



International Fresh Produce Association
Career Pathways Internship Program

Food Safety Internship Description

Food Safety Interns will be responsible for supporting the IFPA Food Safety and Regulatory team, working in collaboration with Sustainability, Research and Government and Nutrition Policy interns. Interns will gain firsthand experience as to how federal food safety policy is developed, how foodborne illness outbreaks are handled, and how science and education promote industry implementation of risk-based preventive approaches.

PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- Create or update fact sheets on pathogens of concern to the produce industry (e.g., Salmonella, Cyclospora, Listeria), new food safety policies (e.g., sampling and testing, root cause analyses, etc.), and regulations and/or practices (e.g., agricultural water safety), and other relevant topics.
- Gather, compile, and summarize data and information related to outbreaks and recalls associated with fresh produce.
- Work with member volunteer groups to capture the discussion of workgroup topics (e.g., on whole genome sequencing, produce safety audits).
- Support the preparation of presentations for produce safety meetings and trainings.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Work collaboratively, applying knowledge and skills, to complete assigned projects
- Build technical, leadership and communication skills
- Develop emotional intelligence, problem solving and accountability competencies
- Get firsthand experience of IFPA, the industry and its career opportunities
- Benefit from structured peer-to-peer networking sessions, which, combined with the direct engagement with industry members and a personal 'career ambassador,' contribute to a robust learning environment

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Must be a Junior or Senior undergraduate student in a STEM based or Agriculture degree program at an accredited college or university in good standing.

- Pursuing a degree in food science, agriculture, environmental science or policy, public health, or a related field.
- Must have a current GPA of 3.0 or above.
- Able to function in a collaborative work environment and independently.
- Possess excellent communication skills both orally and written to internal and external audiences.
- Must have a basic understanding of fresh produce and floral industry.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications
- Must be authorized to work in the United States

HOURS and DURATION:

- Part-Time Internship - approximately 20 hours/week
- Internships will take place during the summer semester, tentatively beginning the week of May 23rd and culminating the end of July.
- Internships will be remote; with the exception of the Orientation/Welcome and concluding Project Presentation being in-person at the IFPA office(s). Travel costs and outlined expenses for the time at the in-person meetings will be reimbursed.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:

- Interns will receive a total stipend of \$4,400 for the 10-week internship
- There are no leave benefits.
- There is no health, dental, retirement or life insurance benefits.
- Internships will be remote/virtual with the exception of travel for the Orientation/Welcome and concluding Project Presentation.
- Travel costs, accommodations, and other outlined expenses for in-person meetings at IFPA office(s) will be reimbursed by IFPA.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Interested applicants who possess minimum qualifications for this position should submit a Cover Letter including a statement of interest for this internship, Resume, and a Faculty Letter of Recommendation via email to

bhochman@freshproduce.com. For questions about this opportunity, email bhochman@freshproduce.com.