treatment plants and near waterways located near septic system failures. The sampling dates will also be coordinated with rain events. The intern will then prepare a final report detailing the project findings within an ecological context to share with interested parties.

The successful applicant will be an employee of Purdue University and will be working at Purdue University Northwest Hammond Campus in the Gyte Building, 2200 169th Street, Hammond, IN 46323.

Qualifications: Candidates should have a minimum of two years of chemistry, and exposure to environmental studies is required. Experience with field work, collecting water samples, and analytical chemistry is strongly recommended. Strong verbal and written communication skills and a valid driver's license are required. Some irregular work hours in adverse weather conditions may also be required. Preference will be given to candidates that are located in or familiar with Northwest Indiana.

Sustainable Communities Extension Intern

IISG Supervisor: Kara Salazar, Sustainable Communities Specialist

The student intern will support state-wide sustainable communities extension programming efforts (<https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/scep>) for Purdue Extension and the Illinois Indiana Sea Grant (IISG) college program. The intern will collaboratively develop extension education and training materials (case studies, fact sheets, excerpts of guide books) related to public spaces, rain gardens, and watershed management topics. Internship experiences will also include interactions with community groups and program partners through meetings and supporting the delivery of extension and training programs with campus specialists. Opportunities for professional development activities will be offered as available.

The successful applicant will be an employee of Purdue University, and will be working in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University, 195 Marsteller Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907.

Qualifications: Candidates should have an interest in natural resources management, community development, and developing and delivering education and outreach programs to diverse stakeholder groups. A background in natural resource sciences, social science, environmental planning or policy or a related field with strong verbal and written communication skills is desired.