

CCMI Coral Reef Internship Programme

SKILLS & EXPERIENCE TO PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR FUTURE IN MARINE SCIENCE

Internship Overview

Internships at the Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI) provide an exciting opportunity for early career scientists to gain real life experiences in marine science education, communications, research, and field station operations. We maintain active field research and education programmes in the Cayman Islands supported by a team of scientists, educators, outreach and communications coordinators.

As an intern you will be actively engaged with a vibrant community conducting field and laboratory studies, science diving, analysing data, teaching and leading courses, and gaining experience with the day to day operations of a vibrant marine research station. Interns gain experience working on a variety of grant-funded programmes such as our Darwin Initiative to design a Biodiversity Action Plan for Herbivorous Fish, or our Reefs Go Live programme, a live-streaming ocean literacy programme that reaches all corners of the earth with lessons broadcast from the reefs of Little Cayman. Our Coral Resilience programme has actively grown thousands of critically endangered corals to multiply a community of corals resistant to stress and our Ocean Literacy education programme includes residential field-based courses for K-12 students. Ten universities and colleges also conduct residential courses at the research centre.

Our internship programme provides versatile, energetic, mature individuals with the experiences required to advance their career potential in the sciences. We seek interns with a working knowledge of coral reef ecology and conservation. All interns should be highly capable college graduates, with diving experience (at least 60 dives), strong verbal and written communication skills and presentation skills. The work requires competent, motivated individuals who are capable of strenuous work 6 days/week in a small, tight-knit community on a remote island. Internships are for 3 months with the potential to extend to 6 months.

The following skills are highly sought after:

- GIS, reef surveying, underwater mapping, videography and drone mapping.
- Social media, graphic communications, and science writing experience.
- Boat handling, boat maintenance, scuba gear maintenance, physical plant maintenance.
- Scientific diving skills with rescue-level or higher diving certification.
- Teaching marine science and conservation at the k-12 or college level.

Internship Calendar

Term	Application Deadline	Programme Dates
Spring 2020	October 15, 2019	January 5- July 5
Summer 2020	January 15, 2020	April 15 - September 1
Winter 2020	July 1, 2020	Oct 15- April 15
Spring 2021	October 1, 2021	January 5 - July 5



Fees

Interns are required to pay an internship fee of \$1,500 USD per month*. This includes three meals per day and shared dormitory style accommodation at the research centre, all transportation to and from the airport and field station, work/office space with internet. All of your field costs are covered by the project grants, including scuba gear if needed.

Fees do not include your airfare to Little Cayman, health or DAN insurance. Please see below for select scholarship opportunities, which are available for certain applicants or key skill/programme needs.

Scholarships

The **Ocean Science Scholarship** is a full scholarship open to Caymanian residents only.

The **Reefs Go Live Media Internship** is also a full scholarship, open to application nationally and internationally. This internship is looking for media specific skills, ideally underwater camerawork and video production.

We also have limited scholarships available to interns throughout the year who have already achieved their MS degree. This is a competitive programme with high numbers of applicants who are evaluated based on experience, merit, and need. If you wish to apply for a need-based scholarship, please include a 1-page scholarship cover letter with your application, which explains your need and how the programme can help you achieve your career goals.

Internship Details

The following internships will be offered throughout the year:

- Research Internship
- Education and Communications Internship
- Field Station Operations Internship
- Ocean Science Scholars (Caymanians only)
- Reefs Go Live Media Internship

To Apply

Apply by sending your CV, cover letter explaining what your career goals are and how the internship will advance your career as well as why you are an excellent candidate. Include the name and email address of 2 referees.

Please include all of these documents as one PDF to our email address at manager@reefresearch.org

In the subject line of your email:

- 1) Indicate which internship you are interested in (research, education and communications, field station, Ocean Science Scholar, Reefs Go Live Media Internship)
- 2) Indicate the term you are applying for (Winter, Spring, Summer).



We typically respond 2-4 weeks after the application deadline.
If you are selected for an interview, you will hear from us within 4 weeks.

Other Information

Our internship offer is contingent upon approval of a work permit issued by the Cayman Islands Immigration Department for non-residents of the Cayman Islands.

Little Cayman is a remote tropical island with fewer than 200 people. Marine protection has been in place since the mid-1980's making this an ideal location for coral reef research and education.

CCMI aims to produce excellent research in coral reefs science and seeks to provide regional leadership in marine conservation and education.

CCMI is an equal opportunity employer.