

PAUL GERHARDT JR. INTERNSHIP

SUMMER 2025

1000 Friends of Oregon is a fifty-year-old public interest organization that advocates for smart growth through comprehensive land use and transportation planning, using Oregon's renowned planning program. We work with Oregonians across the state to enhance quality of life by building livable urban and rural communities, protecting family farms, and conserving natural areas.

PURPOSE

On-the-job experience for planning students or those in similar fields, especially for those interested in public service.

TERMS

The position is for 30 hours per week for 10 weeks, at the 1000 Friends' Portland office. A stipend of \$5,500 is provided. Limited additional funds are available for assistance with travel expenses to and from Portland.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

The intern will work on one or two large projects, such as 1000 Friends' efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through linking land use and transportation planning, climate-friendly energy policies, ensuring communities plan for affordable and diverse housing, or to preserve farmland.

The intern might also work on smaller, short-term projects to gain a better understanding of Oregon's land use system. Supervision will be provided by the 1000 Friends' staff member overseeing each project.

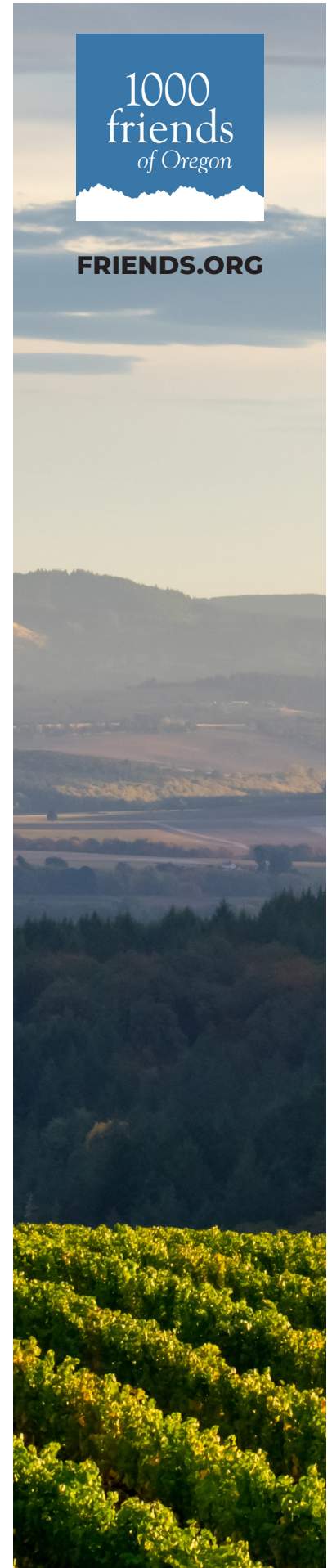
SELECTION CRITERIA

The criteria used in selecting the intern include academic excellence, demonstrated interest in public service, evidence of initiative, and the ability to work independently. Preference will be given to undergraduates majoring in planning or a related field and graduates who have not yet begun graduate school. Graduate students will be considered. However, law students are specifically excluded.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,
CONTACT LILY BURNETT, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
AT LILY@FRIENDS.ORG**



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APPLICATIONS AND DEADLINES

Applications should include a cover letter, resume, academic transcripts, writing sample, and two reference letters including at least one from a professor familiar with the applicant's work. References should offer a confidential evaluation of the applicant's qualifications as measured against the criteria above and should be sent directly to 1000 Friends via email. References should provide full contact information. The writing sample can be on any topic and need not be lengthy. We encourage applicants to share their preferred names and pronouns in application materials if they feel comfortable doing so.

Complete applications, including reference letters, must be received by Friday, March 15, 2025. The intern will be selected by Monday, April 7, 2025 and will be notified by phone shortly thereafter. Those not selected will be informed by letter. There is no interview in the application process.

Please send applications to internships@friends.org.

1000 Friends is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Our commitment to diversity includes the recognition that our mission is best advanced by the leadership and contributions of people of diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and culture.

Recruiting and mentoring staff to create an inclusive organization that reflects our character is a priority and we encourage applicants from all cultures, races, colors, religions, sexes, national or regional origins, ages, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, military, protected veteran status or other status protected by law. Black, Indigenous, People of Color, women, and people with disabilities strongly encouraged to apply.

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The Gerhardt Internship was established in 1986 to commemorate the life and work of 1000 Friends of Oregon's first planner, Paul Gerhardt Jr.



FAQ



How do I submit my application materials?

Application materials can be emailed to internships@friends.org before the Friday, March 15, 2025 deadline. Recommendation letters should also be emailed to internships@friends.org but should be sent directly from the referrer.

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The duration of the internship is 10 weeks. Is there a start and end date, or can we schedule that individually?

The internship usually occurs during the summer months but has extended into the fall. The intern coordinates with their supervisor to determine the exact dates.

I graduated from college last year – am I eligible for the internship?

Preference is given to undergraduates and those who have not yet started a graduate program. So yes, you are eligible.

The announcement flyer asks for an academic transcript – need these be official transcripts, or can an unofficial printout from my student account work?

Both official and unofficial transcripts are acceptable.

Is the intern provided accommodation in Portland?

No, the intern is responsible for making their own housing arrangements.

Can you provide me a few examples of projects that past interns have worked on? Is there any fieldwork involved?

Past Gerhardt Internship projects have varied widely, both in subject matter and the type of work done. Recent projects have included: a survey of studies on how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through land use; whether certain activities and events are compatible with agricultural areas; destination resort development and resource areas; urban density; and coastal development. All projects involve research and writing. The writing can range from a lengthy research paper to much shorter pieces for our website. Fieldwork would vary according to the topic area.

I am an international student, am I still eligible to apply?

No, unfortunately, we cannot accept applications from international students.

Can this internship be applied for course credit?

Whether the Gerhardt Internship, which is a paid internship, qualifies for credit is entirely between the student and the school. We will be happy to complete school-required documents explaining the intern's duties and responsibilities, as long as the school requirement does not state anything inconsistent with the Gerhardt Internship.

If I am not selected for the Gerhardt Internship are there other internship opportunities available for on-the-job planning experience?

While the Gerhardt Internship is our only paid internship opportunity, we often have interns who are able to earn school credit or acquire a paid internship opportunity through their university with a placement at 1000 Friends of Oregon. Whether we have availability for additional interns this summer depends on what, if any, research or other similar type work we need, and the availability of staff to supervise an intern. To be considered for another internship opportunity, please fill out our volunteer interest form (friends.org/volunteer), and indicate that you have also applied for the Gerhardt Internship so we know that we have a full resume on file.

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