

2021 CSU Extension Internship Application for Campus-Based and Experiment Station Faculty and Staff

1. Faculty mentor name, department, college, and contact information.
 - a. Joshua Berning, CSU Ag and Resource Economics, Joshua.berning@colostate.edu
 - b. Joshua Craver, CSU Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Controlled Environments, Joshua.Craver@colostate.edu
 - c. Rebecca Haller, CSU Horticultural Therapy, rhaller@htinstitute.org
2. Are there any other identified mentors (e.g. field-based Extension agent) associated with this project?
 - a. Barbie Garnett, Park County Extension Director, bgarnett@parkco.us
3. In what region(s) will the student be working (county/region)?
 - a. Park County, Fairplay, Colorado
4. Please describe the proposed internship goals, scope, and objectives.
 - a. The goal of the internship is to do a comprehensive market feasibility study of vegetable demand in the Park County area and a preliminary greenhouse cost analysis. These will be used to determine whether the community could support a large-scale greenhouse project and what scale would be ideal..
5. How was this applied research project identified?
 - a. Park County comprises eight communities — Alma, Bailey, Como, Fairplay, Guffey, Hartsel, Lake George, and Pine Junction. The communities are spread across Park County with an average distance of 30 miles. Park County is centrally located in Colorado amidst the Rocky Mountains. The county's altitude ranges from 7,000 feet to 14,000 feet. The county covers about 2,166 square miles, stretching approximately 45 miles east to west and roughly 60 miles north to south. The natural landscape lends itself to harsh seasonal conditions. Central Park County is subject to the worst conditions and experiences high winds and deep snow during the winter and spring months. Park County is a relatively small community with approximately 17,285 people, with the population growing 6% between 2010 and 2016 and expected to continue growing. Park County has only one grocery store within its borders, located in Fairplay. Although many residents are accustomed to using other counties' resources, there are some people limited by the lack of public transportation in Park County. Many residents rely on surrounding counties to provide them with jobs, groceries, health care and other services.
6. With which stakeholder group(s) will the intern work?
 - a. Park County Extension Office, Local Grocery Store, Food Banks, Social Services, Colorado WIC
7. What student learning outcomes do you anticipate and are there opportunities for professional development?
 - a. We anticipate that the student will learn: 1.) how to collect data to study market and industry viability and cost estimates for large-scale greenhouse operation in a small community, 2.) how to utilize the data to support decision-making as well as programming and strategic planning, and 3.) how to incorporate research and evidence that support claims they make during presentations and other public speaking opportunities.
 - b. Through this internship students will learn valuable professional skills that they can use beyond their time with Extension such as communication, critical thinking, public

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speaking, and organization. In addition, students will increase their knowledge of rural economic development and interact heavily with a wide range of stakeholders. As a result, students will build professional relationships and grow their professional network in order to obtain additional opportunities in the future.

8. Do you have a specific mentor style that you would like to share with potential interns?
 - a. This internship will provide a student with an opportunity to work closely with the Park County Extension team and our lead researcher with the Agriculture and Resource Economics Department, Joshua Berning. Additionally, Joshua Craver, Expert in Controlled Environments and Rebecca Haller, Horticulture Therapy will provide mentorship for this work and its connection to research and development of a business plan for this greenhouse facility. We anticipate this work will fall in the Community Development PRU.
9. Are travel funds available? Opportunities to provide student assistance with housing? Yes, we do have travel funds available. Will work with an intern to find housing in the area if necessary.