

# National Park Service

*New Leaders in Conservation Community Assistance - Rigorous Internship Opportunity:*



Length:	Term of position is 11 weeks. Full-time, 40 hours/week commitment, 5 days per week.
Location:	American YouthWorks in Austin, TX
Career Development Benefits:	<p>Opportunities to build competencies in community assistance in conservation and outdoor recreation by working on projects related to field of study.</p> <p>Exposure to public lands, partnerships, and public service.</p> <p>Opportunity to establish professional &amp; personal contacts within the National Park Service (NPS).</p> <p><b><i>Upon successful completion of the internship, and conditional to earning the relevant academic degree, the participant will be eligible to gain employment with NPS through a “direct hire authority” without competition with career and career-conditional employees under internal merit staffing procedures.</i></b></p>
Financial Benefits:	<p>\$5,500 -- Stipend for the 11 weeks (rate of \$12.50 per hour/\$500/week, paid biweekly and subject to tax withholding)</p> <p>\$1,998 -- Housing allowance (paid directly to the intern in three equal installments)</p> <p>\$ 750 -- Transportation grant, usable to offset daily commuting costs and/or for relocation costs (lump sum in first paycheck)</p> <p>The internship also includes a budget for project-related travel costs and two workshops with other program participants.</p>
Educational Status:	<p>To be eligible to apply, applicants must be either...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- currently enrolled in a graduate degree granting program, or</li> <li>-- a recent graduate who has been awarded a bachelor's or master's degree no less recently than May, 2016</li> </ul>
Dates:	This experience takes place May 30 - August 11, 2017
Application Due Date:	Applications must be received on or before midnight (PST) March 19, 2017.
Program Basics:	The New Leaders in Conservation Community Assistance (NLCCA) Rigorous Internship is a new opportunity aiming to build a pathway to

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	<p>employment in the National Park Service. This year, up to seven NLCCA interns will apply knowledge and expertise in community planning, cultural and natural resource management, and related skills to real-world situations in NPS and the communities we serve.</p> <p>The NLCCA Internship Program is administered jointly by the National Park Service and a nonprofit partner. Its aim is to help address the demand for protecting natural and cultural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities within a larger network, and to fully capitalize on community assistance projects as opportunities to build the agency's engagement and relevancy with all Americans.</p> <p>Note that this internship is not located in a national park. That is because, in addition to protecting and managing America's 417 national parks, the National Park Service also operates programs in communities throughout the nation to connect all Americans to their parks, trails, rivers, and other special places. NLCCA interns will be part of the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program, which helps community groups, nonprofits, state and local governments, and tribes plan parks and trails, conserve and improve access to rivers and natural areas, and create recreation opportunities through locally led partnerships.</p> <p>This program gives particular attention to full representation of women and participants from Minority Serving Institutions or other schools with diverse student populations. NLCCA interns who successfully complete the internship requirements become eligible to be non-competitively hired by NPS; this eligibility lasts for two years following the date on which the academic degree is awarded. Successful completion of the internship does not guarantee that the participant will be hired into a federal position.</p>
<p>Project Description, Duties and Responsibilities:</p>	<p><b>Help us work with new and diverse communities and partners!</b> The National Park Service endeavors to engage all Americans in protecting our special places—both nationwide and close to home. This rigorous internship provides an opportunity for someone with strong communications, community organizing, and outreach skills to</p>

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	<p>help advance the National Park Service’s community assistance efforts in Texas.</p> <p>The intern will develop outreach and communication strategies for the Texas RTCA office, with a focus on increasing assistance to communities that have limited access to parks, trails, and natural areas. The intern will conduct geographic and demographic research and analysis, based on work that has already been done by other organizations and agencies, to identify areas that have limited parks and natural areas, neighborhood walkability, or other green infrastructure.</p> <p>Once a small number of target areas have been identified, the intern will research local organizations, community groups, and key stakeholders in those areas. The intern will then engage with those organizations, through direct interviews and focus groups, to identify park, open space, and trail assets, needs, and activities. The intern will work with stakeholders to identify key marketing/outreach messages, effective engagement strategies (digital, print, and in-person), and best practices for raising awareness of NPS services in those area. The intern also will work alongside program staff actively engage new partner organizations with one or more ongoing community assistance projects.</p> <p>The final product will be a detailed outreach and communications strategy that will help RTCA staff effectively target and engage with areas that are lacking parks, trails, and other resources. The final strategy will include recommendations on public engagement and outreach efforts to support current and future projects and will be integrated into the daily work of the Texas NPS-RTCA office.</p> <p>The intern also will create an informational report on best practices and lessons learned to be shared with program staff nationally. The intern’s responsibilities will include providing several briefings to key program officials in person and via webinar.</p>
<p>About the Austin, TX location:</p>	<p>This position will be located in the RTCA Texas Field Office in Austin, TX. The office is co-located with American Youthworks in their south-central Austin office building. The office is conveniently</p>

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	<p>located near several bus lines, and has easy access to I-35 and US-71/290.</p> <p>Note for applicants who are not already established in the local commuting area: Austin is considered a moderate- to high- cost market for housing; other than the provision of the housing allowance, only limited assistance is available to help locate suitable housing opportunities.</p>
Mandatory Requirements:	<p>You must be United States citizen or national; You must not be currently employed by the U.S. government; and You must be either...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-- currently enrolled in a graduate degree granting program, or</li><li>-- a recent graduate who has been awarded a bachelor's or master's degree no less recently than May, 2016</li></ul>
Preferred Qualifications:	<p>Relevant academic backgrounds include, but are not limited to, community organizing, regional planning, environmental studies, natural resource management, geography, urban studies, social entrepreneurship, or organizational development.</p> <p>Previous applicable paid and/or unpaid workplace experience is expected, and specific relevancies should be noted in your application.</p>
How to Apply:	<p>Email the following to <a href="mailto:jointxcc@americanyouthworks.org">jointxcc@americanyouthworks.org</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-- A resume, which should include work experience and information about academic degrees, highlighting any aspects that are relevant to the specific topic of this internship; and</li><li>-- A one-page cover letter which should (a) describe your interest or goals relating to a career in the National Park Service, and (b) include a narrative describing and demonstrating an instance in which you, individually or as part of a team, developed and implemented a process to achieve a desired outcome (i.e., turned an idea into reality).</li></ul>
For More Information, Contact:	<p>Samantha Alcozer, Recruitment and Outreach Coordinator 512-289-5817 <a href="mailto:jointxcc@americanyouthworks.org">jointxcc@americanyouthworks.org</a></p>

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