The Virtual Student Federal Service (VSFS) is the largest virtual internship program in the world! Among this year's list of nearly 3,000 positions with 50+ federal agencies is one with the National Park Service to help improve information delivery regarding a key natural resource—sockeye salmon. Conservation of the populations spawning and rearing in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve was a major motivation for establishing the National Park. This project's primary objective is building a Rmarkup report template updating and visually displaying salmon escapement summaries, and associated uncertainties, for use by a variety of target audiences. The project will introduce the intern to specialized variance estimators for systematic samples, help develop their skills in R, Rmarkdown, tidy, ggplot2, and communication of statistical concepts to a variety of end users. An additional objective, time permitting, is to conduct a series of analyses to assess potential improvements in the data collection processes. More information on the project is available here.

Applications are open to U.S. college students from July 1 - 31 on USAJOBS.gov. All the projects on offer are here: http://vsfs.state.gov/ by clicking on “See All Projects” at the top! To ApplyinJuly to their top three projects, students must log on to USAJOBS, create an account, build a resume, write a statement of interest, and upload a transcript.

Students play an important role in moving the government forward from analog to digital. There’s something for everyone: graphic design, research, mapping, videography, foreign language expertise, marketing, community management, writing, calculation, policy planning, app development, and more! Students can apply to their top three projects from the list here: https://vsfs.state.gov/projects

Selected eInterns should expect to spend ten hours a week on their project from September through May. This is unpaid, volunteer work, but eInterns make connections that make a difference, gain valuable experience, and sometimes get course credit. All applicants must be U.S. citizens in student status at a university in the U.S. or abroad. VSFS is open to undergrad through PhD candidates taking classes full or part-time, in-person or online.

Our best,

Team VSFS

The fine print: Applicants must be U.S. citizens enrolled in university level courses in the U.S. or abroad. Last year, we had students from undergraduate to PhD to part-time online students. A resume, transcript, and statement of interest are required as part of the application process. Interviews may be conducted in August. eInternships are unpaid and do not require a security clearance or travel.

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