

Delaware Sea Grant

2026 Community Engaged Internship: Science outreach in urban Delaware

About Delaware Sea Grant

The mission of the Delaware Sea Grant Advisory Service is to help Delaware communities develop sustainable coastal communities and economies based on a thriving natural environment. We help create coastal economies based on sustainable environmental practices that require three essential components: understanding our natural resources, working with communities to effect positive change, and training the next generation of environmental stewards. We achieve this through building active partnerships with state and federal agencies, local businesses, environmental nonprofits, Delaware communities and residents, and by advancing environmental literacy and initiating opportunities for students, teachers, and Delaware residents to develop the next generation of environmental leaders. For more information about Delaware Sea Grant and the Advisory Service, please visit www.deseagrant.org.

Position Description

Delaware Sea Grant (DESG) is seeking an undergraduate student intern who is interested in strengthening community connections with nature and science, tackling litter and marine debris, as well as promoting environmental literacy, in Wilmington and the Route 9 Corridor.

Key components of this 10-week, paid summer internship include:

- Working collaboratively with the Delaware Sea Grant mentor to: (1) Integrate local environmental issues and wisdom into educational activities and outreach products tailor-made for communities in Wilmington and Route 9 Corridor. In addition to science, this education and outreach programming will highlight local history, natural features, art, and native species. (2) Tackle litter and marine debris through the delivery of educational workshops, litter cleanup events, and marine debris interception activities.
- Mentoring by Delaware Sea Grant professionals.
- Participating in virtual professional development sessions with other interns around the country.

The above supports Delaware Sea Grant's FY2024-2028 strategic plan objectives and its collaborative, ongoing work with community partnerships in the area. The intern will gain hands-on experience engaging residents during DESG's continued participation in science outreach at community events in the urban area, and conducting educational activities with youth.

Qualifications

We are seeking a current or recently graduated undergraduate student, preferably studying natural resources, marine science, earth science, science education, urban studies, and/or social sciences. However, all applications from undergraduate students of all subject areas will be considered. Experience with or interest in science outreach/education/communication, formal and nonformal education, and stakeholder engagement is helpful but not required.

Internship Logistics

This paid internship will run from early June through early August 2026. Compensation is \$15 - \$20 an hour depending on experience, and hiring is contingent upon receiving federal funding. The intern will work at least 20 hours per week and no more than 29 hours per week, with the potential option of hybrid format on some occasions. Most work will take place in person at the University of Delaware campus in Newark, Delaware; however, some work may take place offsite in the city of Wilmington and the surrounding area and may occur outside of normal business hours, i.e. evenings and weekends.

Application Process

Interested undergraduate students should send their: **(1)** cover letter and **(2)** resume to Dr. Emily Maung-Douglass at emaung@udel.edu by **5:00 pm Eastern, March 20, 2026** with the following subject line format: CEI Summer 2026-[CANDIDATE'S NAME]. Select candidates may be asked to provide additional application materials and participate in a phone or video interview. Please note that the internship is contingent upon receiving federal funding.