



U.S. National Arboretum

3501 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002

www.usna.usda.gov/about/jobs-and-internships

2023 RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

Description: 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. Pending available funding, the Floral and Nursery Plants Research Unit may have several research internships available in 2023 in areas such as molecular biology, plant pathology, plant breeding, horticulture, taxonomy, and production. Interns will be located in Beltsville, MD; the National Arboretum in northeast Washington, D.C.; or in McMinnville, TN. All interns participate in educational programs and field trips, work on independent projects that benefit the arboretum, and are supervised and mentored by the arboretum's professional staff. All internships are paid positions through an hourly wage or a stipend, depending on the position.

We can also offer internships and mentoring as described above for qualified students who are able to provide their own funding. For most research internships, college credit may be possible if arranged in advance by the student, university mentor, and arboretum staff.

Qualifications: Applicants should have at least 24 hours of relevant course work or have acquired one year of practical experience in a horticultural or laboratory setting. Experience in horticulture, plant science, or laboratory work and the ability to work independently are very important.

Duties & Working Conditions: These positions are located in the Floral and Nursery Plants Research Unit in Beltsville, MD; at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.; or at our worksite in McMinnville, TN. Depending on the project, duties could include plant propagation, seed germination, pollinations, transplanting, herbarium tasks, DNA/RNA extraction and analysis, sequencing, PCR, and other laboratory, greenhouse, or nursery procedures.

To apply: Please send a cover letter stating your educational goals and research interests, resume, references, and transcripts (unofficial are acceptable) via email to USNA.Internships@ars.usda.gov. Positions will fill quickly—apply now!

