



Career Training for a Sustainable Future Fall High School Internship

We are pleased to offer a paid internship for highly motivated Indian River County students from low-income families.

About the ELC: The mission of the Environmental Learning Center, a not-for-profit nature center located in Vero Beach, FL, is “to educate, inspire and empower all people, to be active stewards of the environment and their own well-being.” Now in its 32nd year, the organization serves on- and off-site nearly 20,000 children and adults annually through school excursion, camp, adult education, professional development, special event and other programs. Its 64-acre campus is surrounded on three sides by the Indian River Lagoon, an estuary of national significance, and is 1.4 miles from the Atlantic Ocean. The campus includes native plant gardens, an interactive museum including aquaria and touch tank, pontoon boat and canoes, children’s nature play area, visitor center, gift shop, picnic facilities, and more. One and a half miles of raised boardwalks, trails, docks and elevated lookout stations with educational signage and a wireless audio tour allow guests an educational first-hand experience of mangrove forests and the lagoon.

Scope of Internship: Fall of 2020 is shaping up to be an exciting season for growth and learning. The Environmental Learning Center (ELC) seeks motivated interns with multi-disciplinary interests to learn and explore careers leading to a more sustainable future through working with staff and volunteers in assisting with a campaign to reduce single use plastic use, teaching school break camps and weekend workshops for children, designing interpretive guest experiences, marketing and communicating our organization’s activities to the public, maintaining the large display public aquaria and touch tank, assisting in general guest services, conducting ecological field research, and receiving mentoring from our nature center staff in all manner of operations.

Eligibility: This internship is open to high school students of at least 16 years of age by the start date, who qualify for free and reduced lunch, and are eligible for work in the United States.

Commitment: This internship is flexible to meet your schedule and the changing needs of the ELC during this time. Projects will involve both in person and online aspects, and transportation will be provided on an as needed basis. In person workdays will occur afterschool, on weekends, and during school break periods. Work schedule will vary but will add up to a maximum of 24 hours per week.

Compensation, Food, and Transportation: This is a paid internship for \$8.56 per hour. Needed field research supplies and ELC staff shirts are provided. If in need of transportation to and from campus or field research sites, arrangements will be made. ELC is not on a GoLine stop.

Application Deadline: Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until all spots are filled.

Application Procedure: Complete the application form and email it along with supporting documentation (see application components below) to Amy Shea, ELC Environmental Educator, at Amy@discoverelc.org. Contact Amy via email or at 772-589-5050 ext. 106 with any questions.

Application Components:

- 1) Completed Application Form.
- 2) One page essay describing career interests.
- 3) Two letters of reference from teachers or coaches (no relatives please).



Name: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Number Street City State Zip

Telephone: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Area Code and Number

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Number Street City State Zip

Have you ever been employed by ELC? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, date: _____

High School Name and Location: _____

High School years completed at start of internship: 1 2 3 4

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

1) What is your interest in nature and the environment?

2) What do you hope to learn through the internship program at the Environmental Learning Center?

3) Please describe any experience you have working with and mentoring younger children.



- 4) Please list any extracurricular (including sports, clubs, or organizations in which you are, or have been, involved), volunteer, leadership, or community activities you participate in or have participated in:

- 5) Please describe any special skills, interests, or hobbies you have:

- 6) Please list any special awards or honors you have earned:

- 7) Is there anything additional you would like to share with the intern selection committee?

- 8) How did you hear about this opportunity?

- 9) **Essay:** In one page, please share your career interests and goals. How will your internship at the Environmental Learning Center help your career path?



Eligibility Requirements:

- 1) Are you legally eligible for employment in the US? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 2) If accepted to the internship, do you need assistance with transportation to and from campus?
☐ Yes ☐ No
- 3) Do you receive a free or reduced-cost lunch?* ☐ Yes ☐ No
or
Does your parent or guardian qualify for Assistance Programs (e.g. SNAP or TANF)?* ☐ Yes ☐ No

*** This form must be accompanied by proof of one of the following:**

(Please check which)

- ☐ Enrollment in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program of your school
- ☐ Enrollment in the Food Assistance Program (SNAP)
- ☐ Enrollment in the Temporary Cash Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program

More information on current gross household income meeting federal guidelines for free or reduce price meals can be found at: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/HEA-68-06.pdf>

By my signature below I certify that all information in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the Environmental Learning Center to seek verification as needed during the selection process.

Signature

Date