



INTERNSHIP – Spring 2027

Overview: In partnership with the University Honors Program at the University of Kansas, Monarch Watch seeks a student intern for the Spring 2027 term. The Monarch Watch internship offers an exciting opportunity for undergraduate students in the KU University Honors Program to gain valuable experience with a local organization with international reach that leads education, conservation, and research programs focused on the monarch butterfly, its habitat, and its spectacular fall migration. The intern will work under the supervision of Dr. Kristen Baum, Director of Monarch Watch, interacting with Monarch Watch team members, volunteers, and partners with different backgrounds, interests, and perspectives. Duties may include supporting research activities, working with large datasets, compiling program information, maintaining monarch colonies and plants, providing educational programming, developing/revising educational resources, communicating with the public, engaging with partners, assisting with events, etc.

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. Monarch Watch is located in Foley Hall on KU's West Campus. A set weekly schedule will be identified between 8am-5pm, M-F. Work hours may occasionally be modified to include evenings or weekends to accommodate activities that occur outside of the standard work week.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Undergraduate student in the University Honors Program majoring in a science, education, communications, or a related field.
- Students must meet the qualifications for good academic standing and progression for the University Honors Program.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Experience working independently and collaboratively as a team.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office.
- Interest in insects, conservation, education, research, and science communication.

Deadline: Applications are due by Thursday, October 22. Interviews of selected applicants will take place prior to the end of the fall semester. Monarch Watch will conduct the 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 a cover letter through the University Honors Program Internships portal located on their website.



About Monarch Watch: Monarch Watch is an education, conservation, and research program that focuses on the monarch butterfly, its habitat, and its spectacular fall migration. We provide resources for incorporating monarchs into formal and informal education programs for people of all ages. We lead and support research on monarch biology, including a long-term community science project to study the fall migration. We also promote the creation and protection of monarch habitats throughout North America.

Mission Statement: Monarch Watch strives to provide the public with information about the biology of monarch butterflies, their spectacular migration, and how to use monarchs to further science education in primary and secondary schools. We engage in research on monarch migration biology and monarch population dynamics to better understand how to conserve the monarch migration. We also promote protection of monarch habitats throughout North America.

Vision Statement: In recognition of the rapid loss of habitats and resources needed by monarch butterflies in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, it is clear that the preservation of the monarch migration will require stewardship by the governments and private citizens of all three countries. We all must work together to create, conserve, and protect monarch habitats. Sustaining monarch habitats will have the effect of protecting vital pollinators and other wildlife.