

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD)

Army Contracting Command-Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG), Huachuca Division,
Directorate of Contracting

Title: Fort Huachuca Environmental Training

Announcement Type: Initial Announcement

Funding Opportunity Number: W9142A-23-0001

Anticipated Funding Purpose: The Army is interested in environmental programs through the use of student interns to support Cultural Resources Management, Natural Resources Management and maintaining compliance with various environmental statutes including natural resources, cultural resources, and compliance.

Key Dates: This announcement will be open to receive applications from 17 November 2022 continuously until 19 December 2022, 4:00 PM Mountain Standard Time (MST) at which point all applications must be received.

Agency Contact:

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I. Program Description

A. Short Description of Funding Opportunity

Army Contracting Command-Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG), Huachuca Division seeks applications for: Directorate of Public Works (DPW) / Environmental and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) Fort Huachuca Environmental Training to support environmental programs through the use of student interns. Applications should include: Standard Form 424 as the cover page, proposed budget/financial specifics; and Grants.gov Lobbying Form.

B. Background

The principal objective of the Fort Huachuca Environmental Training is to support environmental programs through the use of student interns. The intern program encourages the development of science, mathematics, and engineering educational programs with the focus on education and training, rather than the work product. The program provides real world training and experience for students and new graduates in the fields of cultural resources, natural resources, and compliance. Participants will work at the Directorate of Public Works (DPW), Environmental and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) as part of a dynamic, highly motivated team, often operating under tight timelines to help accomplish critical Army requirements. Program participants are classified as student interns and are paid monthly stipends dependent on their education level, rather than being employees with an hourly wage.

C. Program Description/Objective:

Program specific education and training include:

1. Cultural Resources Management: receive training in and utilize the National Historic Preservation Act, Archaeological Resource Protection Act, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and 36 CFR 79 (Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections). Participants will draw upon their current and learned skills to perform the following: conduct archaeological surveys to identify and record archaeological sites; interpret recorded data and write comprehensive cultural resources reports for submittal to Native American Tribes and the State Historic Preservation Officer; collect and prepare for curation sensitive archaeological artifacts; monitor Army undertakings that may affect significant cultural resources; assist in consultation meetings and informational fieldtrips with Army personnel, contractors, and the public; perform historic building inspections and report findings; and analyze data to help ensure that Army decision-makers are provided with the most complete cultural resources analysis upon which to make critical decisions. Full-time interns will require Section 106 training.

2. Natural Resources Management: Provide support in multiple programs, including, but not limited to Threatened and Endangered Species (TES) Act compliance, Sikes Act compliance, public outreach/environmental awareness in support of TES, nuisance wildlife management, TES wildlife habitat management, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), forestry, hunting program, and invasive species management in critical habitat. Interns in the program will require training, which includes training certification courses, to conduct field surveys, invasive species control, population monitoring, and

data management techniques, as well as training for wild animal handling, and updated rabies series and/or rabies titer check.

3. Compliance: Intern will provide support for Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act activities. Participant will contribute to permit driven sampling and/or analysis of wastewater, reuse water, drinking water, and storm water. Participant will input data and assist with database management. Other possible assignments for participants could include asbestos, lead and toxics database management. Clean Air Act permit maintenance where intern would be required to examine various equipment to provide emissions information and validate or update current data. Basic lab skills/technique desired as well as the ability to use basic MS suite software. Participant would be required to: walk, climb, and hike over rough terrain in all weather conditions while carrying equipment. The ability to crouch, stoop, bend in awkward positions in order to read equipment in basements, equipment rooms, and on roofs. Also, standing for extended periods of time while doing lab work. Interns in the program will require updated vaccinations as well as hepatitis A/B and, if cross training in Natural Resources, a rabies vaccination.

D. Authorization

The authorization to make awards under this funding opportunity may be found via the Assistance Listing (CFDA) Number 12.450 Fort Huachuca Environmental Training on SAMgov.

E. Legal Requirements

Application/proposal is required to comply with 2 CFR part 200, “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.”

These terms and conditions are incorporated by reference in this announcement.

