



Lower Loup Natural Resources District Student Internship Program

Introduction

The Lower Loup Natural Resources District (LLNRD) Student Internship Program combines hands on, paid, study-related employment with completing a formal education. Students are provided the opportunity to apply their academic studies to on-the-job experience. The work experience occurs in a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Field Office, located in the LLNRD, and must be related to the student's academic/career goals. Employment is at will. This type of employment greatly benefits both employers and students. It gives employers an effective and efficient recruitment and training method to help meet staffing goals, and it introduces students to a professional work environment in which to explore career options.

Opportunities

STUDENT TRAINEE positions under the LLNRD Student Internship Program are available in a variety of job areas. A trainee position acquaints the student with field application of conservation practices on privately owned land, primarily utilized for crop production, livestock grazing, and/or wildlife habitat. The program provides for periods of study mixed with periods of study-related employment, primarily during the breaks between college semesters. Work is under the guidance of trained NRCS employees. These positions can lead to careers requiring an associate or bachelor's college degree. Preferred areas of study are agriculture science, agronomy, engineering, natural resources, range management, or soil science. The specific targeted career position areas for which students are hired include the following:

Soil Conservation Technician

Provides technical service to landowners (farmers and ranchers) to survey, design, install, and inspect conservation practices such as terraces, dams, livestock watering systems, irrigation systems, and grass & tree plantings.

Soil Conservationist

Provides technical service to landowners (farmers and ranchers) and government agencies to develop conservation practice plans to improve soil health, water quality/quantity, grazing lands health, and wildlife habitat.

Range Management Specialist

Provides technical service to landowners (farmers and ranchers) and government agencies to develop conservation practice plans to implement improved grazing systems to enhance grazing lands health and productivity and wildlife habitat.

How the Program Works

Under a working agreement between the LLNRD, NRCS, and the Student Trainee, the student must work during semester breaks (i.e. summer break). The student trainee will be an NRD employee subject to the District's Personnel Policy and will be stationed at a NRCS Field Office located in the LLNRD. The student works full-time during each summer until he or she completes the degree program pursued at the time of employment under the internship program. Student Trainee Interns

are paid based on completed education and experience. Upon the student's successful completion of the desired degree program and the internship program, he or she would achieve and advantage in competing for full-time, permanent employment with the NRCS or LLNRD.

Qualifications

A student must meet the following requirements to qualify for the LLNRD Student Internship Program:

1. Be at least 16 years old.
2. Be a citizen of the United States.
3. Be a high school graduate (or equivalent).
4. Be in good academic standing in a qualifying educational institution.
5. Be enrolled in a field of study that relates to occupations with the NRCS
6. Be enrolled at least half time in an accredited school.
7. Have a valid driver's license

How to Apply

Submit the following information for receipt **by close of business on April 1st** to:

Lower Loup Natural Resources District
2620 Airport Drive
Ord, Nebraska 68862-1002

1. Resume complete with the following information:
 - a. First and Last Name.
 - b. Contact Information including mailing address, telephone number, and email address.
 - c. Employment History.
 - d. Education Information.
 - e. Special Qualifications and Interests (optional)
 - f. References (optional)
2. Copy of most recent college transcript.
3. LLNRD Employment Application – found at <https://www.llnrd.org/assets/site/Employment%20Application.pdf>



More Information

For more information regarding the LLNRD or NRCS, visit THEIR websites at www.llnrd.org or www.nrcs.usda.gov