



NONPROFIT INTERNSHIP – Fall 2026

Overview:

In partnership with the University Honors Program at The University of Kansas, Baker University Wetlands (BUW) offers a hands-on opportunity for undergraduate students in the KU University Honors Program to gain experience in land stewardship and environmental education. Interns will work alongside wetlands staff to support the care, maintenance, and outreach efforts of this unique natural area.

The BUW Intern will fill in the gaps where we need extra help with activities that meet our mission.

This internship can satisfy the Professional Development & Social Entrepreneurship Enhanced Learning Experience (ELE) as part of University Honors Program graduation requirements.

Time Commitment Requirements and Award:

Students will receive a \$1,800 award to cover their involvement at a rate of 8-10 hours per week for the fall term.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist with land stewardship and natural area upkeep
- Learn and support equipment use, management and maintenance
- Help care for live animal ambassadors (e.g. fish, snakes, turtles, frogs)
- Create educational and outreach content for social media
- Participate in occasional public engagement and education events

Requirements:

- Students must meet the qualifications for good academic standing and progression for the University Honors Program.

- Preference for undergraduate student in the University Honors Program majoring in Biology, Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology (EEOB), Environmental Science, Environmental Studies or a related field.
- Be environmentally aware and passionate
- Ability to work outdoors in various weather conditions
- Comfortable handling reptiles and amphibians (snakes, turtles, salamanders, and frogs)
- Excellent communication, organizational, and time management skills
- Ability to work independently and multi-task effectively
- Experience with Microsoft office programs, Google docs, Canva, and Social Media platforms

Deadline:

Applications are due by Friday, July 10. Interviews with selected applicants will take place later in July to early August. BUW will conduct interviews, without oversight from the University Honors Program, to ensure equity and fairness in the selection and onboarding process.

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume and cover letter through the University Honors Program Internships portal located on their website.

About the Baker University Wetlands

The mission of the Baker University Wetlands is to maintain the ecological viability and integrity of the ecosystems within its borders, provide hands-on environmental learning experiences for its visitors, and foster scholarly research by university scientists and their students.

There are three major components to our operation:

Education and Outreach – The Discovery Center and its staff serve to educate the public about the functions and values of wetlands and explain, through hands-on displays and activities, why wetlands are critical components of the natural world that provide many services every day. The natural environment gives an opportunity for exploration, recreation, and reflection.

Research – The Wakarusa Field Station, a state-of-the-art research laboratory, facilitates on-going research about wetland, prairie, and riparian habitat restoration as well as other research efforts by Baker University faculty and students. The adjacent residence allows for the solicitation of visiting scientists from around the region and across the country to further expand the scholarly work taking place at the Wetlands.

Restoration/ Natural Areas Management – Management plans based on scientific principles promote wetland, prairie, and riparian habitats in the appropriate locations. Emphasis is placed on maintaining functional wetland systems, as well as maintaining or enhancing biodiversity and eradication of invasive species.