



SCIENTISTS IN PARKS

POSITION DESCRIPTION WINTER 2021

NPS UNIT: CHESAPEAKE BAY OFFICE	PD #: 2021360
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Position Title: Education Assistant
Number of positions available: 1
Primary natural resource discipline: Communication & Education
Position keywords: youth, engagement, Chesapeake, professional development, environmental
Location: Annapolis, Maryland
Can this position be fully remote: Yes

COVID-19 NOTICE

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to change and evolve, project timelines and structure remain flexible and it may be necessary to postpone start dates, begin work remotely, or reformulate the project’s description. Should any development in the COVID-19 outbreak impair a project’s timeline or results, the SIP Team will work with the park and project mentors to assess the situation and determine the best course of action at that time.

POSITION DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

Position Description: In August 2020, the NPS Chesapeake Bay Office joined its partners, including NOAA and EPA, in the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) to announce the program’s new Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Statement and Action Plan. The Chesapeake Bay Program seeks greater input and inclusion of diverse communities in the decisions we make to impact the health of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. One of the actions set forth to meet this goal is to foster relationships and make formal agreements with Minority Serving Institutions in our region in order to build a pipeline of talent well prepared to be the next generation of environmental stewards.

The SIP Intern will:

- In partnership with the Environmental Literacy and Diversity Workgroups, develop and implement strategies and programming for teachers, career and technical education providers, school-based guidance counselors and non-formal educators designed to connect K-12 students to future career opportunities, pathways and training opportunities in natural resource related fields.
- Establish relationships with Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) and community colleges in the watershed, intentionally connecting with university/college career centers and science, agriculture, and additional departments, as well as sororities, fraternities, clubs, and professional associations that attract and support students from underrepresented groups.
- Create a working contact list and Youth Career Engagement Plan.
- Research labor market conditions, workforce development programs, and science education gaps at the federal, state, and local level.
- Organize career workshops, professional development, Chesapeake career speaker series, and mentorship opportunities for youth and early career professionals.
- Connect NPS Chesapeake and CBP partners to existing programs. Support collaboration and training amongst supervisors, mentors, and outreach staff.
- Attend job fairs and other career events to promote internship and employment opportunities.
- Create a resource guide for college and career readiness in environmental fields.
- Convene youth affinity group to advise on CBP recruitment and retention goals and engage in

hands-on environmental stewardship and community science activities in environmental justice communities.

- Present action items to CBP leadership.

A changing climate will affect the Chesapeake Bay. Some effects—like rising seas, warming water temperatures and prolonged periods of extreme weather—have already been observed in the region. Other impacts include a rise in coastal flooding and shoreline erosion and changes in wildlife abundance and migration patterns. As convener of the Stewardship Goal Team of the Chesapeake Bay Program, the NPS Chesapeake Bay Office works to increase resident action, support environmental education for all ages, and assist individuals, communities, and local governments in undertaking initiatives to protect and restore the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay in order to mitigate some of the harmful effects of climate change and resource exploitation.

This project addresses natural resource management needs by providing youth and early career professionals with the skills needed to address the environmental issues that the Bay faces. Understanding that communities of color disproportionately suffer from the impacts of climate change and resource exploitation, natural resource management is inherently connected to equity and social justice. Natural resource fields will benefit from the contributions of young diverse professionals skillful in tackling environmental issues in their communities from a social justice lens. In addition to training and workforce development, the SIP Intern will guide youth from a diversity of backgrounds through hands on stewardship actions - like planting bay grasses at the local beach - and community science activities - like monitoring salinity in local creeks - to make a proven impact on the watershed's water quality and sustainability. The SIP Intern's work will have both a direct and indirect impact on boosting the health of the watershed.

This position is offered through the National Park Service's Scientists in Parks (SIP) Program in partnership with Stewards Individual Placement Program (Stewards) and The Geological Society of America (GSA).

