The State of Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) is accepting applications for 2016 Summer Interns through the Governor’s Internship Program. Interested individuals may apply for the program at: https://governor.ks.gov/serving-kansans/internship.

Please note in the required Statement of Interest, the specific KDA internship for which you are applying. Deadline for the completed application packet is March 1. Unless otherwise noted, all internship positions will be located in Manhattan, KS. Starting date will be May 23.

The Division of Agriculture Advocacy, Marketing, and Outreach has two Ag Communications/Marketing intern openings available. Interns assigned to the Ag Marketing division will complete projects associated with the growth and promotion of Kansas agricultural companies and products. Interns will specifically work on the From the Land of Kansas trademark program creating a membership recruitment strategy, blogs and social media updates, and communications/promotional materials. Preference will be given to students with strong written and oral communication skills, as well as, a basic understanding of the agriculture sector and marketing plans. Ag Communications, Ag Business, and Marketing majors preferred.

The Division of Agriculture Advocacy, Marketing, and Outreach has an International and/or Agribusiness Development intern (20–30 hours per week) available. The intern will be responsible for assisting with coordination and participation with in-bound and out-bound buyer’s missions, as well as, partnering with Food Export Midwest to support member state’s international agribusiness development activities. Preference will be given to students with an interest in domestic and international agribusiness development. Students with an interest in developing relationships with representatives from foreign countries should consider this opportunity. Excellent written and oral communication skills are essential. Ag Business majors with an emphasis in International Business and Political Science majors with an emphasis in International Studies preferred.

The Division of Animal Health is seeking an intern to develop a survey to be conducted at the 2016 Kansas State Fair. The intent of this survey will be to evaluate behaviors of fairgoers while they are visiting the livestock barns. Examples of behaviors may include, but are not limited to hand hygiene, eating in livestock barn, and animal contact. The project will include implementing the developed survey at the 2016 Kansas State Fair. Required Educational Level: Master of Public Health students (infectious disease and zoonosis emphasis) with either an animal health background or emphasis. Students also seeking or having already received a veterinary degree preferred.

The Division of Communications has an opening for an intern to work with the director of communications and the director of public relations on a variety of projects including social media planning, graphic design projects and the development and execution of press releases. Upper class communications and design majors preferred. Experience in Adobe Creative Suite and Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram platforms preferred. Video experience a plus. Preferred majors include Ag Communications, Journalism, and Marketing.

The Office of the Economist is seeking an intern who will be involved in basic data collection, statistical analysis, and economic modeling. The intern will also have the opportunity to learn more about agriculture as a driving force of economics in Kansas at the county level and provide metrics that are utilized by a variety of outlets. Students majoring in Agricultural Economics, Economics, and/or Agribusiness preferred.
The Fiscal Division is seeking an intern to assist the CFO and Assistant CFO in developing a comprehensive agency inventory plan. This will include establishing a written inventory policy for the Kansas Department of Agriculture based on the State of Kansas’ Capital Assets policy manual. The policy will ensure all state guidelines and requirements are being followed in addition to acquisition and disposition procedures and an annual inventory plan. Accounting major preferred.

The Legal Section is seeking interns for the summer term, who have completed at least one year of law school. Legal interns work under the direction of attorneys in performing legal research, drafting, case preparation, and other tasks associated with the attorneys’ pending cases and projects.

The Garden City Division of Water Resources Field Office has an opening for an intern summer 2016. The intern will work independently on routine assignments. Therefore, judgment and personal discretion are required. Assignments will include both field and office related duties. Latitude is given within pre-establishes guidelines. Verbal and written guidelines will be provided often. Field work is primarily in remote irrigated agricultural settings. The intern will assist other staff on field investigations regarding data collection; such as flow rate and water level measurement, water meter inspections, and GPS. Office work will include computer data entry and spreadsheets as well as basic filing of paper documents. Geology, Earth Science, Agronomy, and Engineering majors preferred.

The Stockton Division of Water Resources Field Office has an opening for one intern. The intern will work independently to assist with conducting compliance inspections in the field. Responsibilities include verification that the well/pumpsite is located as authorized, the water meter is installed and maintained as required, the water is being applied to the authorized place of use, and that the rate and quantity are as authorized. This individual may also be used to monitor pumpsite on the various rivers to ensure compliance with Minimum Desirable Streamflow and administration of water by priority. During the course of the summer, the intern will also be trained in the proper use of GPS, non-intrusive water flow meters, and stream-gaging equipment. Preferred majors include: Ag Tech Management, Earth Science, Geology, Geography, and Engineering.

The Topeka Field Office intern will focus on making determinations on a file-by-file basis for those water rights located in the Republican River Basin that need to be issued a blanket meter order to bring the files up to current water flowmetering standards. The intern will be provided basic training on water rights in Kansas and will spend time learning metering requirements through reading and application of metering regulations combined with on-site field training at meter installations. The training will prepare the intern to determine the current status of each water right filed properly. This work will allow the TFO to issue a blanket order to the files not up to current metering standards within the Republican River Basin to meet the provisions of the State Water Plan. Preferred majors include: Ag Tech Management, Agronomy, Earth Science, Geology, Geography, and Engineering.

Questions regarding internship positions with the Kansas Department of Agriculture, through the Governor’s Internship Program, can be directed to Dana Ladner, Compliance Education Coordinator. Contact information: Dana.Ladner@kda.ks.gov or 785-564-6660.

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Coordinator if reasonable accommodations are needed for any part of the application or hiring process. The Kansas Department of Agriculture is an Equal Opportunity Employer.