

# Get Involved with the SECU Public Fellows Internship Program at ECU®!

The Public Service Fellows Program began in 2014 with support from the State Employees Credit (SECU) Foundation. Now the **SECU Public Fellows Internship Program (PFI)**, the goal of the program is to foster workplace experiences for undergraduate students at ECU while helping rural communities build professional capacity to address public issues.

PFI connects the university and regional communities through projects that address community-identified priorities. Undergraduate student placements provide opportunities for fellows to develop leadership, analytical, problem solving, communication and project management skills, as well as allowing them to network in professional settings.

## Student projects have included:

- Strategic plan refresh
- Summer camp program assistance
- Special activities assistance and planning
- Branding, design, social media and marketing
- Website revisions
- Water quality analysis
- Economic development projects
- Project management
- Customer relations management software implementation
- Coastal restoration and outreach



## Criteria for site consideration:

To be considered as a site for the program, your organization must be located in eastern NC and must be a unit of local government, nonprofit, public or private economic development agency, or education.

Each site is required to fill out an application that includes an organizational description and a job description. All applications will be reviewed by a site selection committee. An all call email for site recruitment is sent out in October with final selections of sites announced in January.

To be added to our recruitment list, please email [communityengagement@ecu.edu](mailto:communityengagement@ecu.edu).

# Hear what our partners have to say:



"ECVC has benefitted from each intern we have been fortunate to host through the program. They provide a refreshing and different perspective on our marketing initiatives, each contributing in their own unique way and all enhancing our community outreach. The program offers an excellent learning opportunity for both the students and ECVC, and it is conducted with utmost professionalism. We love our summer interns from ECU!"

**Ellen Jackson**  
ECVC  
Vice President of Customer Operations



"Internships play a crucial role in the success of our nonprofit arts council, especially in a rural county where resources can be scarce. Our partnership with ECU and with the PFI program has been instrumental in allowing us to expand our reach, offer more services, and approach challenges with fresh, creative ideas. These internships not only provide students with valuable hands-on experience but also bring much-needed energy and support to our team, helping us continue to enrich the community through the arts."

**Bronté Labbé**  
Beaufort County Arts Council  
Curator and Engagement Director



"Being in a small rural, eastern North Carolina community, our resources are limited. The interns that we have had, have made a huge impact on how we are able to be a more active, successful Chamber. These students have provided the skillset to help us plan events, refresh our website, reach new businesses, and much more. Without a doubt, the internship program has helped us more than we could have imagined."

**Daryl Williams**  
Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce  
Executive Director

## PFI Program Timeline:

October 28, 2024	Email sent to community partners
October 28 - December 6, 2024	Community partner applications open online
December 6, 2024 - January 10, 2025	Community partner applications close; reviews begin
January 15-23, 2025	Site selections finalized; ECU works with partners to develop job descriptions
January 24 - March 9, 2025	Student application solicitation
March 9 - April 4, 2025	Student applications reviewed; student interviews conducted ( <i>once students are deemed eligible by ECU</i> )
April 7 - May 2, 2025	Student selection and hiring
April 17 - May 9, 2025	Supervisor, student, and PFI Program manager meetings
May 16, 2025	Orientation
May 19 - August 15, 2025	Internships take place