Work Products:

- Youth Career Engagement Plan and working contact list
- Green college and career readiness resource guide
- Environment career training series for youth and early career professionals
- Stewardship action project
- Survey, recommendations, action plan, and presentation on diversity recruitment and retention

QUALIFICATIONS

- independent worker, strong organizational skills, affable and outgoing, ability to communicate clearly in speech and in writing, familiar with Microsoft Office
- public speaking or customer service experience preferred
- interest in environmental science, workforce development, education, social work, or youth engagement preferred
- graduate of MSI preferred
- experience engaging with diverse communities required

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident (“green-card-holder”) between the ages of 18 and 30 years old, inclusive, or veterans up to age 35. Prior to starting this position, a government security background clearance will be required.

VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS
<p>Applicant will need a valid driver's license in order to drive a government vehicle.</p> <p>A personal vehicle is RECOMMENDED but not required for this position.</p> <p>If the SIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, Stewards will perform a driving records search, and the SIP's ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. SIPs will have to have had their license for 3 years or be over the age of 21 to be insured as drivers under Stewards insurance policy. Examples of things that will preclude a SIP from driving a park vehicle include: SIP under the age of 21 years old that has been licensed less than three years, DUIs, multiple moving vehicle violations, suspended or revoked license, or three or more accidents (regardless of fault) in the last 3 years. If the driver's search is favorable, Stewards will provide driver's liability insurance while the intern is driving a NPS vehicle for their SIP position. If the SIP is denied coverage by Stewards, they will not be permitted to drive during work hours.</p>
HOUSING
<p>Park housing is NOT available. The intern will be responsible for finding housing in the nearby area. Our office is located in Annapolis, the capital of Maryland, which is 30-40 drive commuting from the major metropolitan cities of Baltimore and Washington, DC. There are multiple low cost towns and smaller cities nearby with young diverse populations. Prices can range dramatically based on the intern's choice of housing. A 1 bedroom apartment within a 15 minute commute is on average \$1000. However, there are many options for shared housing because of the prevalence of college-aged and early career employees in this area.</p>
NATURAL AND PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT
<p>Our office is located in Annapolis, the capital of Maryland, which is 30-40 minutes drive from the major metropolitan cities of Baltimore and Washington, DC. There is a diversity of people and cultures in the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan area, where people of color represent the majority in many places. Annapolis itself is a historic city, bustling with tourism and waterfront recreation. This area experiences four seasons that are relatively mild. We work in an office setting.</p> <p>As of March 2021, we are working 100% telework. The SIP Intern will be expected to work remotely until health guidance changes. We will provide the technology needed to perform work from home. Once we return to the office, the SIP Intern will have access to their own work space and materials. We are a small, tight knit team, and collaborate often on all of our work. We will be moving into a new office, and have multiple state of the art coworking spaces to work on projects and host meetings that are carefully planned for both social distance when necessary and social collaboration when possible. The building is accessible. There are no special physical requirements.</p>
INTERNSHIP DATES
<p>Start Date: 10/4/2021 Number of Weeks: 52 Flexible Start Date: Yes</p>
LIVING ALLOWANCE
52 Weeks (\$525/week = \$27,300)
RELOCATION ALLOWANCE
\$350 (Mainland Only)

AMERICORPS PROGRAM



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is a program that engages individuals in intensive community service work with the goal of “helping others and meeting critical needs in the community”. The SIP Program is supported through AmeriCorps by providing a Segal Education Award in addition to the SIP’s living stipend and relocation allowance.

Upon successful completion of the SIP position, the SIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a \$1,678 - \$6,345 pre-tax education award that can be used for paying back student loans or for continuing their education. The amount of the education award is based on the length of the position.

AmeriCorps limits the number of terms an individual can serve to 4 terms. If an applicant has previously completed 4 SIP or other AmeriCorps positions, they will not be eligible to apply for an additional SIP position.

SUPERVISORS/MENTORS

Primary:

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Secondary:

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