



VetsWork AmeriCorps Position Description

Position Title: Forestry Technician

Project Sponsor: National Forests of Alabama
Oakmulgee Ranger District
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/alabama/about-forest/>

Project Location: 9901 Highway 5, Brent, AL 35034

Project Sponsor Mission: The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

Mt. Adams Institute Mission: VetsWork is a program of the Mt. Adams Institute (MAI). MAI's mission is to strengthen the connection between people and the natural world through education, service learning, career development and research. Learn more at: www.mtadamsinstitute.org

Position Summary: In partnership with the Mt. Adams Institute, the Oakmulgee Ranger District of the National Forest of Alabama will be hosting one Forestry Technician Intern with a recreation focus. Primary duties will take place within the Recreation, Special Uses, and Engineering departments. The intern will assist with campground and road maintenance using equipment and herbicides. The intern will inspect recreation areas, areas of concentrated public use, and special use permits for compliance with the permit and the management plans, public health, and safety. There will also be opportunities to work with other departments such as Fire, Timber, Silviculture, and Wildlife to accomplish district project goals.

General Responsibilities (to include, but not limited to):

1. Assures recreation sites and areas with one or two major uses are operated and maintained in accordance with operation and maintenance plans. Schedules daily activities, establishes maintenance schedules, and inspects cleanup operations based on recreation operation and maintenance plans. Reports on conditions and use of sites and areas.
2. Serves as inspector for recreation area cleanup and/or maintenance contracts. Maintains contact with and provides support to Campground Host(s). Serves as a unit fee collection officer.
3. Inspects recreation areas, areas of concentrated public use, and special use permits for compliance with the permit and the management plans, public health, and safety.
4. Performs safety hazard analyses of public recreation use areas and takes or recommends corrective action.

5. Cleans both roadside and/or backcountry dispersed sites. Naturalizes sites where necessary in order to control use and prevent resource damage. Installs and maintains information boards, travel signs, regulatory signs and other signs associated with recreation sites, travel management and safety.
6. Provides detailed information about recreation opportunities to Forest visitors and explains the Forest Service rules and regulations. Provides information on resource management practices, regulations and current conditions.
7. Operation and maintenance of equipment to maintain recreation areas and road right of ways.
8. Provide support to other departments such as Fire, Silviculture, Timber, and Wildlife on an as needed bases.
9. Complete a Community Action Project that is identified by the intern, researched, and implemented during the term of service.
10. Attend and complete all MAI/AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings and national service days.
11. Complete and submit all necessary MAI/AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
12. Wear an MAI uniform and/or appropriate identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.

Position Requirements:

1. Must have a valid driver's license, clean driving record and ability to provide documentation. Must comply with Driver Certification and Safety Agreement (see VetsWork Application Documents on website).
2. Attend a mandatory orientation in Dover, TN, OR from 3/02 to 3/06 and a mid-term training (food and lodging provided for orientation and trainings).
3. Demonstrates independence, motivation and resourcefulness.
4. Able to endure strenuous and repetitive physical activity involving lifting up to 50 lbs.
5. Ability and willingness to serve outdoors, in inclement weather.
6. Willingness to apply herbicide, operate small engine tools (chainsaw, brush cutter, etc.)
7. Knows how or is able and willing to learn how to operate equipment (ex. Tractors, skid-steers, and mowers)
8. Able to drive four-wheel drive vehicles.
9. Capable of operating a GPS or Trimble.
10. Serve occasional evenings and weekends.
11. Meet other requirements of federal employee (eg. background check)
12. Must have served in US Armed Forces and have a DD214 with an honorable discharge.
13. 21 years of age at beginning of service term.
14. U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
15. Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving an education award.
16. Ability to commit to the full 45-week term of service.
17. Selection, placement and retention are contingent upon passing the National Sex Offender Public Register and a national FBI fingerprint check. Position does have recurring access to vulnerable populations.
18. Members are eligible to serve up to four terms of service and receive AmeriCorps Education awards for each term of service up to the value of two full time education awards only. It is the responsibility of the applicant to inform MAI of any previous service in an AmeriCorps program, regardless of whether or not they completed the previous term(s) of service. MAI is not liable for providing an Education Award to a member if they are not eligible under the Corporation for National and Community Service AmeriCorps guidelines.

Preferred Qualifications:

1. Familiarity with GIS.
2. Interest or experience in natural resources.
3. Knowledge of operating a UTV
4. Proficient in operation of skid steer or tractor

Member Benefits Include:

1. A total taxable living allowance (before taxes) of \$15,750, paid over term of service.
2. Upon successful completion of a term of service, eligible members receive an education award of \$6,195. The education award can be used to repay qualified student loans, for further education in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational or trade schools. The education award is taxed in the year that it is used.
3. Loan forbearance (after successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps will pay the accrued interest on qualified loans, which is taxable).
4. Basic medical insurance (covers members only, not dependents; vision and dental not included).
5. Child care allowance for those who qualify.
6. VetsWork is an apprenticeship program approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Labor. Members with G.I. Bill benefits may be able to dual enroll as an apprentice and access their Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) of up to approximately \$2,400 per month. Actual benefits vary by individuals' qualified benefits.
7. Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.
8. Housing for intern provided by service site, bunkhouse.

Transportation Information:

1. Project site is not accessible by public transportation. Rural location makes a personal vehicle preferred.
2. Agency/Organization vehicles are available for work-related travel.
3. Intern is responsible for travel to and from orientation and to and from duty station.

Equal Opportunity:

People of color, people with disabilities, veterans and LGBTQ candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. MAI is committed to a diverse workplace and to supporting our staff with ongoing career development opportunities. MAI is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its employment decisions.

MAI provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees as required by law. Applicants with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.

**Application Instructions
Below**

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Interviews: Will occur as qualified applications are received.

Type of position: Individual Placement

Service Dates March 2, 2020 to January 15, 2021

Length of Term: 1700 hours

How to apply:

Submit the following materials by email to katie@mtadamsinstitute.org. If you are selected for a position additional documents will be required.

1. A resume including three professional references (These could be military, civilian, or academic.)
2. A separate cover letter for each position in which you are interested in applying.
3. A copy of your DD 214 with an honorable discharge (general under honorable conditions discharge considered on a case-by-case basis). This needs to be the long form Member 4 copy which has 30 total boxes of information.
4. Read "VetsWork Frequently Asked Questions" and "Is VetsWork Right for Me?" found at <https://mtadamsinstitute.org/internships/#vetswork> under the VetsWork Application Documents heading.

Questions? Contact Katie Schmidt at katie@mtadamsinstitute.org or 509-395-3465
Mt. Adams Institute
2453 HWY 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650

Checklist for initial INTERN APPLICATION

Forms can be mailed or scanned and emailed to Katie Schmidt.

- Resume**
- DD214**
- Separate cover letter** for each position for which you are applying.
- In the submission email list positions in order of preference if applying for more than one**