



NWS Sioux Falls Student Volunteer Service

NWS Sioux Falls will host *two unpaid volunteers for up to 89 days* through the NWS Student Volunteer Service. This program offers work experience related to the participant's academic field of study. Students will have an opportunity to explore their career options and to develop both professional and personal skills.

Student volunteer selections are made locally at NWS Sioux Falls. While these assignments are typically during the summer, you may also volunteer at other times of the year.

You must be a currently enrolled college student or recent Spring 2013 college graduate. You do not have to be studying meteorology/atmospheric science in

order to be considered for a volunteer position at NWS Sioux Falls but preference will be given to those applicants in atmospheric science. We can also host students with skills in

- Hydrology
- Information Technology
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Other related fields

Work hours for student volunteers

We understand you have many other commitments, including academic work and perhaps actual paid employment. For this reason, we are flexible about specific hours you would work as a volunteer, though we ask that you average at least eight hours per week. We will also work around your employment or class schedule for your volunteer hours. *(For most of your time, you will work during normal business hours. Since we work rotating shifts, we also encourage you to work other shifts to gain greater exposure to a wide variety of weather, work duties, and forecaster experiences).*



As a volunteer, you will spend your time working on a variety of activities. This may include shadowing forecasters and other staff members, understanding and participating in NWS forecast and warning operations, editing or writing content for office webpages, working on various projects, visiting our radar site, participating in storm damage surveys as needed, receiving science training, and various other tasks. If your school has requirements for earning credit toward graduation, that will also be taken into consideration in assigning work to you.

Earning college credit as a volunteer

You may wish to check with your college or university about earning credit toward graduation for your time spent volunteering, as specific policies vary by institution. For example, some schools may require you to work more than eight hours per week in order to earn credit. Otherwise, it does not matter to the NWS whether a student is volunteering for credit or not.



Applying for a student volunteer position at NWS Sioux Falls

Important dates and information due:

- ✓ **April 8, 2013** – Resume, along with transcripts, due to NWS Sioux Falls. This is the day your resume must be **received** by the office. Your resume should include work experience, any special projects/certifications as well as three references or letters of recommendation. You can email a copy of your resume to Sally Pavlow Johnson, Meteorologist-in-Charge, at sally.pavlow@noaa.gov **AND** mail college transcripts directly to:

National Weather Service
26 Weather Lane
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
ATTN: Sally Pavlow Johnson

- ✓ **April 9-17, 2013** – We will review resumes and schedule interviews.
- ✓ **April 18-24, 2013** – Interviews for student volunteers will be conducted.
- ✓ **April 25, 2013** – Students selected for volunteer positions will be notified.
- ✓ **June 3, 2013** – Proposed start date for volunteers pending background investigation.

If you have any questions regarding Student Volunteering, please contact Sally Pavlow Johnson, Meteorologist In Charge, 605-330-4247, sally.pavlow@noaa.gov or Phil Schumacher, Science and Operations Officer, 605-330-4247, phil.schumacher@noaa.gov.

We look forward to working with you this summer!