



## Student Opportunities at the NWS (Quad Cities)

### Job Shadow Program

The National Weather Service Quad Cities Job Shadow Program is intended for high school students interested in meteorology as a possible career or college students interested in learning more about the NWS. Job shadow students typically spend 3-4 hours with a meteorologist observing the forecast process and discussing NWS and related career opportunities.



*A high school student “shadows” at the NWS Quad Cities.*

#### How to Apply

Contact NWS Quad Cities at [cr.dvnstudents@noaa.gov](mailto:cr.dvnstudents@noaa.gov) or (563) 386-3976 to arrange a job shadow at NWS Quad Cities.

### Student Volunteer Service

NWS Quad Cities typically offers an unpaid work experience for one or two students annually through the Student Volunteer Service. This program provides the opportunity to work in an operational meteorology setting, allowing students to explore their career options and to develop professional skills. A limited number of volunteer positions are available across the central US, and while preliminary student volunteer selections are made locally at NWS Quad Cities on a case-by-case basis, final approval is given by the NWS Central Region.

#### What to expect as a student volunteer

We understand that student volunteers have many other commitments, including their academic work and perhaps actual paid employment! For this reason we are flexible about the specific hours that a student works as a volunteer, though we ask that student volunteers average at least 8 hours per week and keep a semi-regular schedule.

Volunteers spend their time on a variety of activities. Especially at first, some of the time will be spent shadowing forecasters and other staff members. Eventually the student may get more involved in certain activities like taking weather observations, writing newsletter articles, or assisting with communication during severe weather. Students will also be assigned a project suited to their interests and talents.

#### Earning college credit as a volunteer

Students may wish to check with their college or university about earning credit toward graduation for the time they spend volunteering. Specific policies vary by institution. For example, some schools may require the student to work more than 8 hours per week in order to earn credit.

#### Requirements for Volunteers

- You must be enrolled in an accredited college program, and in your junior or senior year in the fall.
- You must participate in a job shadow at NWS Quad Cities prior to applying for a volunteer position.
- The term of a student volunteer is limited to 179 days, from official start date to official end date.
- Security paperwork must be submitted one month prior to beginning your tenure if you are selected.

#### How to Apply

Contact [cr.dvnstudents@noaa.gov](mailto:cr.dvnstudents@noaa.gov) or (563) 386-3976 for specific deadlines and details on the student volunteer application process at NWS Quad Cities.

## *Student Opportunities in the NWS (cont.)*

### **Pathways for Students and Recent Graduates**

Pathways provides opportunities for current students (Internship Program) and recent graduates (Recent Graduates Program). The Internship Program provides students in high schools, colleges, trade schools and other qualifying educational institutions with paid opportunities to work in agencies and explore Federal careers while completing their education.

The Recent Graduates Program provides developmental experiences in the Federal Government. It is intended to promote possible careers in the civil service to individuals who, within the previous two years, graduated from qualifying educational institutions with an associates, bachelors, masters, professional, doctorate, vocational or technical degree or certificate from qualifying educational institutions. To be eligible, applicants must apply within the previous two years of degree or certificate completion except for veterans precluded from doing so due to their military service obligation, who will have up to six years after degree or certificate completion to apply.

**Pathways positions are location-specific, and are posted to the USAJobs web site. The number of positions is limited and varies from year to year.**

#### **More Information**

[www.usajobs.gov/studentsandgrads](http://www.usajobs.gov/studentsandgrads)

Pathways for Students: [www.opm.gov/HiringReform/Pathways/program/interns](http://www.opm.gov/HiringReform/Pathways/program/interns)

Pathways for Recent Graduates: [www.opm.gov/HiringReform/Pathways/program/graduates](http://www.opm.gov/HiringReform/Pathways/program/graduates)

Federal employment information for veterans: [www.fedshirevets.gov/job](http://www.fedshirevets.gov/job)

### **NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program**

Another form of paid employment (and scholarship money!) is offered through the NOAA Hollings Scholarship. NOAA solicits applications for Hollings Scholarships annually, typically during the winter.

#### **More Information**

[www.oesd.noaa.gov/scholarships/hollings.html](http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/scholarships/hollings.html)

