

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Food and Environment Internship Frequently Asked Question

Q: What is the Cooperative Extension Service (“Extension”)?

A: Extension is an external teaching arm of University of Kentucky. It has a specific range of topics that educators teach. These include agriculture and natural resources, family consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and rural and community development. There is an Extension presence in each county of the state (120 counties).

Q: What will be my responsibility as an intern?

A: The objective of the internship is to provide an opportunity for the students to experience the work that Extension professionals perform. Interns will be asked to plan and teach programs at the local level under the supervision of an Extension Agent.

Q: What county will I be assigned to if accepted?

A: Interns will be matched with counties based on host counties or hosting departments. Interns will not be placed in counties in which they have a relative who is employed by Extension or the University or who is on the county’s Extension District Board.

Q: Do I have to attend University of Kentucky to be eligible for an Extension intern position?

A: No, eligible participants must be currently enrolled in any academically accredited college or university. It does not have to be University of Kentucky. See below for additional information concerning eligibility.

Q: Do I have to be an agriculture major?

A: While we prefer students who are majoring in disciplines in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources or College of Human Sciences (see Agent degree requirements [here](#)), we are not limiting selections to these colleges. Students from Education, Arts and Sciences, etc. could be considered. The student should be majoring in a subject that is related to the programs being taught in our county offices. 4-H Youth Development is not major specific.



Q: Will the work week be limited to Monday through Friday? Will I have every weekend off?

A: Interns' work schedules will generally be the same as Agents or Specialists. Many weeks **EXCEED 40 hours per week**. There will be regular night and weekend work. Take the lead from your supervising Agent or Specialist.

Q: How much will each intern be paid?

A: Interns will be paid \$2,880 a month.

Q: Will I receive academic credit for this internship?

A: Credit for this internship is a matter to be determined by the student and his or her academic institution.

Q: Are there funds to help with living arrangements in the counties?

A: In general, there are no funds to help with living expenses in the counties. There are living arrangements for out-of-state interns in certain counties. Additionally, interns being placed in Promise Zone or similar counties *may* be supplied with housing. When applying, list counties that are within a reasonable driving distance from locations in the state where you have secured housing.

Q: What are the qualifications for the internship position?

A: Minimum requirement: Interns should be currently enrolled in an undergraduate program at an accredited college or university, have at least a 2.75 GPA, and have earned at least 60 credit hours at the time of application.

Q: Are there other requirements or opportunities?

A: Interns will complete an exit interview, which will include a process similar to an annual performance appraisal. This formative evaluation will assist in future internship programs and intern future employment. Interns will complete a special project under the supervision of their Agent or Specialist. Interns will attend 4-H camp.

Q: Are there behavioral expectations?

A: Interns are expected to act as professionals in the community/county where they complete their internship. To this end, the student will be expected to meet the standards of professionalism and to comply with all University of Kentucky and Cooperative Extension Service policies.

Q: When will I know if I get an internship?

A: Applicants will be notified as soon as possible after interviews are conducted, generally this occurs late in the fall semester (mid-December).

