



INTERNSHIP – Spring 2027

Overview: In partnership with the University Honors Program at the University of Kansas, Baker University Wetlands (BUW) seeks a student intern for the Spring 2027 term.

Baker University Wetlands (BUW) offers an exciting opportunity for undergraduate students in the KU University Honors Program to gain valuable experience in land stewardship and environmental education. The intern will work under the supervision of Wetlands staff to fill gaps where extra help is needed and assist with activities that meet our mission.

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

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

Students must be able to travel just outside of Lawrence city limits to the Baker University Wetlands Discovery Center to report for work. The site is walkable/bikeable from City of Lawrence bus stops. Weekly work schedule can be flexible based on the student's class schedule. Wetlands staff are typically on-site 8am-4pm M-F. Students must show up to work with long, durable pants and boots/shoes that will withstand briars and brush. Walking efficiently through prairies, wetlands, and woodlands is a necessity of the role.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Undergraduate student in the University Honors Program majoring in Biology, Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology (EEOB), Environmental Science, Environmental Studies or a related field.
- Students must meet the qualifications for good academic standing and progression for the University Honors Program.
- Students must possess a valid driver's license

- Be environmentally aware and passionate
- Able to work outdoors in various (sometimes challenging) weather conditions
- Excellent communication, organizational, and time management skills
- Able to work independently and multi-task effectively
- Comfortable handling reptiles and amphibians (snakes, turtles, salamanders, and frogs)
- Proficiency in Google Suite and a variety of social media platforms

Deadline: Applications are due by Thursday, October 22. Interviews of selected applicants will take place prior to the end of the fall semester. Baker University Wetlands staff will conduct the interviews, without oversight from the University Honors Program, to ensure equity and fairness in the onboarding process.

How to Apply: Please submit your resume and a 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.