



# INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

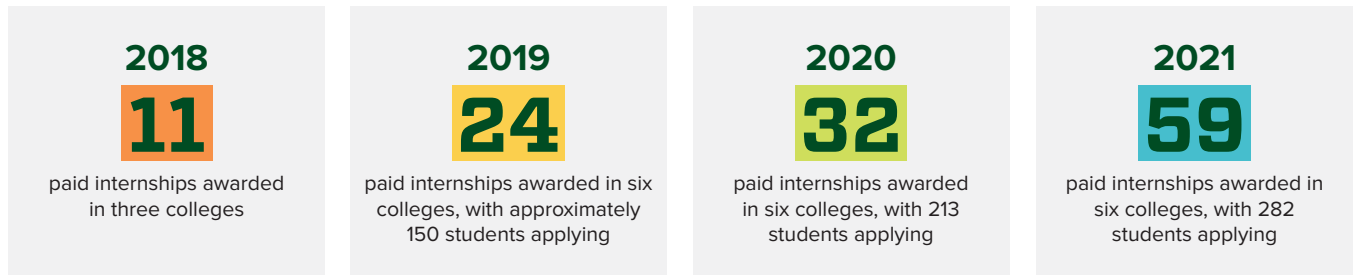
## 2021 Annual Report

The CSU Extension Internship Program was started in 2018 following a request from Extension leadership to find opportunities to facilitate enhanced connections between campus and field, as well as students and Extension. In addition, there was a call to ensure that applied research conducted by CSU faculty better met the needs of Colorado stakeholders, and that Extension better communicated research opportunities.

The CSU Extension Internship Program is different from other internship programs at CSU in that internships are based in Colorado, include applied research, and support stakeholder engagement with regional or county-based Extension agents, including significant time in the field. Interns, who can emanate from across all colleges at CSU, glean an understanding of the complexities of working across state, county and university constructs and how to marry varying perspectives toward a common goal in addition to specific internship goals. Extension mentors benefit from the program through enhanced connections to campus, including facilitating better relationships with faculty on issues important to Coloradans.

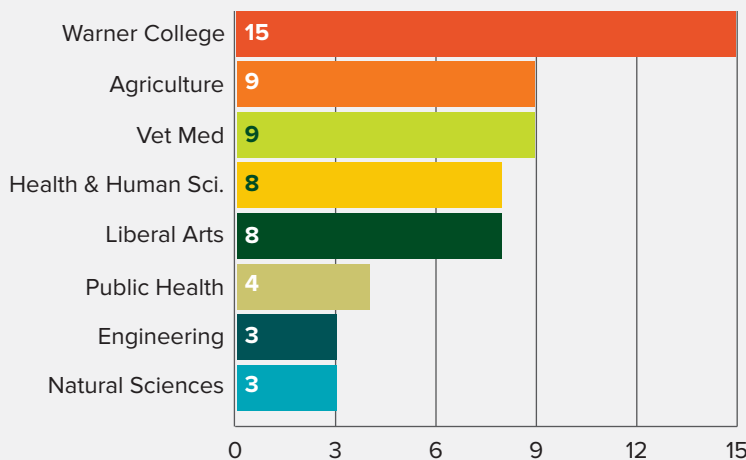
### By the Numbers:

Since its inception in 2018, there has been growth in interest for the Extension Internship program by faculty/staff, Extension agents/specialists, and students, which can be seen in the year to year growth in participation outlined below:



### 2021 Internship: Home Colleges

#### 59 Selected Interns



### The 59 interns in 2021 were generously funded by:

- OVPR (19)
- College of Liberal Arts (9)
- Warner College (9)
- OEE (8)
- College of Agriculture (5)
- College of Vet Med (4)
- College of Engineering (2)
- College of Natural Sciences (2)
- The internship mentor (1)

Each Intern was awarded a \$4,000 stipend as payment for the internship. OEE and the Graduate School also provided funding for travel and housing for the interns.

