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# *NWS SCEP PROGRAM*

# Outline

- ◎ SCEP Program
  - Benefits
  - Requirements
  - Good Qualities to have
- ◎ My Experience
  - What I do
  - What I have learned so far

# SCEP Program Benefits

- Student Career Experience Program through the NWS
  - Can be for either undergraduate or graduate students
- Provides valuable work experience directly related to your field of study
- Work alongside forecasters and hydrologists either at :
  - WFO
  - RFC
  - Regional Headquarters
  - NWS Support Centers
    - Aviation Weather Center
    - Storm Prediction Center
- Paid 1-year internship
- Government Benefits
- Allows for great social networking with forecasters
- Learn and become a part of NWS programs
- Learn the duties of forecasters, data acquisition, and upper air
- directly relates to the student's educational program and career goals
- Training Modules on Atmospheric Processes
- May be non-competitively a full-time position with NWS

# Requirements

- ⦿ US Citizen
- ⦿ Minimum 2.0 GPA overall, 2.5 GPA in major
- ⦿ 640 hrs of work experience before graduation
- ⦿ Current college enrollment at least part-time
- ⦿ Majoring in meteorology or some sort of atmospheric science
- ⦿ Be considered a student at a university while doing the SCEP appointment
- ⦿ Good with computers

# Good Qualities

## ◎ Diverse Skills

- Computers
  - Operating systems (Windows, Linux, Macintosh)
  - Programming (Java, C++, etc..)
  - Web Design
  - Pretty much any computer skill you have is a plus!
- GIS Knowledge
- Math
- Communication Skills
  - Able to work with anyone and talk to anyone!!

# My Experience

- Began in Aug '09 at Lincoln WFO
- Considered a student trainee at the office
- Involved in many programs
  - COOP Program
  - CoCoRaHS
  - Upper Air
  - GIS team
- Working part time (20 hrs)
  - 3 days/wk
- Duties / Day Distribution
  - Day 1 = Training
  - Day 2 = COOP Duties/Training
  - Day 3 = Operational shift
- Training Day (modules)
  - NWSTC (NWS Training Center)
  - Cooperative Program for Operational Meteorology, Education and Training (COMET)
  - Meteorology Education and Training (MetEd)
- Day 2 = COOP Program
  - Official National Weather Observation Program
  - Maintenance trips
  - Picture updates / WxCoder updates
- Day 3 = Operational shift
  - Upper Air Balloon Launch
  - Quality Control river gauges, METAR observations, COOP observations
  - Send out Local Storm Reports (LSR's)
  - Answer phone for COOP call-ins
  - Write the Regional Weather Summary (RWS)
  - Measure rainfall, cloud cover, snowfall, snow depth every 6 hrs
- Programs learned
  - AWIPS
  - GFE
  - RRS
  - Hydroview
  - Riverpro
  - CRS (NOAA Weather Radio)

# Conclusion

## ◎ Useful Links

- <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lot/?n=students>
- <http://www.education.noaa.gov/students.html#Top>
- <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/jetstream/nws/careers.htm>
- [www.cmc.edu/csc/Documents/  
FederalAgencyInternships.xls](http://www.cmc.edu/csc/Documents/FederalAgencyInternships.xls)

## ◎ SCEP Application

- Received e-mail about this program
- Due Feb 15, 2010

## ◎ For more info

- E-mail : [NWS.scep-reply@noaa.gov](mailto:NWS.scep-reply@noaa.gov)
- I may be able to help as well and can e-mail me at
  - [TI-gross@wiu.edu](mailto:TI-gross@wiu.edu)