

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
[Your University Here]

NATURAL HERITAGE GRADUATE STUDENT RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The IDNR Division of Natural Heritage and [your department] are announcing **one (1)** IDNR Natural Heritage Residency positions to be available approximately **June, 2015**. Successful applicants will be full-time employees of IDNR for 12 consecutive months and will receive a monthly salary of \$1,600 plus insurance, vacation, sick, and personal leave benefits. Students may receive up to three (3) units of credit toward their graduate degree. These Residency positions are for 12 months only.

LOCATION

One (1) field-based position is located in the following county: Peoria (1 position).

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Residencies provide graduate students with practical hands-on experience working with a field-based IDNR Natural Heritage Biologist or Illinois Nature Preserves Commission Natural Areas Protection Specialist. Duties will include monitoring endangered species, conducting biological inventories, and, especially, protecting and managing natural areas on DNR lands, other public lands and private lands. Residents can develop skills in writing management plans and making presentations to the public. Field experience in the application of prescribed fire will be incorporated into the duties as well. For more information:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/NaturalHeritage/Pages/NaturalHeritageGraduateStudentResidencyProgram.aspx>

REQUIREMENTS

Residents must be enrolled in a graduate program in Plant Biology; Plant, Soil, and General Agriculture; Forestry; Zoology, or Biological Sciences and must be recommended by the Graduate School. In addition, preference is given to applicants who have made significant progress towards completion of their degree, as demonstrated by having progressed to a near-final draft of their thesis or dissertation. **All applicants must have the approval of their major advisor to be considered for this program.** During the period of residency, students must reside within a 30-mile radius of the headquarters location of the position and must maintain their enrollment in graduate school.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Send cover letter, resume, grade transcripts, and a completed CMS-100 State of Illinois Employment Application to [Your University Contact here]. CMS-100 application forms are available at your University as well as online at http://www.state.il.us/cms/download/pdfs/app_cms100.pdf. The cover letter should clearly indicate the position(s)/location(s) for which the applicant wishes to be considered. **The above documents must be accompanied by a letter of support from the applicant's major advisor.**

SELECTION PROCESS

A total of up to six (6) applicants may be recommended by the University for these positions. From the recommended applicants, IDNR will select those to be interviewed in Springfield along with applicants from other universities. Universities will forward all completed and approved application packets to the NH Resident Coordinator at the address below.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Close of Business - Friday 27 February 2015

INTERVIEWS: March, 2015 in Springfield, Illinois

IDNR CONTACT/APPLICATIONS TO: Bob Szafoni, Natural Heritage Resident Coordinator, 1660 W. Polk, Charleston, IL 61920. (robert.szafoni@illinois.gov; 217-348-0175-office, 217-840-4134-cell)

[Your University Here] and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources are Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employers.