II. Federal Award Information

The following information applies to awards issued under this announcement: Proposals selected for funding through this announcement will be funded through cooperative agreements. The period of performance is from 01 January 2022 through 31 December 2023 with the consideration of up to two (2) additional option periods from 01 January 2023 through 30 December 2024 and 01 January 2024 through 30 December 2025. One (1) year or multi-year awards up to three (3) funding years will be considered, and additional releases of funds may be used to fund selected proposals through fiscal year (FY) 25 without further competition. Fort Huachuca anticipates typical federal funding awards will be around \$406,000 annually to fund seven (7) interns to include: four (4) full-time cultural resources (three (3) Master of Arts (MA) and one (1) Bachelor of Arts (BA level), two (2) full-time natural resources (MA level), and one (1) full-time compliance (BA level). This does not limit the government from hiring additional interns, or at different stipend rates, dependent upon the amount of individual intern’s stipends or budget. Funds will be administered by the Community-based Restoration Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric (NOAA) Restoration Center. Awards are dependent upon the amount of funds the Department of the Army makes available to Fort Huachuca for this purpose in the FY23-FY25 budgets.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

Project teams are expected to include persons with appropriate expertise or scholastic curriculum requirements. Unless otherwise specified in related program announcements, all qualified entities, institutions, and organizations are eligible under the program. Individuals and families are not eligible for awards under this program.

Interns must be full-time high school student or undergraduate or graduate students in a science field (6-12 credit hours dependent on school and degree level) with a minimum 2.5 GPA, or within five years of receiving their degree. Students can be from any accredited school in the United States or abroad, must be a United States citizen, and must be able to receive an Army security clearance. Monthly stipends are based on the intern's educational level (based on FY22 rates):

-High school: \$1919 - \$2226

-Undergraduate: (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior): \$2226 - \$3152

-BA: \$3254 - \$4031

-Graduate: \$4031 - \$4324

-MA: \$4031 - \$4930

-Doctoral: \$4622 - \$5239

-PhD: \$4622 - \$5965

The application must adequately describe the experience, curriculum studied and related education to support the requirements listed above.

Disclosures of current and pending support made in this application may render an applicant ineligible for funding. Prior to award and throughout the period of performance, DoD may continue to request updated continuing and pending support information, which will be reviewed and may result in discontinuation of funding.

Religious organizations are entitled to compete on equal footing with secular organizations for Federal financial assistance as described in E.O. 13798, "Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty."

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing or Matching: Cost sharing is not required.

C. Conflict of Interest

a) General Requirement for Disclosure

You and your organization must disclose any potential or actual scientific or nonscientific conflict of interest(s) to us. You must also disclose any potential or actual conflict(s) of interest for any identified sub recipient you include in your application. We may have to ask you more questions if we need more information.

At our discretion, we may ask you for a conflict of interest mitigation plan after

you submit your application. Your plan is subject to our approval.

D. Other

a) Licensure or Certification

You must include the Acknowledgment of Support and Disclaimer on all materials created or produced under our awards. This language may be found in the Terms and Conditions included in the award documents.

i. Certifications, representations, and assurances

1. To apply for grants and other funding opportunities the applicant entity must have an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). Applications will not be accepted through Grants.gov or other methods unless the entity is registered in SAM. Registration in SAM now includes the acceptance of Certifications and Assurances. See <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/grantors/grantor-standard-language.html> for details on how to register in SAM, and Grants.gov
2. The Federal Assistance Certifications Report is an attestation that the entity will abide by the requirements of the various laws and regulations; therefore, as applicable, you are still required to submit any documentation, including the SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities and informing DoD of unpaid delinquent tax liability or a felony conviction under any Federal law.

By checking “I Agree” on the SF-424 Block 21 you agree to abide by the following statement: “By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001).

Appendix A to 32 CFR Part 25 regarding debarment, suspension and other responsibility matters; Appendix C to 32 CFR Part 25 regarding drug free workplace requirements; Appendix A to 32 CFR Part 28 regarding lobbying. The above certifications do not apply to transactions in real property interests. They apply only to any other contracts written as a result of this agreement, which are funded with federal funds obligated under this agreement.

8.6 Government Furnished Equipment. No Government Furnished Property/Equipment/Material will be provided unless negotiated and specifically added to this CA. We cannot determine you are eligible for funding unless we receive this form.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Submission Date and Time:

DoD will only accept applications submitted on or before 19 December 2022, 4:00 PM MST . Read the instructions in <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/grantors/grantor-standard-language.html> about registering to apply for DoD funds. If you experience difficulties with

your submission, Grants.gov provides support via the toll-free number 1-800-518-4726 and email at support@grants.gov. This ticket number will allow DoD to verify your issue if it cannot be resolved by the application date.

For questions related specifically to this FOA, contact the number for the program or grants office listed below.

B. Address to Request Application Package

The application package for Notice of Funding Opportunity is available on Grants.gov.

C. Application Procedures and Requirements

Organizations must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), active System for Award Management (SAM) registration, and Grants.gov account to apply for grants. Please see Attachment A - Registration and Submission Instructions for details on how to go through this process.

