

**Host an intern, gain summer capacity, and inspire the next generation of rural leaders!**

### The Golden LEAF Scholarship

The Golden LEAF Scholarship is a highly competitive, four-year scholarship awarded each year to 215 students who reside in a qualifying rural, economically distressed, and/or tobacco-dependent North Carolina county and have expressed an intent to return to a rural North Carolina community upon college graduation. These scholarships provide experiences for recipients to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to help build our rural economy. Our scholars are redefining possibilities in rural North Carolina.

### The Internship Initiative

The Internship Initiative offers scholars the opportunity to spend their summer working on-the-ground in a rural community. Internships help students apply their education in a real-world setting, learn from experts about their chosen industry, and experience life as a professional in rural North Carolina. Interns may work up to 320 total hours for at least eight weeks between May and August 2022. The Golden LEAF Foundation provides funding to pay interns \$15/hour for their work. Interns also receive additional leadership training and support from the NC Rural Center over the course of the summer.

### Internship Site Responsibilities

Internship sites that take on an intern agree to provide the intern with a meaningful project or role that aligns with the student's college major and future career goals.

Internship sites include, but are not limited to, businesses, non-profits, governmental entities, and/or companies. Supervisors also commit to reporting on intern performance via bi-weekly surveys as well as mentoring the student on the role, professionalism, and rural community leadership. All participating internship sites will enter a three-party agreement with the Golden LEAF Foundation and a temporary employment agency, which will be the intern's employer of record and will manage payroll and similar services. You can visit the [Golden LEAF Scholarship website](#) to read the full agreement.

### What Happens Next?

After a Golden LEAF Scholar has spoken with you about this opportunity and you've determined you would like to move forward, the Scholar will provide you with an Internship Site Information Form to fill out that includes: your organizational information and EIN, the supervisor's role and contact information, and a brief job description that details what the intern will work to accomplish during their internship. Examples include:

- Assist in the feeding, maintenance and care of livestock, and poultry on site
- Work on setup and breakdown of operatories and sterilization of equipment
- Update and post supervised social media and website content
- Manage databases and input information, data, and records

You must return the Internship Site Information Form back to the Golden LEAF Scholar before the February 11th application deadline. Please note that the internship opportunity is competitive, and not every scholar who submits an application will be selected to receive the internship. If a scholar is not selected for an internship, the Internship Site is not obligated to provide an internship itself. Internship selections will be announced in mid-April 2022.

### Questions?

Contact **Olaunda Green**, Rural Internship Initiative Program Manager  
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For more information, please visit the [Golden LEAF Scholarship website](#).

### Internship Site Benefits

Internship sites that accept a Golden LEAF intern receive added summer capacity and benefit from working with one of North Carolina's brightest young people, at no cost to the company.

Most importantly, internship sites play a role in developing the capacity of the next generation workforce and encouraging our state's young people to live and work in rural North Carolina.

### Timeline

- December 14, 2021- Intern Informational Webinar
- January 10, 2022 - Application Opens
- **January 13, 2022- Internship Site Informational Webinar**
- February 11, 2022 - Application Due
- April 14, 2022 - Interns Announced
- May 17, 2022 - Mandatory Onboarding Webinar for Interns and Businesses
- May-August, 2022 - Internship Window
- September 8, 2022 - Mandatory Offboarding Webinar for Interns and Businesses