NASA DEVELOP Program

I am writing to inform you about internship opportunities with the NASA DEVELOP Program for current students, recent college graduates, and career transitioning professionals including veterans of the Armed Forces.

Our projects focus on addressing local and international community concerns while utilizing NASA’s Earth observations. Participants work in teams to complete rapid research projects in 10 weeks with guidance from NASA and partner science advisors. These projects demonstrate to partner organizations how NASA remote sensing imagery can be used in water resource management, disaster response, ecological forecasting, and other applications. This is a great opportunity for individuals who are interested in practical applications of Earth Science using remote sensing and GIS.

Details about the internship and how to apply can be found at http://develop.larc.nasa.gov/. The Spring term application window is open now until October 2nd. Term dates and application windows are also posted on the Apply page of the DEVELOP website. DEVELOP’s projects are interdisciplinary in nature, so applications are welcome from all academic backgrounds, including earth sciences, environmental sciences, biology, geology, geography, math, chemistry, statistics, computer science, engineering, international relations, communication studies, and all other related disciplines.

Applicants must have excellent communication and writing skills, and be able to work in a fast-paced environment. Responsibilities include: literature review, data processing and analysis, and the composition of deliverables including a technical paper, presentation, and video. Applicants should be able to commit up to 20 - 30 hours a week. Both paid and volunteer positions are offered. Paid positions are funded as consultants using a rate determined by application type, education level, and location.

Applicants are free to apply to any DEVELOP node, with the exception of some restrictions for international students (stated below). Applicants are given the opportunity to select their 1st and 2nd node choices. There are two nodes located in California:

1) The Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena near Los Angeles.

2) Ames Research Center in Mountain View near San Francisco.

International Students

International students interested in working with the DEVELOP Program must be currently registered at an accredited U.S. school. International students are not eligible to apply to NASA Center Locations (JPL and others), however, they are eligible to apply to Regional Locations. There is an exception for the NSSTC (Marshall Space Flight Center) that allows international students to apply to that location. Acceptances for international students are conditional upon proof of a visa or approved OPT that will allow them to legally work within the U.S. Students who do not meet these requirements are not eligible to participate in the DEVELOP Program. Please see the DEVELOP website for details.

DEVELOP participants are challenged to think outside the box, take initiative, and employ innovative ideas. They gain valuable management and leadership experience, along with experience in delivering results to officials in government, academia, and industry, thereby extending the benefits of NASA science and technology to the public. Ultimately, DEVELOP students are better prepared to handle the scientific challenges that face our society and future generations.

Please feel free to contact Nick Rousseau with any questions at nick.j.rousseau@jpl.nasa.gov, or send them directly to NASA-DL-DEVELOP@mail.nasa.gov.
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