# Annual Evaluation Highlights:

Takeaways from our post-internship evaluation of both interns and their mentors:

## Interns:

**75%** of respondents said that prior to the internship they were either not at all familiar (54%) or slightly familiar (21%) with Extension.

**80%** reported that because of the Extension internship they better understand how research can be applied in communities.

**77%** indicated that they better understand how community needs can be used to formulate a research question.

## Field-Based Mentors:

**96%** stated that because of their Extension internship project they see enhanced value in engaging stakeholders in research.

**79%** of respondents stated that they feel more connected to campus.

**92%** reported that they will participate in the Extension internship program again.

## Campus-Based Mentors:

**97%** of campus-based mentors said they would recommend the opportunity to other Faculty.

**97%** stated they plan to participate in an Extension internship again.

**90%** stated that they see more value in engaging stakeholders in research.

**83%** feel more connected to agents in the field.



## 2021 Awards, Accolades, In-the-News and Highlights:

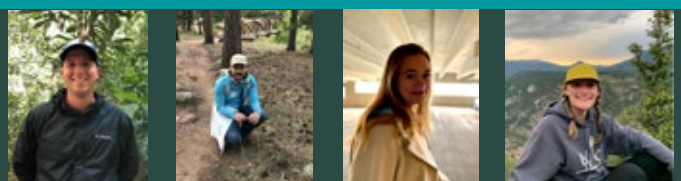
- (Photo) ESP Distinguished Team Award for project “After the Disaster Guidebook for Landowners” with Extension intern Channing Bice and Mentors Gloria Edwards and Susan Carter - In the aftermath of the Marshall fire the Boulder County version of After The Disaster was sent to Boulder Commissioners, other county officials, CDA and the State Recovery Task Force.
- AVMA-COE Accreditation Report - Included highlight on College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Students participating in Extension Internship program.
- Interns Sophia Stromberg and Nicole Natter created a series of Covid-19 Informational videos - [COVID Prevention](#), [Pandemics and COVID](#), [COVID Vaccines](#).
- Office of Engagement and Extension Source Spotlight, [“Azmal Hossan on Water Conservation and Community Connection.”](#)
- College of Natural Sciences Spotlight, [“What I did Last Summer”](#) with Extension Intern Brenna Sydow.
- New Article in the Sterling Journal-Advocate, [“CSU project provides virtual tour of Sterling’s historic buildings”](#) with Extension Intern Sara Bovaird.
- Extension Intern Rachel Seidner presented her internship work to the Mesa County Hunger Alliance and survey results are being used to host a working group about food needs in the community.
- All interns created a professional poster for the internship poster session at the CSU Extension Forum.
- October 2021 Food Systems and Community Development Webinar, “Extension Internship - Student Perspectives” featured interns Jorge Rivera-Gonzalez, Aaron Smigielski, Ann Kralewski Van Denburg, and Mia Morones. Webinar can be [viewed here](#).

## EXTENSION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

### STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021

2:00 - 2:30 PM MOUNTAIN, FOLLOWED BY Q & A





## What are participants saying?

***“I am so grateful for my experience with Extension. I know our team made a positive, larger impact because we had the support of Extension. I look forward to building upon our current Extension relationship with more communities! I can't speak more highly of the Extension program!”***

- 2021 CSU Faculty member mentor

***“I really enjoyed participating in the Internship program and I would highly recommend it to other faculty.”***

- 2021 CSU Faculty member mentor

***“I LOVE THIS PROGRAM!! It keeps me connected to campus. I love the opportunity to work with students.”***

- 2021 Extension Mentor

***“This has been an enriching program for both the students and mentors! Thank you for helping to connect CSU Extension field agents with on-campus faculty, staff and students.”***

- 2021 Extension Mentor

***“Thank you so much for the opportunity! I will never forget my summer with you all!”***

- 2021 Summer Intern

***“From a career building perspective, I see the extension internship program being a great way to engage students in ‘real world’ experiences.”***

- 2021 Summer Intern

***“The whole internship experience was seriously the most important thing I have participated in during my college career. I learned an incredible amount and made connections that I believe will be beneficial for the years to come.”***

- 2021 Summer Intern

