



# Native Seed Conservation Internship

## Position Description and Introduction

This internship is aimed to allow participants to explore and learn about varying aspects of conservation and restoration with Southern California native plants. This project will hire four paid interns to support the initial stages of a Native Seed Production Site for the National Park Service. The Seed Production Site will provide Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area with large quantities of seed materials for implementing large scale restoration across the mountains.

This internship will run for two 13-week sessions from March 7, 2024, to June 1, 2024 and May 2, 2024 to July 27, 2024.

## Major Duties

- Work with the park's Seed Program Manager to collect native seed from various sites in the Santa Monica Mountains
- Assist in seed processing activities: seed cleaning, seed counting, and storing of seed collections
- Assist Nursery Manager to process, treat, sow, transplant and maintain plants in the park's native plant nursery
- With guidance, implement outplanting and sowing of native plants at the Seed Production Site
- Carry out maintenance of the Seed Production Site including weed control and supplemental watering
- Conduct data collection and seed research projects
- Participate in various community outreach events, including public seed cleaning workshops, outplanting, and weeding events
- Other nursery and seed-related tasks as assigned, including but not limited to seed germination trials, herbarium duties, weed control and nursery maintenance
- This position may also include some use of herbicides and mechanical equipment including mowers, augers, and brush cutters

Experience with California native plants is not necessary, but a strong desire to learn and pursue a career in native plants, ecological restoration, botany, horticulture, sustainable agriculture, or a related field is preferred. The ideal candidate will be able to work alone or with a group of co-workers, interns, and other native plant enthusiasts to accomplish multiple goals.

Wage: This position offers a wage of \$16.90/ hour. Each intern will work 24 hours a week, 8 hours per day. Typical workdays are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 7AM - 3:30 PM.

## Requirements

The position is open to US citizens, permanent residents, or people with valid work permits, such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Temporary Protected Status (TPS), or other type of Employment Authorization Document (EAD). For more information regarding eligibility for internship and/or volunteering, contact [Joseph.Algiers@nps.gov](mailto:Joseph.Algiers@nps.gov).

Participants will check in at the native plant nursery located in Newbury Park at Rancho Sierra Vista / Satwiwa. Valid driver's license and good driving record are required to drive a government vehicle. Applicants without a driver's license will still be considered for the internship. However, if accepted, lack of driver's license may limit the areas visited throughout the park.

### Work Site and Conditions

Tasks vary in physical demands and require that the seed intern be in good physical condition and be willing to hike and work outdoors in uneven terrain. The Seed Intern may encounter biting/stinging insects, snakes, and poisonous plants in the field and/or nursery. In addition, field and nursery conditions may be hot, cold and/or wet. The seed intern may be required to hike long distances (sometimes 6 miles or more) while carrying backpacks and supplies (up to 30 lbs.). Tasks may require the seed intern to stand, bend, stoop or kneel for extended periods of time. Heavier lifting (up to 50 lbs.) may be required in various settings. Safety training appropriate to duties and environment will be provided. While work will take place at various field locations around the park, and rare to occasional office work will be required, the majority of work will start at the Rancho Sierra Vista native plant nursery located at 4124 Potrero Rd, Newbury Park, CA 91320.

### How to Apply

To apply, submit the following documents via email to [Joseph\\_Algiers@nps.gov](mailto:Joseph_Algiers@nps.gov):

- Letter of intent (include how the position will benefit your career, the dates you are available, and that you have a method of transportation to and from work).
- Resume
- Three references

For additional questions contact [Joseph\\_Algiers@nps.gov](mailto:Joseph_Algiers@nps.gov).