



# 2022 Summer Student Internship Program

The Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (IISG) Summer Student Internship Program supports and expands a diverse, well-trained workforce that is literate in the ecological and economic issues that impact coastal communities. With this training, interns will understand and be skilled in teaching best management and science practices that can lead to more informed decisions.

These paid internships may include research, communications, and/or outreach activities. Applicants may have the opportunity to participate in activities outside of their specific internship duties. For more information on the internship program and position descriptions, please visit: <https://iiseagrant.org/about/career-opportunities/>.

Interns must participate in professional development opportunities over the course of their employment that will collectively require approximately eight hours or one hour per week; one or more of the opportunities may take more than one hour, so in some week, no opportunities offered.

Internships are available in the following areas:

**Aquatic Invasive Species, Great Lakes Education, Great Lakes Revitalization, Sustainable Communities, Video and Digital Media, Water Conservation and Policy**

All interns in the IISG program will be paid \$15.00 per hour and work up to 37.5 hours per week for a minimum of 8 weeks (June 1-July 27). Additional weeks may be available at the discretion of each intern's supervisor and are noted in the position description. Some work during evenings and/or weekends may be required. Each intern will be a student employee of Purdue University or the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana.

**Application packets are due by January 31, 2022.** Successful applications will be notified of their acceptance by mid-March, 2022.

## Eligibility

- Undergraduates currently enrolled in a U.S. institution of higher learning
- For Illinois positions, undergraduate must be a rising senior or junior. For Purdue positions, any undergraduate class is eligible including seniors graduating in May 2022.
- 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.

*Please note that each intern is responsible for the cost of housing plus transportation to and from their work place. Please see the below project descriptions for information on whether the position is remote, in-person, or hybrid.*

## Employment Statements

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant

The people of Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant value diversity, equity, and inclusion in both our organization and the communities we serve. Therefore, we strive to make access to research, outreach, education, and employment opportunities available to everyone, regardless of race, color, religion, place of origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, disability, or veteran status. The full IISG values statement can be found at <https://iiseagrant.org/about/about-us>

## Purdue University

The University prohibits discrimination or harassment against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran.

## University of Illinois

It is the policy of the University not to engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, disability, national origin, citizenship status, ancestry, age, order of protection status, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, arrest record status, unfavorable discharge from the military, or status as a protected veteran and to comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity, and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations.

## Application

Send all application materials via email to Angela Archer, [amcbride@purdue.edu](mailto:amcbride@purdue.edu), and include "2022 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 the IISG Summer Student Internship Program (500 words or less)
- Ranked preference of the internship positions
- Copy of unofficial transcript(s)
- One letter of recommendation; include in your application or can be sent directly to [amcbride@purdue.edu](mailto:amcbride@purdue.edu) on your behalf

# Summer Student Internship Program Position Descriptions

## Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach Intern

IISG Specialist: Greg Hitzroth

The intern would help develop a needs assessment of Chicagoland outdoor youth educators for aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention messaging and activities. This position would involve contacting outdoor educators in the region, helping create interview questions, conducting interviews, and synthesizing results into a report on the needs of these educators.

Educating the educator is a well-worn path to providing environmental protection information to a youth audience, the next generation of stewards. This project will help to inform a larger set of work to build capacity in youth education programs to incorporate and disseminate "Be A Hero" AIS prevention messaging to youth audiences, as well as develop a new educational tool to be used by these organizations. This work will help connect the intern with a Chicagoland network of organizations involved in youth environmental education and outreach, as well as provide practical skills for developing a needs assessment that can be applied to other elements of project planning.

The successful applicant will be an employee of University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana.

**Qualifications:** This position would be suited for a student in an environmental science or natural resources management major. Demonstrated attention to detail, time management and organizational skills preferred.

**Location:** The intern will be working in the same capacity as the IISG staff, which is currently a hybrid model, subject to change. In-person work will be located at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Illinois.

## Great Lakes Area of Concern (AOC) Intern

IISG Specialist: Irene Miles

The successful applicant will support Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant outreach on Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOC) by creating informational materials that describe community revitalization in a subset of AOCs. As time permits, the intern will work with technical and local experts and engage in online and other searches to obtain site-specific secondary revitalization data, draft easily digestible text for non-technical audiences from outlines created by a technical expert, and if time permits, work with the IISG designer on final-product design.

The successful applicant will be an employee of University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana.

**Qualifications:** *This person could be in a program that emphasizes writing and research (e.g., journalism, Ag Communication, etc.)* The preferred candidate will have strong writing skills, be comfortable conducting interviews and tracking down information, be detailed-oriented, and able to work remotely and independently. Applicants should have an interest in developing and delivering education and outreach programs on natural resources for diverse stakeholder groups. A background in natural resource sciences or natural resource communications, plus an interest in the Great Lakes is preferred.

