



**National  
Marine Sanctuary  
Foundation**

DISCOVER WONDER

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RESEARCH SCHOLAR INTERNSHIP

**Location:** Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Sheboygan, WI

**Supervisor:** Russ Green, Superintendent - Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary; co-mentor LT John Katchenago, NOAA Tribal Liaison - Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

**Status:** Full-time

**Start and End dates:** June 14, 2024 to December 31, 2024

### What We Need

The [National Marine Sanctuary Foundation](#), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is a leading voice for U.S. protected waters, is seeking a **Indigenous Peoples Research Scholar**, a position responsible for conducting academic research on the histories of Indigenous peoples within the region, with emphasis on their connections to the Great Lakes and sanctuary area. The intern would also serve as a representative of the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary (WSCNM) and, in concert with project mentors, connect with tribal cultural resource centers and museums on behalf of WSCNMS and WMM to help tell the stories of Indigenous peoples on the lakeshore for the purpose of creating future interpretation materials. This internship will be conducted in partnership with the Wisconsin Maritime Museum (WMM). Research conducted will directly support the content and museum interpretation plan for a planned Indigenous peoples exhibit at WMM. The position is designed to allow the scholar flexibility in completing the internship and can be completed either **remote/hybrid/in-office**.

### Program Benefits

The **Indigenous Peoples Research Scholar Internship** provides successful undergraduate or graduate student applicants with awards that include academic assistance up to \$4,800 as part of a full-time paid internship at the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary.

This internship program is designed to:

- increase undergraduate training in historical research, education, and interpretation while foster opportunities for integrating STEM research and careers with Indigenous culture and identity;
- increase public understanding and support for stewardship of the ocean and atmosphere and improve environmental literacy across tribal communities;
- provide students with opportunities to expand their professional networks and improve their skills for working in NOAA mission fields via Mentorship/Coaching from a NOAA employee;



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- provide interactions with Native elders and community members to motivate and empower Indigenous students to persist and excel in their studies and careers;
- recruit and prepare students for public service careers with NOAA and other natural resource and science agencies at the federal, state and local levels of government; and
- recruit and prepare students for careers as teachers and educators in oceanic and atmospheric science and to improve scientific and environmental education in the United States.

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is committed to a culture of inclusion, equity, and belonging. We are dedicated to attracting and retaining a diverse staff. We honor experiences, perspectives, and unique identities, and welcome the contributions that you can bring to the dedicated team. With a diverse team of employees, we can grow and learn better together and achieve our mission to protect the health of the ocean, coasts and Great Lakes for current and future generations.

## What You'll Do

Specifically, the **Indigenous Peoples Research Scholar** will:

- Focusing on the general geography of the WSCNMS, create a two-page narrative per tribe, highlighting common themes found across literature, interviews, and oral tradition as well as identification of current knowledge gaps;
- Help to further the interpretation of over 10,000 years of history within sanctuary waters
- Develop a spreadsheet that captures key content of literature reviewed and any interviews conducted;
- Create a StoryMap using ArcGIS Pro;
- Assist with a new "First Navigators" exhibit at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum;
- Generally enhance the sanctuary's education and outreach materials with American Indian tribes and Nations information in their own voice; and

### **Skills required:**

Ability to effectively search/locate, read, and understand academic literature; MLA formatting;  
Ability to access Google Drive.

### **Products to be produced:**

See above



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## What you'll learn

Interpreting, summarizing, and disseminating reviews of academic literature, which is a foundational skill for those considering undergraduate and graduate level work. Communicating findings and interpretation via reporting and public-friendly Story Map.

## Who You Are

The ideal candidate for this internship is an undergraduate student from a minority serving institution or state of Wisconsin college or university with a declared major in a discipline that supports NOAA's programs and mission. Preference would be given to qualified candidates enrolled as a member or descendant of a Tribal Nation.

To be eligible to apply for this internship program, at the time of application you must:

- be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national;
- attend an Indigenous serving minority serving institution as defined by the U.S. Department of Education to include:
  - [Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions \(AANH\)](#);
  - Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions (NASNTI); and
  - [Tribal Colleges and Universities \(TCU\)](#);
- **or** attend a higher education institution within the statewide [University of Wisconsin system](#);
- If an applicant transfers to another school during the scholarship period, verification of the institution's MSI status or University of Wisconsin system status is required. The verification letter from the school must be uploaded in PDF format along with the transcript, as part of the scholarship application process.
- be currently enrolled or accepted as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student at an accredited minority serving institution (college or university within the United States or U.S. territories) or University of Wisconsin higher education institution (college or university);
- have and maintain a declared major in a discipline that supports NOAA's programs and mission including, but not limited to:
  - Education, social sciences such as American Indian or ethnic studies, anthropology, archaeology, history, or oceanic, environmental, biological, and atmospheric sciences, mathematics, engineering, remote sensing technology, physical information, geography, physics, hydrology.



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## How to Apply

Applicants should submit the application package to [john.m.katchenago@noaa.gov](mailto:john.m.katchenago@noaa.gov) and [russ.green@noaa.gov](mailto:russ.green@noaa.gov).

The application package should include:

- A personal statement detailing why you are interested in the program and
- A resume
- Provide contact information for one reference

References should be knowledgeable of the applicant's character, professional work or training, and leadership potential. Professional references include professors, employment supervisors, tribal elders, clergymen, etc. Family members are not acceptable references.

Once the application materials listed above have been received and reviewed by the designated hiring official, an interview will be scheduled. In an effort to normalize interview evaluation scores and more effectively select the most qualified candidates, interviews will be conducted virtually.

## Why You Will Love Us

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation (“Foundation”) is a leading voice for U.S. protected waters, working with communities to conserve and expand those special places for a healthy ocean, coasts, and Great Lakes. The Foundation works in close partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to increase stewardship of our ocean and Great Lakes through on-the- water conservation projects, and education and public outreach activities, and by support for research. Together, we safeguard species and the places they call home, and support coastal communities and economies.

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*The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other protected characteristic as outlined by federal, state, or local laws. This commitment applies to all employment practices within our organization, including hiring, recruiting, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, leave of absence, compensation,*



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*benefits, and training. The Foundation makes hiring decisions based solely on qualifications, merit, and business needs at the time.*