The Daniel E. Salmon Internship Program

Are you a student in a nonveterinary field of study? We have paid internships—with tuition assistance—available at the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Our interns work alongside APHIS veterinarians and other professionals in a wide range of fields to protect American agriculture.

Who Is Daniel E. Salmon?
Dr. Salmon was founding chief of the USDA’s Bureau of Animal Industry, predecessor of today’s Veterinary Services. As a member of Cornell University’s first class of graduates, he earned his bachelor’s degree in veterinary medicine in 1872, and 4 years later, Cornell awarded him the first Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine degree in the country. Today, Dr. Salmon is best known for identifying the infectious pathogen Salmonella and pioneering the fight against contagious diseases. His work contributed immeasurably to improving public health and disease control efforts.

Internship Experiences
As a Daniel E. Salmon intern, you’ll experience the real-world situations facing Federal animal health employees every day. This may include work in the field, laboratories, and office settings. In addition to veterinarians, some of our key positions include microbiologists, entomologists, and budget and management analysts. We offer a wide range of learning opportunities, mentorship, and career development throughout the program so our interns are ready for life in the Federal sector.

An Exciting Career Pathway
The USDA Pathways Program offers different “pathway” opportunities for students and recent graduates to work in agriculture and many other fields. One of these pathways is the USDA Internship Program. APHIS Veterinary Services participates in this program, offering the Daniel E. Salmon Internship to recruit talented professionals. This internship is expected to last more than 1 year, and the intern may be converted to a permanent position with APHIS after completing the Pathways Program and meeting all other requirements.

www.aphis.usda.gov/careers
Ready to join our team?

Benefits
- Up to $7,500 per year for undergraduate studies and up to $15,000 for graduate studies for tuition, books, tutors, and laboratory fees
- Paid employment during summer and school breaks as a Student Trainee
- Participation in the Federal Employees Retirement System and Thrift Savings Plan (401K)
- Paid vacation and sick leave
- Based on the length of the work periods, compensation may also include health insurance benefits.
- Possibility of conversion, without further competition, to a permanent appointment with APHIS upon completing your degree and meeting all other Pathways Program requirements.

After completing all program requirements, you must become a full-time APHIS employee for at least 1 calendar year for each school year the internship covered. If you do not accept an APHIS employment offer, you must reimburse all financial assistance received under the program. If you fail to serve the entire length of the mandatory APHIS employment period, you must reimburse the agency a prorated share of the funds awarded.

Eligibility
Upon entrance on duty, you must:
1. Be a U.S. citizen;
2. Meet the educational and curriculum requirements of the internship position for which you apply. These requirements and the specific duties of the position will be stipulated in each internship announcement and may include a wide range of majors or fields of study;
3. Be enrolled as a half-time or full-time student and/or accepted for enrollment in an accredited college or university within the United States;*
4. Be in good academic standing; and
5. Agree to work for the agency during school breaks for a minimum of 640 hours prior to completion of studies. Positions are available in many locations. USDA will try to match students with desired location.

How To Apply
Interested students must apply to specific internship announcements online via www.usajobs.gov. Locate announcements by entering the key words “Daniel E. Salmon” in the search engine under the “Student and Recent Graduates” tab. You must have a USAJOBS account to apply.

Required Documents
The online application system will prompt you to answer self-assessment questions and to submit the following:
1. Résumé
2. Transcripts for all completed college work to date
3. One letter of recommendation from college officials (such as counselors, professors, or deans) and/or work supervisors
4. An original essay of no more than 1.5 pages on the topic “Why I should receive a Daniel E. Salmon Internship and what contributions I hope to make to APHIS Veterinary Services”
5. Proof of current enrollment and/or, if applicable, a letter of acceptance to graduate school
6. A copy of your DD-214, if you are claiming Veterans’ Preference

For More Information
Email us at vs.recruitment.pathways@usda.gov.

To learn more about APHIS and all of our career opportunities, go to www.aphis.usda.gov/careers.

* Undergraduate student appointments will become effective in the fall of the second or third academic school year. Second-year students must have completed at least 1 year (30 semester or 45 quarter hours) of a 4-year undergraduate studies program; third-year students must have completed at least 2 years (60 semester or 90 quarter hours) of a 4-year undergraduate studies program. Graduate student appointments will become effective in the fall of the first academic school year.