



USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services
Utah State University – Berryman Institute Scholarship and
Summer Internship

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife
Services

Deputy
Administrator

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The USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services (WS) Program is pleased to announce the availability of up to two paid summer internship positions as a Biological Science Technician during summer of 2018. Selected interns will work full time, 40 hrs. per week, in a WS state operational program assisting wildlife biologists in resolution of human-wildlife conflicts, or at the National Wildlife Research Center or an associated field station, assisting research associated with wildlife damage management. Employees will assess, evaluate, make management recommendations, and implement both non-lethal and lethal management strategies for a wide variety of wildlife species and damage management situations. Others may work with research to aid in the development of wildlife damage management techniques. Interns will work alongside WS professionals who will serve as mentors. The goal of this internship program is to provide training and experience for students from under-represented groups who will move directly into USDA/WS jobs after completing two summer work phases and graduation.

Selected interns will also receive scholarships. This scholarship program targeting under-represented groups at Utah State University will provide \$11,000 (\$5,500 per semester) for selected students for up to two years.

This position is being filled in the excepted service with a not to exceed date of one year or less. The appointment does not confer eligibility to be converted to the competitive service.

Applicants should be able to work in remote areas in varying weather conditions such as rain, high winds, prolonged exposure to intense sunlight, and temperature extremes.

Travel will be paid to and from summer duty stations that could be anywhere in the US. Housing, often a camp trailer, will be provided.

Relocation costs will not be paid for this position

Pay = \$12.78/hr. to \$14.35/hr. (GS 3 Step 1 first year, GS 4 step 1 second year).

QUALIFICATIONS:

FOR THE GS-03 LEVEL: Applicants must have 6 months of general experience.

FOR THE GS-04 LEVEL: Applicants must have 6 months of general experience and 6 months of specialized experience (equivalent to the GS-03 level) that demonstrates:

- Assisting others in the performance of a variety of wildlife management duties.
- Performing recordkeeping and data entry
- Basic skills in data entry in Microsoft Access and online databases

OR:

For GS-3: Successful completion of 1 year of study that included at least 6 semester hours in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics.



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For GS-4: Successful completion of 2 years of study that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of courses such as those shown above for GS-3. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be directly related to the position to be filled.

Preferred applicants should have completed their sophomore year by May 2018, and be enrolled in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, majoring in a field such as wildlife science, range management, or animal science that would qualify them for federal wildlife biologist positions upon graduation. Current degree plans of applicants should include the following:

- At least 9 semester hours in such wildlife subjects as mammalogy, ornithology, animal ecology, wildlife management, or research courses in the field of wildlife biology; and
- At least 12 semester hours in zoology in such subjects as general zoology, invertebrate zoology, vertebrate zoology, comparative anatomy, physiology, genetics, ecology, cellular biology, parasitology, entomology, or research courses in such subjects (Excess courses in wildlife biology may be used to meet the zoology requirements where appropriate.); and
- At least 9 semester hours in botany or the related plant sciences.

Applicants may have combinations of successfully completed education and specialized experience to meet total qualification requirements. The total percentages must equal at least 100 percent to qualify for that grade level. To learn more about combining education and experience for this series, click the following: [Combining Education and Experience for Technical and Medical Support Positions](#)

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations (e.g., professional; philanthropic; religious; spiritual; community, student, social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: (if applicable to your position)

- Must obtain or have a valid state driver's license. Operation of Government-owned or leased vehicles may be required.
- Position is subject to random and applicant drug testing.
- Must have a knowledge of and be capable of using:
 - Working with the public and other cooperating agencies
 - Communication skills
 - Electronic equipment (GPS, Trimble, computer)
- Must demonstrate a respect for safety in all operations, including the operation of motor vehicles, firearms, control devices, and equipment.
- In order to perform the essential duties of this position, you must have the legal and physical ability to possess and discharge firearms. You must be able to pass a government background check and meet any additional requirements to carry and use firearms. A background check will include answering questions about where you've lived, worked, went to school, and any military history or police records. Selection and retention in this position is contingent on a successfully adjudicated FBI National Criminal History Check (fingerprint check).

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- Resume
- Transcripts
- DD-214 (Member 4 copy) and/or VA letter required for applicable Veteran preference.

- Current active duty members must submit a certification that they are expected to be discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions not later than 120 days after the date the certification is submitted.

HOW TO APPLY: Completed applications consisting of a cover letter (no more than one page), resume, 2 letters of recommendation, and current college transcript should be submitted by email to Dr. Terry Messmer at the Berryman Institute at terry.messmer@usu.edu. Application materials should be submitted as one single PDF file. The cover letter should describe your interests, hobbies, goals, and why you wish to pursue a career in human-wildlife conflict management.

Emergency Response – APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their careers with APHIS. It is difficult to predict the frequency with which such emergency situations may occur – and could range from several emergencies in a year to none over the course of many years. In the event that you are called upon to support an emergency program, this may require irregular working hours, including overtime, and may include duties other than those specified in your official position description. While some emergency program support assignments may be able to be performed at the employee’s current duty station, in other cases employees may be asked to go on-site to a temporary duty state location. In addition, it may be necessary for employees to participate in multiple rotations to an emergency program assignment. Attempts will be made to keep disruption to the employee to a minimum.

Failure to follow application instructions regarding filing appropriate forms and answering questions may result in loss of employment considerations for this position. **All applications must be signed, dated, and received by the closing date of this announcement.**

NOTE: APPLICANTS FOR THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT. APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION WILL BE CONTINGENT UPON A NEGATIVE DRUG TEST RESULT. INCUMBENTS OF THIS POSITION WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO URINALYSIS TO SCREEN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE ON AN ONGOING BASIS AFTER APPOINTMENT, AS DIRECTED.

Carrying a firearm is a condition of employment – In the passing of the *Lautenberg Amendment*, Congress passed legislation which prohibits anyone who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from possessing a firearm or ammunition. If selected you will be required to sign the form, “Inquiry for Positions Requiring Possession of Firearms,” certifying that you meet this criteria.

All candidates will be considered without regarding to race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 15, 2018