



Conservation Technology Information Center Summer 2024 Internship Announcement Fully Remote or Hybrid Application Deadline: 5/3/24

Applications invited to be submitted ongoing and position will be open until filled. First deadline for applications is May 3, 2024

Preferred Start Date: June 1, 2024, with option to begin earlier

CTIC is now seeking applications for a 10-12 week summer internship, starting June 1 at the latest. The top candidate will be passionate about conservation agriculture and interested in working on a dynamic and innovative project. The intern will receive great exposure across a broad range of private- and public-sector organizations working on conservation and climate-smart ag, with opportunities for future career growth. The potential exists for the internship to continue into the fall semester at a reduced workload for the right individual. The work week expectation is full-time at 40 hours.

The Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC) was formed in 1982 to support the widespread use of economically and environmentally beneficial agricultural systems. CTIC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization supported by leading agricultural companies and conservation organizations from across the United States. CTIC, in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, Houston Engineering, and Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture and the Environment, with support from a USDA Partnership for Climate-Smart Commodities grant, is leading development of a new online tool, the *Connector* (<https://ctic.org/Connector>). The *Connector* will serve as a clearinghouse of financial and technical assistance available to farmers, ranchers and landowners as well as provide the platform for service providers to showcase their services on planning, implementation, and verification of conservation and climate-smart ag practices.

Primary Position Responsibility:

With support from CTIC's *Connector* Project Director along with assistance from the other *Connector* team members (esp. Houston Engineering), the intern will lead the remote data collection of information needed to populate two registries, the first listing Programs and the second listing Service Providers. The Program Registry will be populated by the numerous [Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Project Summaries | USDA](#) (PCSC) and other public and private sustainability programs. It will include detailed information on specific program elements of direct interest to farmers, ranchers, and landowners – including but not limited to: program sign-up deadlines, cost-share amounts, program eligibility, local contacts, conservation practices available, etc. The Service Provider Registry will focus on individuals and organizations who can assist farmers, ranchers, and landowners on the planning, implementation, and verification of conservation and climate-smart ag practices. The CTIC Project Director will provide guidance on which states and counties are the top priority for data collection.

Essential Functions:

- 1) Using a provided detailed questionnaire, contact Program leads and Service Providers to schedule and conduct remote interviews for collecting data to populate the two *Connector* program registries.
- 2) Research and propose to *Connector* team members additional opportunities to be added to registries with a particular focus on private sector sustainability cost-share and support.
- 3) Provide feedback to *Connector* team members based on information received from program leads and service providers on what additional information would be important to collect for showcase available offerings to farmers, ranchers and landowners.
- 4) Organize the registries into a Microsoft Excel document for use in a database.
- 5) Advise on the design of a web application to allow producers and other users to search the program registry.
- 6) Provide testing and feedback on prototypes and beta versions of the Connector web application during the development phase.

Preferred Skills, Experience and Education:

- Pursuing Bachelor's degree or higher in agronomy, soil science, environmental/natural resources, other agriculture related fields or computer science.
- Established and impeccable track-record of research topics, independent problem-solving and organization skills
- Excellent working familiarity with Excel, which will be used to collect all registry data.
- Knowledge of federal, state cost-share programs and common conservation practices is beneficial but not required.
- Familiarity and comfort conducting outreach through emails and phone calls to conservation organizations, partnerships and private companies with sustainability programs.
- Exceptional communication skills in conducting interviews and being inquisitive to pull information out of program contacts.

Travel/Location:

- This position will be based remotely but office space is available in CTIC's office in West Lafayette Indiana or in Houston Engineering's office in Maple Grove, Minnesota.

Salary: \$20-\$25/hour, dependent on experience

Benefits: N/A

How to Apply:

Anyone with interest in applying for the roles should email (in a single file) an application package consisting of a cover letter, CV or resume and three professional references to job-opportunities@ctic.org by May 3, 2024. The position will remain open until filled. The anticipated start date is June 1, 2024. Questions about the role can be directed to CTIC's *Connector* Project Director, Dr. Dave Gustafson (gustafson@ctic.org).

CTIC Mission:

CTIC champions, promotes and provides information on technologies and sustainable agricultural systems that conserve and enhance soil, water, air and wildlife resources, and are productive and profitable.