



## NATIONAL HERB GARDEN INTERNSHIP



The mission of the U.S. National Arboretum is to enhance the economic, environmental, and aesthetic value of ornamental plants through research, conservation, and display. Horticulture interns work in one or more of Arboretum's gardens or collections. An internship project, which is presented to staff, volunteers, and stakeholders at the end of the internship, is required. In addition, interns participate in professional development opportunities and educational field trips.

**Description:** The National Herb Garden at the USNA is the largest designed herb garden in the United States containing over 900 taxa, including a collection of antique roses. Herbal plants include those used for medicine, flavoring food, industrial use,

dyeing, fragrance, and historical uses. The successful applicant will be supervised by the National Herb Garden's curator and gardener. This internship is approximately six months and will begin in May/June through October/November. Position is full-time, but part-time may be considered on a case-by-case basis (e.g., incumbent is enrolled in classes). This internship is paid by stipend through The Herb Society of America (approx. \$18/hour). Housing is **not** provided.

**Qualifications:** Applicants must be U.S. citizens and need to have either completed course work or have acquired practical experience in horticulture or a related field (plant sciences, environmental science, biology, herbal science, etc.). Basic understanding of gardening skills extremely helpful, good "people skills," and the ability to work independently are essential.

**Duties & Working Conditions:** Intern will be responsible for the typical duties of working in a public garden by assisting staff in the development and maintenance of the garden. Duties include general gardening tasks that provide proper environmental conditions, including planting, watering, mowing, mulching, weeding, pruning, greenhouse work, including potting and plant propagation, and working alongside volunteers. Intern will assist staff with updating records and labels of plants in collections. Incumbent will also assist with educational programming in the garden. This position involves heavy lifting, repetitive tasks, and exposure to extreme heat and humidity. Interest in herbs as "useful" plants is required. Intern also interacts with the Arboretum's many visitors by providing guidance and informal information. The schedule is Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



**To apply:** Please send a cover letter indicating availability, resume, names of three references, and transcripts (unofficial are acceptable) via email to [USNA.Internships@usda.gov](mailto:USNA.Internships@usda.gov). **DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2024**

**Questions?** Contact the internship office at (202) 245-4563 or [USNA.Internships@usda.gov](mailto:USNA.Internships@usda.gov) or for specific questions about the internship, please contact Chrissy Moore at [christine.moore@usda.gov](mailto:christine.moore@usda.gov).