7th Annual Governor Tauese P.F. Sunia Memorial Coral Reef Conservation Summer Internship Announcement: Pacific Islands Region

Opening Date: January 18, 2012
Closing Date: February 29, 2012
Internship winner notified: March 30, 2012
Internship period: June to August 2012

APPLY BY EMAIL or MAIL TO:
Governor Sunia Student Internship
Attn: Liza Johnson
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Mailstop 3150-MIB
Washington, DC 20024
Email: Liza_M_Johnson@ios.doi.gov
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The United States Coral Reef Task Force (USCRFT); U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pacific Islands Area; NOAA; Department of Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are pleased to announce the 7th Governor Tauese P.F. Sunia Memorial Coral Reef Conservation Summer Internship for the Pacific Islands Region, in recognition of the late Governor’s outstanding leadership and contribution to the conservation of U.S. coral reef ecosystems.

The late Governor Sunia is most remembered for being an eloquent and impassioned advocate for coral reef protection and management at the local level, not only in American Samoa, but throughout the U.S. and the Pacific region. This summer internship continues the Governor’s legacy by providing an outstanding college or university student a unique opportunity to develop professional watershed and natural resource management skills and gain valuable, professionally formative experience in coral reef conservation management.

It provides an 8-10 week internship for an eligible student interested in natural resource management and coral reef ecosystems to work in a NRCS field office serving the watershed conservation needs of local land users primarily on agricultural lands. See eligibility information below.

The program is designed to provide career enhancing work experience to build capacity in the jurisdictions. The student will be involved with productive, hands-on job assignments involved with conservation and enhancement of watershed management and natural resources as it relates to coral reef ecosystems and initiatives in the Pacific Islands region. The student will be paid by the NRCS and must be willing to work on a full-time schedule during the summer break.
Location:
A selected student will work in a USDA-NRCS Pacific Islands Area office in Kahu-lui, Hawaii (island of Maui).

Eligibility
Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP)

What it provides:  STEP allows temporary appointment of students. Positions can be filled in the areas of natural resource conservation and watershed management with emphasis on coral reefs, science, biology, or soil conservation.

Who is Eligible:
Eligibility requirements for this Sunia internship include:
- A student enrolled as a degree-seeking student in an accredited technical or vocational school, 2-year or 4-year college or university, and has completed a minimum of one academic year of study in that program.
- Students with demonstrated interest and previous work/involvement with coral reef issues; and
- Is at least 18 years old, and a U.S. citizen/national.

Pay and Qualification Requirements:
State of Hawaii:
- GS-3 - $12.19 per hour – Completion of one year of study
- GS-4 - $13.69 per hour – Completion of two years of study
- GS-5 - $15.31 per hour – Completion of four years of study
- In addition to salary, employees on the island of Maui receive a cost of living allowance of 12.25%.
- Transportation expenses for students recruited outside of the area of employment and a housing stipend may be available.

Application Material
All applicants wishing to be considered for the Sunia internship should submit the following material:
- All college and/or university transcripts. Unofficial copies are permitted.
- A resume with relevant experience and activities.
- One letter of recommendation from a professor or relevant employer.
- A 750 word essay (maximum) on the importance of managing coral reefs in your island jurisdiction and nationally; and how this internship will benefit your career goals related to coral reef management on your island.

Application material may be sent by mail, fax, or email and must be received no later than February 29, 2012, 5:00PM Hawaii time.