



Perennial Internship Program – Summer 2025

Internship Position Description

Internship Title: Forest research assistant

Internship Site: Aiken Forestry Sciences Lab and throughout Vermont

Description: A series of long-term adaptive forest management experiments have been established across Vermont in partnership with Vermont Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation. The RSEN Forest Research Assistant will work at these experiments to support ongoing forest ecology and silviculture research while working closely with scientists and staff in RSEN and the Aiken Forestry Science Lab, as well as managers from partner organizations and agencies. The successful candidate will learn and apply a range of field research skills, including vegetation measurements and use of micrometeorological equipment, as well as practical skills tied to maintenance of experimental plantings, and data management skills associated with field collections. Work will largely be research tasks tied to sponsor-designed projects, although opportunities will exist for intern-designed activities where appropriate. The majority of the work will be in an outdoor setting working with other members of research field crews in Vermont.

Responsibilities/duties: Routine tasks will include Training and mentoring will be provided by the research crew leaders.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework: Access to transportation to the Aiken Forestry Science Lab is required. UVM driver certification is a plus. The work may be physically challenging and may need to be carried out in a variety of weather conditions so willingness to work outside in all conditions is required and experience in outdoor work is important. Candidates must be reliable, motivated, independent, and open to learning and applying new skills. The ideal candidate will have coursework and/or experience in vegetation identification, use of spreadsheets to manage data, and use of common forest measurement tools.

Supervision: Tony D’Amato, UVM Forestry Program, and Grace Smith, Silviculture and Applied Forest Ecology Lab.

Start and End Dates: Mid-May to Mid-August 2025 – (exact start/end dates are negotiable)

Total Hours: (40 hours/week for 10-12 weeks)

Compensation: \$18/hour

How to apply:

Rubenstein students who will have completed their sophomore or junior year by summer 2025 are eligible to apply. Students graduating in May 2025 are not eligible to apply. Earning Independent Study or Internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required.

1. Click the following link to view the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Descriptions in Handshake:

<https://uvm.joinhandshake.com/employers/226837>

- If asked to log in: click “UVM Net ID Login” & login.
- Click the Favorite button to enable easier searches in the future.

2. Click “View All Jobs” in Jobs at Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program box on right side of page.

3. You should now see the Perennial Internship opportunities! Click “View Details” to learn more about each position.

- Please do take the time to carefully read each individual description so that you don’t miss a great opportunity by judging an internship solely on its title.
- You may apply for up to **three** Perennial Internships.
- All applications are due by **11:59pm, on Friday, February 7th, 2025.**

4. You’ll need to upload both required documents in Handshake before you can apply for any Perennial Internship:

- Click on your name at top right of screen in Handshake
- Select Documents.

5. Please upload all documents as PDFs. The following are the required documents:

- Resume
- Cover Letter
 - You should write and upload a unique cover letter for each position to which you are applying.
 - In your cover letter, provide the name & contact information for at least one professional

reference. This could be someone who supervised you in a past work/internship/volunteer position, or a professor or teacher, etc. The person listed should not be the person who completes your recommendation form.

6. In addition to the documents listed above, a **recommendation form will need to be completed by a Rubenstein faculty, graduate student, or staff member of your choosing**. When you ask your recommender if they are willing to complete the form to support your application, please provide your recommender:

- This link: [RECOMMENDATION FORM](#)
- Only one recommendation form needs to be completed regardless of how many Perennial Internships you are applying for.
- Your recommender will complete & submit this form online and then your recommendation will be confidentially added to your application(s). This recommendation form needs to be submitted by the February 7th, deadline.

7. Make sure that your resume and cover letter(s) are as strong as they can be! Utilize the resources around you:

- Get your resume and cover letter reviewed by a Career Counselor at the Career Center. You can check the Career Center's drop-in hours [here](#). The Career Center also offers a guide on building your resume available [here](#).
- Set up an appointment with one of Rubenstein's Career Coaches - [Emily LeForce](#) or [Cathy Shiga-Gattullo](#) - or with PIP Coordinator, [Sarah Mell](#). Sarah Mell will also be available on Wednesdays from 1pm-3pm for PIP Drop-ins! Just swing by Aiken 220 to connect!

8. If you are selected to interview for a Perennial Internship, you will be contacted by the site to set up an interview during late February to early March.