**Location:** The intern will work remotely with possible in-person meetings at the Illini Center in Chicago, depending on COVID conditions, and the applicant's remote work location.

## Great Lakes Education Intern

IISG Specialist: Kristin TePas

This internship will support Great Lakes educational programming efforts for Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant. The intern will assist primarily with the Students Ask Scientists (SaS) program, organizing videocall connections between scientists and students/classrooms. An important part of the SaS program is working with scientists, before the videocall on how best to communicate their research to a young, lay audience. The intern will also be tasked with analyzing and summarizing the post-call evaluations from participating educators, scientists, and students in the 2021-2022 school year. This analysis will help us assess whether we are reaching our goals and desired impacts for the program. Lastly, the intern may assist the specialist with other educational programming, as time and interest allow.

*Please note – this position could run 12 weeks with a potential start date in May and an end date in August. Employment dates will be determined with the successful intern.*

The successful applicant will be an employee of University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana.

**Qualifications:**

- Experience with or interest in environmental education
- Interest in conveying scientific concepts to laypeople
- Interest in analyzing qualitative data
- Ability to work independently and remotely
- Strong communication and organizational skills

**Location:** The work location will be determined during the interview process. The successful candidate likely will be working remotely. However, there is office space available on campus at Purdue and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, if the intern is located in either area.

## Sustainable Communities Extension Intern

IISG Specialist: Kara Salazar

The student intern will support sustainable communities extension programming efforts (<https://ag.purdue.edu/extension/scep>) for Purdue Extension and Illinois - Indiana Sea Grant (IISG). Working with the assistant program leader and extension specialist for sustainable communities, and the community planning specialist, the intern will collaboratively develop extension education and training materials (fact sheets, excerpts of guide books, web pages, online modules, reports, database updates) related to public spaces, rain gardens, land use, and environmental planning topics. The intern will also interact with community groups and program partners through meetings, workshop/program delivery, and trainings in collaboration with extension specialists. Community engagement will be online, in person or a hybrid approach depending on COVID-19 restrictions. Occasional travel with program teams may be required for program delivery, depending on travel status policies. Opportunities for professional development will be offered as available.

*Please note – This internship will run for 12 weeks with a start date in May and an end date in August. Employment dates will be determined with the successful intern.*

The successful applicant will be an employee of Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

**Qualifications:** Applicants should have interest in natural resources management, planning, community development, and developing and delivering education and outreach programs for 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.

**Location:** The successful applicant can work remotely, in person at an office space in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University, 195 Marsteller Street, West Lafayette, Indiana, or a hybrid approach. The work location will be determined during the interview process.

## Video and Digital Media Intern

IISG Specialist: Hope Charters

Video has become an increasingly important marketing tool. If you love to create videos that inspire, persuade, tell stories, and engage, then this is the internship for you! The video and digital media Intern will assist the communications coordinator in their video marketing initiatives. Responsibilities include:

- Research and analysis to help develop engaging videos.
- Research and analysis of videos from similar programs.
- Creation--from concept to completion--of video and digital media assets.
- Assistance on reports/analysis of video marketing initiatives.

The successful applicant will be an employee of Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

**Qualifications:** Working knowledge of Adobe After Effects, Adobe Creative Cloud, Movavi, or other video content creation/editing software. Portfolio link should be sent with resume. Most important – must be a storyteller at heart and have a portfolio to share.

**Location:** Intern can work remotely if desired, or office space is available on Purdue University's campus. Intern must be able to drive to various locations to film content for video marketing initiatives.

## Water Conservation and Policy Intern

IISG Specialist: Margaret Schneemann

The successful applicant will assist in efforts to understand the extent to which various water conservation policies and practices are being implemented in the greater Chicago metropolitan region. This could include gathering data from water utilities, reviewing municipal codes and procedures, deploying surveys, conducting interviews, evaluating data, and assisting in developing resulting communication products such as fact sheets. Candidates should have a strong interest in one or more of the following areas: water-energy nexus, utility rate setting, water equity and affordability, and sustainable water management. The preferred candidate will have strong spreadsheet skills, be comfortable conducting interviews on the phone and via email, be detailed-oriented, and able to work remotely and independently.

The successful applicant will be an employee of University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana.

**Qualifications:** Candidates should have strong organizational skills with proficiency in Excel; be detail oriented, and have an interest in data management, urban planning, statistics, and water policy. Coursework in research methods is preferred.

**Location:** The successful applicant will either be working remotely or at the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning.