

Orange County Extension Intern

Location: Orange County

Program Area: 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Sciences, Community and Rural Development

Immediate/Site Supervisor: Jonathon Smith

Other Mentors and Supervisors: Kathleen Rogers, Mart Bumgarner, Ivelisse Colon, Mike Ortosky

Position

Description/Responsibilities:

The intern will be primarily be working with our 4-H youth development staff 75% of the time in the planning, marketing, and conducting of a robust summer day camping program. Student will have the opportunity to work with 4-H healthy living programs, agriculture & environmental sciences programs, and our award-winning emergency preparedness camp. They will plan and present activities, assist with field experiences, and also assist with classroom management. Intern will leave the internship with experience promoting programs and teaching youth ages 5 to 18. In addition to county day camps, the intern will assist at the NC 4-H Horse Show and area Youth Dairy Shows.

For the remaining 25% of the internship time, the intern will be involved in a wide variety of assignments to give then a comprehensive understanding of the work of Cooperative Extension in Orange County. Projects can range from consulting with farmers at the Breeze Farm Incubator to explore market opportunities, to designing and implementing nutrition education classes. They will also assist with plant diagnostics, learn about agricultural and rural economic development processes, perform general community outreach, and more.

The successful applicant will be expected to be an active part of our team this summer and will be required to work independently at times.

Preferred qualifications/previous coursework:

- Interested in working with people to develop positive outcomes.
- Good communicator and team player.
- Experience with virtual platforms such as Zoom.
- Experience working or volunteering with 4-H or other youth development programs.
- Courses in youth development, education, agriculture, nutrition, business management, and/or marketing would be preferable.

Benefits/skills student will gain through this internship:

- Hands-on application of skills.
- Youth instruction experience.
- Greater knowledge of program planning.
- Event and program planning experience.
- Exposure to multiple communication tools used by Cooperative Extension.
- Teamwork.
- Work with farmers will give the intern a stronger understanding of the extension needs of farmers and agribusinesses in general.

Additional Information

We are focusing this year's experience primarily on Youth Development (75% of the time) which limits time to participate in a PSI activity. I anticipate we will get applicants more interested in youth development activities this year because of that. However, if you need an additional student to assist with a PSI project, we would be open to having them go to campus for that as we did in 2023. But because we are proposing a more limited focus this year, I'm not sure until we choose the intern if PSI would be a good fit with their major and interest.