

Golden Plains Area Extension Internship Proposal

1. Extension mentor and application contact information.

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2. In what region will the student be working (county/region/state)?

Golden Plains Area

3. In less than 150 words, please describe the proposed internship goals, scope, and objectives.

The goal of this internship is to introduce the intern to job expectations and skills required to be a successful Extension Agent in Youth Development. The intern should have a background in, and working toward a degree in agricultural education, animal sciences, natural resources, family and consumer science or youth development related degrees. The intern may be exposed to various 4-H activities occurring throughout the summer months related to livestock, natural resources, general or family and consumer science project areas.

The intern will be given the task to plan, organize, deliver and evaluate an educational program designed for adult or youth audiences in the project areas named above. Program examples could include Livestock Fitting and Showing Clinics or Natural Resource, General or Family and Consumer Science presentation/activity as part of a 4-H camp. Program topics would fit with intern's degree program. These programs could be delivered in one or more of the Golden Plains Area (GPA) counties or 4-H camp location. The intern will also be available to work with Extension agents and local fair boards to prepare for and deliver a successful county fair experience for our 4-H youth.

4. Which PRU activities are included in the scope of this internship?

Youth Development

5. What student learning outcomes do you anticipate and are there opportunities for professional development?

I would expect the intern to gain knowledge in the planning, organizing, delivering, and evaluating Extension programs for 4-H youth and adult volunteer audiences. They will also learn to interact with adult volunteers, fair boards, and other community boards. This intern will learn firsthand what skills and strategies 4-H families can utilize to ensure a positive 4-H experience to retain families year to year. The intern will have the opportunity to participate in the 4-H State Conference and other regional activities to see firsthand the opportunities available to youth audiences beyond their local level.

6. How does this internship support identified stakeholder needs in your county/region?

Retention of 4-H Youth Development families is an ongoing challenge. One of the best strategies Extension Agents have is to provide high quality customer service to those families. High quality customer service includes making sure families know what is expected of them in the 4-H program such as project requirements and deadlines. Teaching youth project related knowledge is also key to retention. One example is teaching livestock project members proper animal husbandry topics such as nutritional requirements, proper care and adequate facilities. Teaching new youth and their families proper techniques for fitting and showing their animal at the county fair will help to ensure a positive experience for the youth and increase their desire to remain in 4-H for their eligible career.

7. Are there on-going connections with CSU faculty associated with this project, or is there identified faculty interest?

Mike Martin and Sam Lowry

8. Are travel funds available? Opportunities to provide student assistance with housing?

Travel funds will be available for expenses incurred while performing the duties of this position.