



Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Contact: procurement@dmr.ms.gov

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Oyster Aquaculture Intern

Introduction

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (“MDMR”) is currently seeking an Oyster Aquaculture Intern.

The oyster aquaculture internship provides an opportunity to share your enthusiasm for conservation and enhancement of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Oyster Industry.

The MDMR manages all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands, and waterfront areas to provide for the balanced commercial, recreational, educational, and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes.

Scope of Work/Job Duties

The Aquaculture intern will assist staff:

- Setting larvae, both on shell for bottom harvest, and on micro-cultch, to produce individual oysters for containerized water column production;
- Monitoring efficiency and health of young seed;
- Operating downweller, upweller and nursery systems and to undertake basic troubleshooting techniques;
- Producing custom spawns destined for the commercial market;
- Working with a range of gear types employed for the water-column culture of cultchless oysters;
- Ensuring efficient operation of an off-bottom oyster farm;
- Working with various gear types, operating equipment, data collection techniques for oysters, assessing mortality, and grading by size;
- Operating nursery systems, boat work to operate grow-out systems, grading, and packing market oysters; and,
- Other duties as assigned by the supervisor and/or Office Director.

Minimum Qualifications

The minimum qualifications which the MDMR is seeking for this position include:

- **Education:** Must Possess or be pursuing a Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited four-year college or university in shellfish aquaculture, marine biology, coastal or marine science, marine ecology, resource management including fish or wildlife management, biological or physical sciences from an accredited 4 year college or University. The candidate must have a minimum of 32 hours college credit. As part of the application, please provide a copy of your transcript (unofficial copy is acceptable).
- **Other:** Must possess a valid driver’s license (Mississippi residents must have a Mississippi driver’s license). MDMR will verify the driver’s license.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Applicants should have knowledge of the coastal habitat for marine fisheries and the various species typically found in Mississippi coastal waters. The applicant should have good communication and organization skills. The ideal candidate should demonstrate the ability to implement multiple project tasks simultaneously and the ability to work effectively with others. This position requires working outdoors, under limited supervision in remote and often uncomfortable environments (i.e. hot, humid, buggy). The applicant should also be comfortable riding in small and large boats on open water and must be able to frequently lift and/or move up to 30 pounds repetitively.

Compensation and Hours Worked

This internship position pays \$10.00 per hour, and is for 40 hours per week. The position is for up to 12 weeks, depending upon the intern's school schedule.

Instructions for Applying

- Complete and **sign** the attached Application (all requested information must be completed).
- Attach your resume describing your education and prior work history, including relevant work experience.
- Attach a list of at least three references (name and current contact information). References familiar with your job performance skills are preferable. If MDMR is unable to contact your references based upon the contact information you provide, your application may be rejected.
- Attach a copy of your college transcript (an unofficial copy is acceptable).

You may submit your application packet (all of the above) in one of three ways:

- Via email to procurement@dmr.ms.gov;
- Via U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to:
 - Valerie McWilliams, Procurement Specialist, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530; or,
- Via hand delivery to Valerie McWilliams at the above address.

The **deadline** for receiving applications is **March 28, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.** Late applications will not be accepted.

You may be required to interview in person at MDMR in Biloxi, Mississippi, or by telephone.

Please note: This position will not begin until June 1, 2018, or after, depending on the intern's school schedule.

Questions/Requests for Clarification

All questions and requests for clarification must be submitted by email to:

Valerie McWilliams, Procurement Specialist procurement@dmr.ms.gov

The MDMR will not be bound by any verbal or written information that is not specified within this Request for Applications unless issued in writing by the contact person.

Equal Opportunity Statement

MDMR will select the candidate for these services without regard to political affiliation, race, color, handicap, genetic information, religion, national origin, sex, religious creed, age, or disability.