

International Fresh Produce Association
Career Pathways Internship Program

Sustainability & SciTech Internship Description

Sustainability & SciTech Interns will support the Science and Technology unit, working in collaboration with Food Safety, Research, and Government and Nutrition Policy interns. Interns will gain firsthand experience of industry sustainability issues, science and technology solutions, regulatory and legislative policies, public and private investment, and related issues impacting industry sustainability.

PROJECT EXAMPLES:

Technology

- Global Robotics: advances in robotics in different countries, what is being applied to produce industry, what isn't but could be
- Global Controlled Environment Ag: What are the top companies in CEA, what are their business models, look at global growth curves/adoption.
- Global biologicals market and application to produce industry
- Global water use and availability- impact on produce industry and policy
- Affect of climate shifts due to climate change on the produce industry over next 10 years

Sustainability

- Research all major Buyers' sustainability audit and declaration requirements of their suppliers.
- Sustainability Case Studies. Interview the members and write a case study.

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, sustainability, environmental science or policy, political science, public administration, 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.