



Internship Frequently Asked Questions:

What is an internship?

- As defined by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, an internship is a form of experiential learning that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom with practical application and skills development in a professional setting. Internships give students the opportunity to gain valuable applied experience and make connections in professional fields they are considering for career paths; and give employers the opportunity to guide and evaluate talent.

What kind of internship should I pursue as a student in RWFEM?

- Your internship should align with your field of study and amplify the work you are doing in your course curriculum to prepare you for your future career.

What are key elements for quality internships? In other words, what should I be looking for?

- Detailed job description
- Alignment with your specific RWFEM track and job duties that allow you to apply what you learn in the classroom
- Agreed upon project that benefits both the student and internship location
- Assigned supervisor
- Weekly meetings to discuss goals
- Exposure to numerous aspects of the site
- Mid-term and final evaluation

What types of internships should I avoid?

- Strictly manual labor and positions where learning from your coursework is not magnified
- The duties of the internship do not connect to your career aspirations or field of study/track
- Retail establishments

Could my supervisor be someone that is related to me?

- No, your supervisor should not be someone related to you. Gaining experience with navigating a supervisory relationship with someone you don't know would be ideal and better emulate what you will experience after you graduate and begin your first job.

What characteristics should an Aggie intern demonstrate?

- Coursework or experience in natural resources
- Good oral/written communication skills
- Ability to work independently
- Strong work ethic and motivation
- Ability to listen, understand and retain instructions
- Willingness to work evenings/weekends

- Physical capability to perform required work duties

How can I find an internship?

- [RWFM Job Board](#)
- [HireAggies](#)
- Your Network
- RWFM Internship Program - Launching each Fall - Dr. Melissa Shehane will share via the RWFM listserv

Are internship requirements the same for WFSC legacy students and RWFM students?

- No, the amount of credit hours and writing intensive vs. non-writing intensive requirements are different.

How many internship hours do I need to complete?

- WFSC Legacy
 - To receive 3 credit hours for a professional internship, students must complete 136 hours of work experience relating to the WFSC major. The required number of hours varies per student.
 - *Note: 45 internship hours is equal to 1 credit hour and 3 credit hours (a total of 136 hours) is required for internship credit.*
- RWFM Tracks
 - RWFM – Range, 1 internship credit (minimum 90 intern hours)
 - RWFM – Wildlife, 1 internship credit (minimum 90 intern hours)
 - RWFM – Fisheries, No internship credits required for specific catalogs, double check with your academic advisor if you have questions
 - RWFM - Policy, 1 internship credit (minimum 90 intern hours)

What timeline should I follow to secure an internship, have it approved by the department, and complete my internship and RWFM 484?

Process	Fall Intern	Spring Intern	Summer Intern 10-Week
Identify Internship no later than	July 1	November 1	April 1
Complete RWFM Intern Form no later than	August 1	December 1	May 1
Complete Internship & RWFM 484 online course	September - December	January - May	June - August