Full application packages must be submitted electronically to Grants.gov no later than 19 December 2022, 4:00 PM MST.

Applicants are responsible for submitting their applications in sufficient time to allow them to reach Grants.gov by the date and time specified in this announcement. It is strongly recommended that applications be uploaded at least two (2) days before the closing date and time. This will help avoid problems caused by high system usage or any potential technical and/or input problems involving the applicant's own equipment. It will also allow any application errors detected by Grants.gov to be corrected in time for the application to be resubmitted. If the application is received by Grants.gov after the exact time and date specified as the deadline for receipt, it will be considered "late" and may not be considered for review.

Acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt by Grants.gov includes documentary evidence of receipt maintained by Grants.gov, and Grants.gov e-mails to the applicant confirming receipt. These e-mails will indicate 1) the application was received on time, 2) application was rejected due to errors, 3) application was received after the deadline. Note that this Grants.gov response may occur over several e-mails, e.g., one acknowledging on-time receipt, and a later e-mail rejecting for errors the system detected. Applicants can also track the status of their applications at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/track-my-application.html>.

D. Application Withdrawal:

An applicant may withdraw an application at any time before award by written notice or by email. Notice of withdrawal shall be sent to the grants officer identified in this announcement. Withdrawals are effective upon receipt of notice by the grants officer.

E. Content and Form of Submission:

See <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/grantors/grantor-standard-language.html> for information on how to complete the application using Workspace on Grants.gov.

Common formatting requirements across all submitted documents

- Font shall be: Times New Roman, 12 point
- Margins shall be 1 inch on all sides
- Paper size shall be 8 ½ by 11.
- Documentation submitted under this FOA are expected to be unclassified; classified applications are not permitted.
- All documents must be submitted in PDF format.
- Preapplications and proposals will be evaluated by Government personnel and/or Non-Government reviewers. Non-Government reviewers may include university faculty and staff researchers. Each reviewer is required to sign a conflict-of-interest and confidentiality statement attesting that the reviewer has no known conflicts of interest, and that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the evaluation panel. The names and affiliations of reviewers are not disclosed.
- All submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with applicable law and DoD regulations. **You are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information.**
- List all previous DoD funding including project titles within the last three (3) years.

A. Component-specific requirements.

a) Full Applications

- You must mark your application with the announcement number.
- A summary of what is required for a complete application is below:

Attachments to Required forms (See Attachments for detailed instructions on filling out the SF-424 Forms for DoD grants)

The below chart specifies which forms and attachments required and specifies the maximum page lengths for attachments to be submitted along with the completed form.

Form	ASSOCIATED FIELD	ATTACHMENT	Attachment Maximum Length (Suggested)
SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance	20, 21	Representation for Tax Delinquency, Felony Conviction, and Internal Confidentiality Agreements	As Required
		SFLLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	As Required
Budget Form (either non-construction or construction version, as appropriate)	L - Budget Justification	Budget Justification	As required

Additional content requirements

- Application Cover Page
- Technical/Management plan
- Highlight how specific requirements are being met (collaboration, innovation, etc.)
- Cost and schedule estimates, including any proposed indirect costs and travel
- Organization chart for applicant team
- Technical proposal
- Applicant past performance

Even if selected, awards are not final until these documents are received and approved

F. Funding Restrictions

Per 2 CFR § 200.216, funds may not be used to procure telecommunications equipment or video surveillance services or equipment produced by

- Huawei Technologies Company,
- ZTE Corporation Hytera Communications Corporation,
- Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company,
- Dahua Technology Company
- any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities

In accordance with the Build America, Buy America Act, • Recipients of an award of Federal financial assistance from a program for infrastructure are hereby notified that none of the funds provided under this award may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

- All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States.
 - Specifically, all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.
- All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States.
 - Specifically, the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation.
- All construction materials are manufactured in the United States.
 - Specifically, all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States.

- The Buy America preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

Funding Restrictions: DoD will only fund salary, fringe benefits and indirect costs on awards under the announcement. Funds from an award may not be used to attain fee or profit.

V. Application Review Information

A. Selection Criteria

Proposals submitted under this program announcement are evaluated through a merit review process. The primary evaluation criteria, of equal importance, are:

- a) Narrative is clear and detailed, and the desired outcome is identified, and the performance measures are identified and measurable.
- b) Likelihood of the proposed effort of successfully meeting the goals and objectives of the program, including if the applicant has sufficient staff and organizational capabilities to recruit, place, and manage the proposed project, and if the project budget and timelines are reasonable.
- c) Applicant's and associated personnel's record of past performance on similar projects.

