

## Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers

The Watershed Management Internship Program is a collaborative effort between the USDA and 14 HSI's within the CSU. The Water Resources Institute at CSUSB is the lead university for the administration of the internship program.



# Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers

## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS PARTNERS

(Each campus has an HSI designation)

- CSU - Bakersfield
- CSU - Channel Islands
- CSU - Dominguez Hills
- CSU - Fresno
- CSU - Fullerton
- CSU - Long Beach
- CSU - Los Angeles
- CSU - Monterey Bay
- CSU - Northridge
- CSU - Pomona
- CSU - San Bernardino
- CSU - San Diego
- CSU - San Marcos

## Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers

- The strategic goal of this project is to measurably increase student research skills that ensure our national forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while simultaneously enhancing the sustainability of the Nation's water resources.
- The primary objective of this annually renewable 4-year USDA Regional or National Collaboration project is to measurably increase the encouragement, retention, graduation, and USDA career attainment of underrepresented California State University (CSU) students.
- The USDA's natural resource agencies are seeking graduates from populations currently underrepresented in their workforce. In addition to a research project, students will be required to participate in a USDA career identification process that will prepare them for potential careers with the USDA after graduation.

## Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers

- This project provides funding for **50** paid Watershed Management Internships per year for a total of 200 internships to eligible students over four years. The internships provide an experiential approach to learning in the field of watershed management which helps students gain real-world experience in natural resource protection while developing new knowledge, skills, and abilities in problem-solving from a watershed perspective.
- The total salary paid to each undergraduate-level Watershed Management Internship is **\$4,500** with students earning a salary of \$12.50 per hour for 360 total hours.
- The total salary paid to each graduate-level Watershed Management Internship is **\$4,500** with students earning a salary of \$15.00 per hour for 300 total hours.
- The project also provides up to **\$560** per student for the purchase of approved supplies and materials.

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## Eligibility Requirements for USDA Watershed Management Internships

- To be eligible to apply for and participate in this USDA Watershed Management internship program, students must meet the following eligibility requirements:
- Full-time student (Undergraduate and Graduate students)
- Employment eligibility status E-Verified
- GPA of 3.0 or higher
- This internship project is funded by the USDA-Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) program. It is intended to provide *underrepresented* students with research project experience in natural resource and water-related activities, to provide greater access to USDA career opportunities. However, all students are encouraged to apply.
- Students must have sincere interest in working for the USDA, including a commitment to complete required prerequisites for USDA positions.

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Activities performed by interns during Watershed Management Internships are to be related to aspects of natural resource protection as it is carried out by three particular USDA agencies: the [Natural Resource Conservation Service \(NRCS\)](#), the [Agricultural Research Service \(ARS\)](#) and the [Forest Service \(FS\)](#).

Primary Disciplines and Subject Matter Areas include:

- Water Science/Water Resources (including Water Quality and Watershed Management); especially those disciplines involving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) that support the above water disciplines
- Environmental Sciences/Management
- Conservation, Renewable Energy and Natural Resources (includes Forestry and Ecology/Wetlands)
- Related Biological Sciences (includes General/Basic Biotechnology, Biochemistry, and Microbiology)
- Plant Sciences and Horticulture (including Turf Sciences)
- Agricultural/Biological Engineering
- Agricultural Social Science
- Soil Science

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## Agency Partners

### USDA and Affiliates:

- CA Fish & Game
- USDA-ARS
- Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
- USDA office in Hollister

### Municipal Departments:

- City of Watsonville
- Marina Coast Water District
- Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program
- Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD)
- Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
- City of Pacific Grove
- Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- City of Monterey
- San Dieguito River Park

### Industry:

- AgBiotech
- Applied Marine Sciences

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## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

(48 interns as of 5/18/12)

- Asian: 4 (8.3%)
- Hispanic: 25 (52.1%)
- Native American: 3 (6.3%)
- Pacific Islander: 1 (2.1%)
- White: 14 (29.2%)
- Other: 1 (2.1%)
  
- Male: 20 (41.7%)
- Female: 28 (58.3%)

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## STUDENT DEGREE PROGRAM AND MAJORS

### Degree Program

• B.A./B.S.	29	(60.4%)
• M.S.	19	(39.6%)

### Major

• Biology/Biological Sciences	10	(20.8%)
• Civil Engineering	2	(4.2%)
• Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy	13	(27.1%)
• Comp Science/Computer Engineering	1	(2.1%)
• Environmental Engineering	2	(4.2%)
• Environmental Science	2	(4.2%)
• Geography	7	(14.6%)
• Geology	5	(10.4%)
• Health Sciences	1	(2.1%)
• Industrial Technology	2	(4.2%)
• Marine Science	1	(2.1%)
• Photography	1	(2.1%)
• Plant Science	1	(2.1%)

## Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers

# How CSU Students Apply for USDA Watershed Management Internships

Students should review the **Eligibility Requirements** and download the **Application Form** for *2011 Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers* program found on both of the following websites:

- Water Resources Institute (WRI)  
<http://wri.csusb.edu/>
- Water Resources and Policy Initiatives (WRPI)  
<http://www.calstate.edu/water/>

# Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers

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