

Summer Internship Opportunity

Horticulture Intern

Mercer Botanic Gardens

22306 Aldine Westfield Rd., Humble, TX 77338

713-274-4160

Mercer Botanic Gardens is seeking four horticulture interns for summer internship opportunities. The Horticulture Internship provides learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom and into the garden and greenhouses. The Horticulture interns assist with garden maintenance, plant care, plant propagation, and other specified projects at Mercer Botanic Gardens.

Core Responsibilities

With direction from a Mercer Botanic Gardens horticulturist, the Horticulture Intern will:

- maintain a collection of plants assigned by supervising horticulturist;
- maintain Mercer's seed bank and a collection of plants assigned by supervisor;
- participate in regular maintenance of newly planted and established specimens;
- identify garden pests and plant diseases and determine a treatment plan, if necessary;
- research proper propagation and planting procedures for various plant species;
- implement research findings to perform vegetative propagation and seed processing;
- develop weekly reports detailing projects assigned, successes achieved, obstacles and how they were overcome, new insights, and other ideas related to the internship;
- define and implement a plant-related project, including gathering research, making observations, collecting and compiling data, and analyzing results;
- create a presentation and participate in the Mercer Botanic Gardens Student Research Symposium on Wednesday, Aug. 4; and
- perform other duties as assigned.

Job Dimensions and other Requirements

- Internship applicant must be at least 16 years old.
- Intern must enjoy working outdoors as well as in an office setting.
- Internship Availability: From Monday, May 10, 2021 to Friday, August 27, 2021; up to 40 hours per week, worked primarily Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. with a 30-minute lunch and regular breaks; some weekends may be required.
- This is a paid summer internship through Harris County Precinct 4.
- A background check and drug screening will be administered by Harris County Precinct 4 prior to hiring. Intern may be subject to random testing as a condition of continued employment.

Physical Demands

- The intern is regularly required to stand, walk, use hands and fingers to handle, feel and reach with hands and arms; frequently required to sit, climb, or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; talk or hear and taste or smell.
- The intern may be required to lift and/or move up to 40 pounds;
- Specific vision abilities required by this internship includes close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

- The intern works in outside weather conditions and is periodically exposed to heat, humidity, rain, and dust.
- The noise level in the work environment is normally moderate.
- The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an intern to successfully perform the functions of the internship. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential duties.

How to Apply

Complete the internship application found at <https://www.hcp4.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Pct4-Application.pdf>. There is no Job/Announcement Number, but applicants should complete the general application for employment and fill in “**MBG Horticulture Internship**” as the job title. Email completed application to Mr. Chris Ludwig, Garden Director, at cludwig@hcp4.net. Résumés and cover letters are accepted, but they do not replace the required application.