



2018 Directorate Resource Assistant Fellows Program (DFP)

In 2018, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) will partner with the Student Conservation Association (SCA) for the FWS Directorate Resource Assistant Fellows Program (DFP). DFP provides undergraduate rising seniors and graduate students who are interested in conservation or other related careers with a full-time, 11-week opportunity that supports FWS conservation priorities.

Undergraduate rising seniors and seniors who will not yet have completed their degree requirements prior to the completion of their fellowship are eligible to apply for all 55 projects. Graduate students are eligible to apply for 8 of the projects, which are identified below, throughout the SCA Application process, and at <http://www.fws.gov/workforwildlife/>. Projects include 43 biology or fisheries projects, 12 outreach or human dimensions projects, and 3 in other fields.

Questions? Contact a FWS Recruiter at dfp@fws.gov

Application Instructions

1. Complete your fellowship application online via the Student Conservation Association (SCA) application portal: <http://thesca.force.com/members/NewsRegistration> by midnight EST, February 22nd, 2018.
2. Add the application code PO-00724624 to your application.
3. Attach a résumé and a copy of your college transcripts (unofficial is acceptable).

4. Complete the following essay questions:
 - a. Why do you want to serve?
 - b. What do you hope to gain?
 - c. What makes you a strong candidate?
5. Submit the names of two references along with their phone numbers and email addresses. A reference letter request will automatically be sent upon your submission of your reference's email addresses.
6. Once you complete your SCA Application including the steps above, SCA will review it to determine your eligibility for the 2018 DFP.
7. If eligible, SCA will invite you to apply to specific projects, located through the United States and its territories. You will have only a few days to respond.
8. SCA will verify whether you qualify for the projects you select and forward qualified applications to selecting officials.

***NOTE:** Please plan for up to 1 hour to complete the SCA application. For SCA application questions, contact Alfonso Orozco (aorozco@thesca.org) and Emily Poore (epoore@thesca.org).

Eligibility

- US citizen or permanent resident.
- Must be 18 years of age.
- Males born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, must register with the Selective Service System, unless they meet certain exemptions.
- Students who are enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an

undergraduate (rising seniors/seniors) or graduate degree program and who will not be graduating prior to the completion of the fellowship.

- GPA must be 3.0 or higher.
- Available for 12 weeks (1 week orientation plus 11 week fellowship) and must attend one of the following orientations: May 20-25 or June 17-22.
- Must be able to pass a criminal background check.
- Demonstrated interest or experience in conservation.

Benefits

- Housing provided in select locations.
- Living allowance—paid bi-weekly.
- Travel allowance.
- 1 week orientation at the FWS National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV.
- Hands-on experience.
- **Fellows may be eligible for a permanent position in the FWS after successfully completing their fellowship and degree requirements.**

Reasonable Accommodation Policy

Statement: Federal agencies must provide a reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and/or hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.