Job Announcement - U.S. Geological Survey seeks a student technician contractor

Position Details

Required education level: 2+ years of undergraduate education
Position type: Contractor
Number of hours:
  During school session: 10-15 hours per week
  Summer and breaks: 20 - 40 hours per week
Start date: 5/15/2019
Resume submission:
  Due: 4/12/2019
  E-mail to: ghargreaves@usgs.gov
Further information: Geoff Hargreaves, 303-202-4856

Statement of Work - Student Technician Duties

Summary

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Capabilities Group employs students to assist the Curator, Assistant Curator, Scientists, Technical Director, and other key individuals in ensuring that the National Science Foundation – Ice Core Facility (NSF-ICF) mission is carried out according to the requirements and needs of its stakeholders. We are seeking a student with an interest in paleoclimatology, glaciology or other ice core-based science to fill this position. The candidate must be enrolled in a community college, college or university in a degree-seeking program. The NSF-ICF is owned by NSF and operated and maintained by the USGS, and is located at the Denver Federal Center. The NSF-ICF is the Nation’s premier repository for storing, curating, and studying ice cores recovered from the ice sheets of the world, primarily Antarctica and Greenland.

1. Types of Services Required:

- Match field labels, notes, and other information with newly received ice core samples; inventory collections and documents; appropriately store ice core samples; and maintain cataloging, indexing, and cross reference systems.
- Create outreach and educational materials.
- Provide tours and presentations to school and community groups.
- Assist in the compilation and tabulation of data necessary to the research being conducted on the ice core collection.
- Perform careful and delicate procedures necessary to the restoration, preservation, and conservation of the ice core samples.
- Perform a full range of duties to prepare ice cores for clients. Operate and maintain horizontal band saws, table saws, chop saws, and customized ice core planer. Record the status of samples being viewed and processed.
• Update detailed inventory database while working in sub-zero environment.

2. Required expertise/skills:

• Attention to detail and safety
• Excellent documentation and communication skills
• Education in physical sciences, interest in climate science
• Laboratory experience
• Working with physical samples intended for chemical analysis
• Familiarity using spreadsheets and databases
• Familiarity working with power saws
• Familiarity with laboratory and equipment safety
• Ability to work in a cold environment

3. Description of Working Conditions:

Work is performed in a warehouse, office setting, and the NSF-ICF freezer in Building 810 on the Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado. The warehouse environment may be warmer/cooler than standard office setting. The freezer environment ranges from -24° to -36° C. Extended periods of computer use may be required. There is some walking, standing, bending, and regular lifting of materials weighing 10 - 45 pounds.

4. Compensation:

Compensation is commensurate with educational experience per the 2019 Federal pricing table for student services. Student contractors are paid only for hours worked (no holiday or leave benefits). The student is responsible for all transportation costs to and from the principal duty station location. The government does not provide housing, meals, or other living expenses while working at the principal duty station. Travel away from the duty station is not expected.

5. Principal Duty Station:

U.S. Geological Survey, National Ice Core Laboratory, Denver Federal Center, Building 810, Entrance S-25, Denver, CO 80225.

The student may enter the building only during business hours or when a project member is present.

6. Other requirements:

Access to the USGS network and facilities will require a federal id card and background check. Costs will be covered by USGS.