

Historical Interpretation Intern

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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DESCRIPTION

Bring the past back to life! Help share the history of Delaware's State Parks by working alongside our professional staff of historical educators. As a Historical Interpreter, you will provide first-person and/or third-person historical education programming, possibly including living history costumed demonstrations. This internship provides the candidate practical historical interpretive experience, practice in public speaking, and hands-on experience in operation of a historical park.

LOCATIONS

- **Auburn Valley State Park**- Wilmington, DE
- **Cape Henlopen State Park** - Fort Miles - Lewes, DE
A dynamic coastal habitat, including dunes, forests, and wetlands with a significant historical past
- **Delaware Seashore State Park** - Indian River Life-Saving Station - Rehoboth Beach, DE
19th Century Surf rescue
- **First State Heritage Park** - Dover, DE
Spans the history of the state from Colonial era to present
- **Fort Delaware State Park** - Delaware City, DE
Civil War Fort and prisoner of war camp
- **Fort Miles** – Lewes, DE

TERM OF SERVICE

- 12 weeks, 6 months or year-round
 - Full-time 30-35 hours per week
 - Part-time 20-29 hours per week

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work as part of a team of interpreters to conduct historical programming, interpretation, maintenance and/or administration duties
- Responsibilities can include all or some of the following:
 - Assist with program creation for child and adult programs
 - Conduct and transcribe oral history interviews
 - Participate in costumed historic demonstrations
 - Conduct programs such as tours and demonstrations



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- Research
- Other duties as assigned

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Must be able to work flexible hours, including a weekends and holidays
- An interest in history, education, or historical interpretation
- Willing to study and learn Delaware history
- Able to communicate effectively with a diverse public and speak publicly in front of groups or audiences
- Ability to understand and appreciate the historical context of the program
- Professional appearance and demeanor, responsible and trustworthy
- Pleasant and personable, enjoys people, good customer service skills
- Works well independently or as a cooperative, contributory team member
- Presents program as instructed by Interpretive Programs Manager
- Able to assist with both Indoor and Outdoor programs
- Able to stand for long periods, lift 10 pounds from crouching position, and walk 2 miles
- Performs duties in compliance with Division and Park Customer Service Guidelines and Safety Guidelines

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

- The Direct Supervisor will be a Delaware State Parks education professional designated by the park

BENEFITS

- **Training:** A hallmark of the program, interns receive training from the field experts they will be working with. In addition to this formal and informal training to successfully conduct their internship assignment, interns will have the opportunity to build associated skills and share real-time experience with park staff and colleagues. Training will be made available to the interns to further their personal and professional development.
- **Housing:** Limited co-ed housing is available, at no fee, for interns providing full-time hours (30 or more per week). If selected for housing, an intern will share a house, duplex or dorm facility with other interns.
- **Activities:** Interns will have the opportunity not only to visit ALL Delaware State Parks at no fee, but also participate in many of the tours, programs, and associated events for free. Delaware State Parks span the length of the state and whether it be canoeing at Trap Pond State Park, surfing at Delaware Seashore State Park, attending a concert at Bellevue State Park, or touring the living history facility at Fort Delaware, there is certainly something for everyone.
- **Stipend Available:** Interns are not employees of the State of Delaware- they are considered volunteers and are not paid for their service. Interns may elect to receive a stipend to help cover expenses incurred during their volunteer intern service. The stipend is a fixed amount of \$100 per week for service of 30 or more hours per week or \$50.00 per week for service of between 20 – 29 hours/ week paid biweekly as a direct deposit into the Intern’s bank account.
 - The stipend is not a wage but does count toward the total income on which the intern’s tax obligation is based. Interns electing to receive the stipend will complete IRS Form W-9 Request for Tax-Payer Identification as self-employed and will receive a Form 1099 at the end of the year that reports the amount of income from the stipend. No taxes are withheld from the stipend.



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All Delaware State Parks Interns are required to undergo and successfully complete a background check performed by the Division.

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