



Alcatraz Visitor Services Academic Internship

Golden Gate National Recreation Area; In Person
Full-Time, Summer 2025

Available only to students currently enrolled at COM, CCSF, and SFSU

Organization Description:

Since 1981, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (Parks Conservancy) has served as the nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, collaborating with the Presidio Trust, partners, donors, and the community to support the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). The GGNRA stretches across three Bay Area counties north and south of the Golden Gate Bridge and includes iconic places such as Muir Woods National Monument, Fort Point National Historic Site, Alcatraz Island, Crissy Field, Mori Point, Lands End, and the Presidio of San Francisco.

The Parks Conservancy engages at the intersection of national park sites, local communities, social justice, and climate resilience. Collaborating with partners, our staff are dedicated to enhancing public awareness and providing volunteer and educational opportunities in the parks. We are park builders, caretakers, ambassadors and educators, all working to connect people to parks in support of our vision *Parks for All Forever*. Join us.

Branch/Unit Description:

This position works within the team of the Interpretation and Education rangers on Alcatraz Island. We provide visitor services to park visitors coming out to Alcatraz Island for either a day or night visit. Our team consists of about 10-12 rangers of all different backgrounds, but all of whom are passionate about interpreting the history of the infamous island of Alcatraz.

On Alcatraz, we work closely with both park rangers and members of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Visitor services such as retail, cellhouse audio tours, and night tour interpreters are all with the Conservancy. Park Rangers consist of interpretive rangers, education rangers, outreach rangers, seasonal park rangers, and biologists.

Internship Overview:

This position will focus on public program development, practicing public speaking skills, visitor interaction, and educating the public on park resources. The overall goal is to create a public program by conducting research on island history, creating a program outline with ranger guidance, and to present it with the intern being the lead presenter. The position will offer opportunities for the intern to learn about what park rangers do on Alcatraz and in the Golden Gate, as well as what opportunities are available as a potential career after education.

This position is located at Alcatraz. The start date for this position is June 3rd, 2025, with an end date of August 15th, 2025. Work is performed Fully in-person. The work schedule for this position is any combination of Wednesdays- Saturdays 8:00AM- 4:00PM. Interns must be able to work in half-day or full day increments. Interns must have a Social Security Number or and Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to receive stipend. This position is only available to students currently enrolled at College of Marin, SF State University, and City College of San Francisco.

Reports To: Alcatraz Interpretation Park Ranger

Learning Objectives:

- Learn methods of Interpretation of natural and historic park resources
- Learn to conduct research on park topics
- Learn to create program outlines and how to present topics to the public
- Network with park staff and learn about career opportunities within the National Park Service and public lands.
- Improve public speaking skills and general professional skills

Essential Functions and Responsibilities:

- Conduct dock announcements for incoming visitors from the ferry
- Rove the island and provide informal visitor interaction (informal interpretation)
- Staff open house areas of the island (New Industries Building, Historic Gardens, A-Block, etc.)

- Research Alcatraz and park specific resources to share with visitors
- Develop programming with guidance of fellow park rangers
- Present public programming ranging from standing programs to walking tours
- Other duties as needed

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to interact with visitors from around the world and of diverse backgrounds
- Ability to work together with a large team
- Clear communication skills
- Ability to adapt to different park climates, setting or environments
- Someone who is comfortable with public speaking or is hoping to get experience to become more comfortable in front of crowds

Health and Safety:

It is the goal of the Parks Conservancy to create and maintain a safe and healthy workplace. We work to mitigate hazards and risks that may cause harm to employees, consistent with state and federal laws. Employees play an active role in creating a safe and healthy workplace and are expected to comply with all applicable health and safety rules.

Physical Requirements and Work Environments:

- Weather conditions can be unpredictable on Alcatraz and the intern will often be out in the elements
- It is also an uphill climb to get to the island cellhouse. There is an accessible tram if needed
- You will take a 12 minute ferry ride to and from the island everyday. Waters are usually calm but can be choppy depending on weather

Terms of Position

- Start Date: June 3, 2025
- In-person (safety and public health permitting – virtual work may be provided otherwise)
 - Work site: Alcatraz Island

- Work Schedule: Wednesday - Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. June 3rd - August 15th (11 weeks total)
- Intern must be able to work in half-day or full day increments
- Intern must have a Social Security Number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to receive stipend
- Available only to students currently enrolled at College of Marin, SF State and City College of San Francisco

Benefits

- Opportunity to attend trainings and workshops on a variety of topics including resume building and interview skills, history, flora and fauna of the GGNRA, mapping and monitoring, computer skills, and much more
- Opportunity to enjoy the scenery, wildlife and cultural resources of a spectacular National Park
- Opportunity to work with staff and volunteers from diverse backgrounds that share a common interest in preserving and protecting our natural lands while engaging the next generation of park stewards
- Opportunity for personal/professional development days to pursue an interest, including training and education days in various departments within the Park Service and Parks Conservancy
- Five and dollar (\$500) per week taxable stipend plus academic credit available
- Uniform will be provided

Position Contact and How to Apply

To apply for this position, please [submit an application](#) by March 16, 2025. For questions regarding the Academic Internship Program, please reach out to internships@parksconservancy.org. No phone calls please.

Application Deadline Date: March 16th, 2025

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people assigned to this classification. They are not to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required of personnel so classified. All employees may be required to perform duties outside of their normal responsibilities from time to time, as needed.

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Recruitment, placement and promotions are conducted without regard to an individual's race, color, religion,

sex, national origin, age, physical handicap, veteran status or sexual orientation, or any other classification protected by Federal, State, and local laws & ordinances. We will consider qualified candidates with criminal history in a manner consistent with the requirements of the San Francisco Fair Chance Ordinance. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.