

# Iowa...

## Your Career in Conservation Begins Here!



United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service



Thank you for your interest in employment with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the conservation leader in America! We help private landowners, land users, and local governments to reduce erosion, protect wildlife, promote good land use, and implement other measures to preserve the nation's natural resources for future generations. The NRCS offers exciting career opportunities in natural resources and the environment to students who are still in college and to those who have already graduated.

Iowa NRCS provides students the opportunity to gain valuable work experience through variable job assignments in the field of natural resources, in an effort to combine on-the-job training with academic study. Students will be involved in productive, hands-on job assignments involving conservation and enhancement of Iowa's natural resources.

### Iowa NRCS Offers Students:

- » opportunities that lead to permanent employment status.
- » valuable work experience in the "heart of the agricultural community."
- » competitive salaries ranging from GS-3 through GS-7.
- » reimbursement of travel and transportation expenses.
- » a subsistence allowance (housing and utilities).
- » flexible work schedules.
- » opportunities to earn vacation and sick leave.

### NRCS Student Employment Program

You are eligible for the program if you:

- » are a student currently enrolled or accepted for enrollment as at least a half-time degree-seeking student at an accredited high school, technical or vocational school, 2-year or 4-year college or university, graduate, or professional school;
- » remain in good academic standing (maintain a 2.0 overall scholastic average in a 4.0 scale or have a C or above in your major field of study);
- » are a U.S. Citizen.

The program is intended for students interested in long-term employment with NRCS. The program allows students to gain paid work experience while pursuing a degree in a natural resources-related career field. The work may be either full-time or part-time depending on the needs of the agency and the student's availability, and the duties are designed to provide hands-on experience and training in the specific discipline for which hired. Upon graduation from college, students may be eligible for noncompetitive conversion to permanent full-time federal employment.

In addition, students must be mobile to all locations in the state for which selected. Participants must sign an agreement of understanding and successfully complete at least 640 hours of full-time career-related work prior to graduation to be eligible for permanent placement with our agency. Insurance and retirement benefits are available through the student employment program.

### Volunteer Program

Volunteers in NRCS' Earth Team Volunteer Program play an important role in keeping our long-standing commitment to working with people to protect and conserve natural resources. The Earth Team is now recruiting in more than 3,000 locations across the country – that means that the Earth Team is at work near you! The Earth Team needs a variety of people with all types of skills who are willing to commit their time and talents to work directly with local farmers and ranchers to put conservation practices on the land. Earth Team volunteers also help organize and develop conservation tours and exhibits, write articles and speak to community groups, enter and

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edit computer data, provide office assistance, and perform a myriad of other necessary tasks either outdoors or in a local NRCS office.

To learn more about the Earth Team or to sign up as a volunteer, contact your local NRCS Office or call 1 888-LAND-CARE and leave your name, address, and phone number. This national referral network will pass the information on to an office near you.

## Other Employment Opportunities

In addition to the resources listed above, NRCS routinely advertises for temporary and permanent positions of all types throughout the nation. All NRCS job openings are posted to the USA Jobs website at <http://www.usajobs.gov>. We encourage you to become familiar with this site; it contains a wealth of federal job information, and all federal agencies use it to fill new positions.

## More Information

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United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

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