



Student Opportunities at the NWS (Quad Cities)

Job Shadow Program

The National Weather Service Quad Cities Job Shadow Program is intended for high school students interested in meteorology as a possible career or college students interested in learning more about the NWS. Job shadow students typically spend 3-4 hours with a meteorologist observing the forecast process and discussing NWS and related career opportunities.



A high school student “shadows” at the NWS Quad Cities.

How to Apply

Contact NWS Quad Cities at cr.dvnstudents@noaa.gov or (563) 386-3976 x726 to arrange a job shadow at NWS Quad Cities.

Student Volunteer Service

NWS Quad Cities typically offers an unpaid work experience one student annually through the Student Volunteer Service. This program provides the opportunity to work in an operational meteorology setting, allowing students to explore their career options and to develop professional skills. A limited number of volunteer positions are available across the central US, and while preliminary student volunteer selections are made locally at NWS Quad Cities, final approval is made by the NWS Central Region.

What to expect as a student volunteer

We understand that student volunteers have many other commitments, including their academic work and perhaps actual paid employment! For this reason we are flexible about the specific hours that a student works as a volunteer, though we ask that student volunteers average at least 8 hours per week and keep a semi-regular schedule.

Volunteers spend their time on a variety of activities. Especially at first, some of the time will be spent shadowing forecasters and other staff members. Eventually the student may get more involved in certain activities like taking weather observations, writing newsletter articles, or assisting with communication during severe weather. Students will also be assigned a project suited to their interests and talents.

Earning college credit as a volunteer

Students may wish to check with their college or university about earning credit toward graduation for the time they spend volunteering. Specific policies vary by institution. For example, some schools may require the student to work more than 8 hours per week in order to earn credit.

Requirements for Volunteers

- You must be enrolled in an accredited college program, and in your junior or senior year in the fall.
- You must participate in a job shadow at NWS Quad Cities prior to applying for a volunteer position.
- The term of a student volunteer is limited to 179 days, although this may be accomplished at different times (for example, two terms of 89-90 days each during 2 summers).
- Security paperwork must be submitted one month prior to beginning your tenure if you are selected.

How to Apply

Applications for the coming summer are typically due in late winter. Contact cr.dvnstudents@noaa.gov or (563) 386-3976 x726 for specific deadlines and details on the student volunteer application process at NWS Quad Cities.

Student Opportunities in the NWS (cont.)

Pathways for Students and Recent Graduates

In 2012, the US Government redesigned the student internship programs. Implementation of this new program within the NWS is still evolving. Please check the links below for more information until implementation is complete.

NOTE: Historically these positions have been filled on a competitive basis at a regional level. The number of positions is limited and varies from year to year.

More Information

www.usajobs.gov/studentsandgrads

Pathways for Students: www.opm.gov/HiringReform/Pathways/program/interns/

Pathways for Recent Graduates: www.opm.gov/HiringReform/Pathways/program/graduates/

NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program

Another form of paid employment (and scholarship money!) is offered through the NOAA Hollings Scholarship. NOAA solicits applications for Hollings Scholarships annually, typically during the winter.

Scholarship students are eligible for: up to \$8,000 in academic assistance per year for full-time study during their junior and senior years; a paid 10-week, full-time internship position during the summer at a NOAA facility (\$650 per week); a housing subsidy for scholars who do not reside at home during the summer internship; and travel expenses to attend a mandatory orientation and conference.

More Information

www.oesd.noaa.gov/Hollings_info.html

Applications for the Hollings Scholarship Program are available online by e-mail at studentscholarshipprograms@noaa.gov, by telephone to 301-713-9437 x150, or by mail to:

NOAA Hollings Scholarship Program
1315 East-West Highway, Room 10703
Silver Spring, MD 20910



2009 NOAA Hollings Scholars