



**CENTER FOR PROTECTED
AREA MANAGEMENT**
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Rocky Mountain National Park Internship Program: Summer 2022

Junior Ranger Intern



Internship with the National Park Service and the Center for Protected Area Management

CSU's Center for Protected Area Management is proud to be offering its internship program at Rocky Mountain National Park for its fifth year. The intern selected this year will work as an outreach team member to assist park staff with its Junior Ranger Program.

This internship program provides university students with on the ground experience in Rocky Mountain National Park. This year the internship will be focused on the Junior Ranger program. Junior Ranger Headquarters is set up as a location for visitors with children to come and actively learn about the park, receive Junior Ranger books, attend programs geared towards youth and families, be sworn in as Junior Rangers, find out about more fun family hikes and activities. Visitors leave feeling empowered to join in the preservation and stewardship of national parks and other protected areas.

Center for Protected Area Management (CPAM)

CPAM is an outreach center of CSU's Warner College of Natural Resources. Our work is focused on building capacity for people working in protected areas and the communities that support and depend on them. Our capacity building work includes training, virtual courses, conference, webinars, exchanges, development of support materials, research, and internships. Our internships are aimed at providing opportunities for students and early career professionals to gain experience with protected areas.

Internship Location

Rocky Mountain National Park (ROMO) is located 50 miles southwest of Fort Collins and consists of 415 square miles of high mountain scenery carved and sculpted by glaciers. Wildlife includes elk, bighorn sheep, coyotes, mountain lions, marmots, pikas, black bears and a variety of birds. Trail Ridge Road, the highest continuous paved road in the U.S. provides access to the alpine tundra while connecting the east and west sides of the park. There are over 355 miles of trails within the park and the park receives over 4 million visitors every year. Additionally, 95% of the park is designated wilderness.



Internship Description

This position is based out of the Center for Protected Area Management at Colorado State University in partnership with the National Park Service. The work report location for this internship will be the Interpretation Division at Rocky Mountain National Park and the intern will work as a member of their Outreach Team. As an outreach team member, the intern will perform duties to support the Junior Ranger program at the Junior Ranger Headquarters located at Hidden Valley on the east side of the park. The intern will serve as a front-line representative of the National Park Service and will provide quality customer service to visitors, specifically visiting groups with young people. They will be supervised by the Interpretive Park Ranger that oversees this work group.

The position provides 2 weeks of training followed by 9 weeks of programming. Housing has been secured in the BlisterRust dorm.

Major Duties

- Actively participate in a safe workplace culture.
- Adhere to all park policies.
- Greet visitors and be a good ambassador to the park.
- Assist with the facilitation of the ranger-led program and provide for safety and management of the group.
- Assist children with age-specific Junior Ranger activity booklets.
- Review activity booklets and award them Junior Ranger badges following the guidelines for the Junior Ranger Program.
- Answer numerous and repetitive questions about the park in a professional manner.
- Educate visitors on the regulations of the park and safety concerns.
- Use good teamwork abilities with other volunteers, park staff, and supervisors. Treat team members with respect and dignity.
- Use only approved NPS materials at the visitor centers.
- Provide emergency assistance to visitors within the scope of training, as needed.
- Help record program statistics.

Requirements

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident (“green-card-holder”) between the ages of 18 and 30 years old, inclusive, or veterans up to age 35. Prior to starting this position, a government security background clearance will be required. The applicant must possess a High School Diploma or equivalent and be currently enrolled in an accredited college institution (or recently graduated).

Vehicle and Driver’s License Requirements:

Applicant does not need a valid driver’s license. A personal vehicle is RECOMMENDED but not required for this position.

If the intern is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, the park will perform a driving records search, and the intern’s ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. If the intern is denied coverage, they will not be permitted to drive during work.



Requested Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Comfortable meeting and dealing with a variety of park visitors.
- Have a professional and courteous demeanor.
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude and consistently be courteous and polite to visitors.
- Ability to effectively deal with stressful situations, repetitive tasks, and large crowds.
- Be a positive and productive team member.
- Ability to learn quickly and retain basic knowledge.
- Ability to understand and follow simple oral and written instructions.
- Ability to tolerate a variety of weather and working conditions.

Bilingual speaking/listening skills are preferred, but not required.

Internship Details and Duties

Work locations will primarily be at the Junior Ranger Headquarters located at Hidden Valley and/or Moraine Park Discovery Center on the east side of Rocky Mountain National Park. Personal transportation to the park will be required, but interns will be permitted to use the Ranger vehicles within the park if coverage is approved. The internship will last 450 hours starting in mid-May and lasting until early August, 2022. Interns will be hired through Colorado State University as student hourly workers @ \$15.00/hour.

Intern supervisors will work with the selected students to arrange work schedules that align with both park and intern needs and circumstances; however, generally speaking a 40-hour work week is expected throughout the duration of the internship unless otherwise noted. Students will need to ensure that they are covered by CSU, personal, or parents' health insurance during their internship period.

How to Apply

In order to apply for this internship position, interested applicants need visit Colorado State University's HANDSHAKE website: <https://colostate.joinhandshake.com/> and search for the job title: Junior Ranger Intern @ Rocky Mountain National Park and job number: # 6147869. Through the on-line application form, you will be able provide us with basic information, respond to specific questions about the internship, and upload 2 additional documents that are required to apply: (1) a resume (max 2 pages), (2) a cover letter, and (3) a reference letter from a professor or previous employer.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday April 1, 2022 by 5:00pm

For additional information and questions please contact:

Ryan Finchum, Director of the Center for Protected Area Management, Ryan.Finchum@colostate.edu, 970-491-7776

REGISTER for the Following Virtual Information Sessions Via Zoom:

Info Session #1

Wednesday March 23, 2022

10:00 - 10:30 AM Mountain Standard Time
<https://bit.ly/ROMOJuniorRangerInternInfo1>



Info Session #2

Wednesday March 23, 2022

2:00 - 2:30 PM Mountain Standard Time
<https://bit.ly/ROMOJuniorRangerInternInfo2>