B. Review and Selection Process:

Each application will be reviewed based on the selection criteria above rather than against other applications submitted under this Announcement.

The DPW/ENRD will establish an evaluation team to review applications/proposals against the merit review criteria established.

A summary rating and accompanying narrative will be completed and submitted by the evaluation team recommending if the application should be declined or recommended for award to the ENRD Division Chief.

DPW/ENRD will submit applications selected for award to ACC-APG Huachuca Division for performing the processing and issuance of the cooperative agreement(s).

Applicants are advised that employees of commercial firms under contract to the government may be used to administratively process applications. By submitting an application, an applicant consents to allowing access to its application(s) by support contractors. These

support contracts include nondisclosure agreements prohibiting their contractor employees from disclosing any information submitted by applicants.

In addition to the technical/program review, the DoD does a budget review and a risk review as directed by 2 CFR 200.206, including a review of the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS). Applicants may review information in FAPIIS and comment on any information entered into that system. Comments made by applicants will be taken into account in addition to other information in considering applicants' integrity, business ethics, and record of performance.

At the time of application, there is no additional material to be submitted for this review. However, there may be additional requests for clarification as these reviews progress.

C. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates:

Decisions are expected to be announced via email. All awards are expected to be in place by 30 December 2022.

VI. Federal Award Administration Information

This section should address what an applicant recommended for funding can expect to receive following selection.

The notification e-mail regarding a selection is not authorization to commit or expend DoD funds. A DoD grants officer is the only person authorized to obligate and approve the use of Federal funds. This authorization is in the form of a signed Notice of Award. Applicants whose applications are recommended will be contacted by a DoD grants officer to discuss any additional information required for award. This may include representations and certifications, revised budgets or budget explanations, or other information as applicable to the proposed award. The award start date will be determined at this time.

VII. Reporting Requirements

The terms and conditions of the award will provide the specifics on how to submit the reports and any required sections for those reports.

Report	Requirements/Form	Frequency	Means of Submission
Progress Reports (Interim and Final)		Annually	E-mail
Financial Report	SF 425	Annually	E-mail
Payment Report	SF 270	Monthly	E-mail
Closeout Report		Once	E-mail

Civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in connection with award	2 CFR Appendix XII to Part 200	As applicable	Through SAM
Eligibility, conviction, or indictment of principle	2 CFR 180.335 and 2 CFR 180.350	As applicable, including before entering into award agreement	E-mail

Awardees will need to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR 170: Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information

The terms and conditions of the award will provide the specifics on how to submit the reports and any required sections for those reports.

VIII. Federal Contacts

Questions regarding program policy, program content, or technical issues should be directed to:

Mr. Martyn D. Tagg
Conservation Branch Chief
Directorate of Public Works/Environmental and Natural Resources Division
e-mail: martyn.d.tagg.civ@army.mil

Questions regarding administrative problems or grant administration should be directed to:

Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground
Huachuca Division – Directorate of Contracting
Elizabeth Ferro, Grants Administrator
Phone: (520) 533-1066
e-mail: elizabeth.ferro.civ@army.mil

Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground
Huachuca Division – Directorate of Contracting
Douglas S. Kirby, Grants Officer
Phone: (520) 533-1514
e-mail: douglas.s.kirby.civ@army.mil

Questions regarding Grants.gov should be directed to: the toll-free number 1-800-518-4726 and email at support@grants.gov.

IX. Other Information

1. This is a continuing program for STEM Intern development.

2. If proprietary information is submitted, it must be marked or identified as proprietary information. The agency that receives the information will make every effort to protect the confidentiality of the proposal and any evaluations. However, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), such information (or portions thereof) may potentially be subject to release. It is the proposer's responsibility to notify the receiving agency of proposals containing proprietary information and to identify the relevant portions of their proposals that require protection. The entire proposal (or portions thereof) without protective markings or otherwise identified as requiring protection will be considered to be furnished voluntarily to the receiving agency without restriction and will be treated as such for all purposes.
3. The Federal government is not obligated to make any Federal award as a result of the announcement. Only grants officers can bind the Federal government to the expenditure of fund.
4. Applicants are advised to monitor Grants.gov for potential amendments to this Notice of Funding Opportunity. You can also elect to be automatically notified by Grants.gov whenever there is a change to the opportunity.
5. Applications must not include any information that has been identified as classified national security information under authorities established in Executive Order 12958, Classified National Security Information.