



Environmental Learning Center SUMMER INTERNSHIP for Indian River County High School Students

Scope of Internship: Summer 2024 is going to be an exciting season for growth and learning. The Environmental Learning Center (ELC) seeks motivated high school interns with multi-disciplinary interests to explore career avenues in environmental education and nature conservation through teaching nature-based educational programs for children while receiving mentoring from environmental education and conservation professionals. Interns must be reliable and able to work independently and professionally in both a busy office setting and outdoors (land and water), exhibit positive, can-do attitudes at all times, be able to both mentor younger students and work with older colleagues, be effective communicators, have a strong work ethic and commitment to excellence, be flexible to shifting to area of greatest need on any given day and be able to effectively use technology (laptop, software, google sheets, AV equipment). Applicants must be able to help move and paddle canoes and other equipment, use seine nets, be able to work outdoors in the Florida summer buggy heat and be excited to facilitate hands-on, feet-wet education for the duration of the summer internship. Most of the internship time will be spent doing outdoor active work. There will also be some opportunities to help in administrative areas if desired. Applicant should be able to swim.

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 36th year, the ELC serves over 25,000 children and adults on- and off-site through school excursions, camps, lecture series, adult education, professional development, festivals, and numerous partnerships and other programs. Its 64-acre campus is on an island in 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 an aquaria system and touch tank, pontoon boat and canoes, children's nature play area, visitor center, gift shop, picnic facilities, and more. Approximately two miles of raised boardwalks, trails, docks, and elevated lookout stations with educational signage and a wireless audio tour also allow guests an educational, immersive experience of mangrove forests and the lagoon.

Eligibility: The internship is open to students entering 9-12 grade and those in college as well. **Commitment:** must commit to a full week on one or more of the following weeks 8 AM to 3:30 PM ~ June 3rd, 2024 to August 2nd, 2024 Monday-Friday (although some weekend or evening opportunities may be included); approximately 37.5 hours per week. **Compensation:** This is an unpaid internship but volunteer hours will be signed off on, and it's a great way to build job skills and your résumé!

Application Deadline 4/26/24 however applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and the positions may be filled as soon as suitable candidates are found, so early application is encouraged, anytime after 3/1/24.

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

Environmental Learning Center

255 Live Oak Drive | Vero Beach, FL 32963 | 772-589-5050 | info@discoverelc.org | DiscoverELC.org
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2024 Application

To apply, please email info@discoverelc.org to receive an editable copy of this application. Submit the completed application to Liz@discoverelc.org :

- 1) Completed Application Form (see above).
- 2) Copy of most recent report card.
- 3) Essay, up to two pages in length and double-spaced, describing your career, education, and research interests and how the internship will help in discerning and pursuing these.
- 4) Two letters of recommendation from professionals who can speak to your academic and career goals and ability to pursue them. Please send one from a faculty member at your school (No relatives please). Please instruct your professional references to submit recommendation letters directly to the ELC at Liz@DiscoverELC.org
- 5) Resume, if you have one.

Application Form:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Date of Birth:

Email:

Mailing Address (if different than above):

School Name and Location:

Anticipated Graduation Date:

- 1) Rank your interest level (1-5, with 1 = most and 5 = least interested) in building the following skills:

_____ Assisting with teaching environmental education programs (K-8th graders)

_____ Practicing interpretive skills

_____ Learning ecological field techniques

_____ Learning marketing and communication techniques

_____ Learning administrative skills



Please be aware that this is a multi-disciplinary internship and will involve work in all of the above areas.

- 2) What do you hope to gain from completing an internship at the Environmental Learning Center?
- 3) Please describe any prior experience.
- 4) Please describe any prior experience working with or mentoring younger children.
- 5) Please share any special experiences, honors, awards, clubs, or extracurricular activities that are relevant to this internship.
- 6) **Short Essay:** Please share your career and research interests and goals and explain how an internship at the Environmental Learning Center will help discern your academic and career path?
- 7) You would also need to attend a pre-internship training session. Which weeks would you be willing to commit to working as an unpaid intern 8a-3:30p M-F:

Week beginning: (circle or indicate availability for the week)

6/3 6/10 6/17 6/24

7/ 8 7/15 7/22 7/29

8/5

By submission, 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.

Thank you for your interest in helping out at the ELC summer 2024!