

The purpose of this program is to promote and facilitate student research at the Chincoteague Bay Field Station. Participating students will receive support from field station staff and faculty, such as project oversight, discounted station fees, advice, and field support. They are required to report on the progress and results of their project and create a final presentation (poster, oral presentation, video, etc.)

Eligibility & Applying

- Each applicant must have a sponsoring professor.
- The program is open to undergraduate and graduate students from any member university.
- They may be working on individual projects or supporting ongoing research projects.
- Although the program is designed primarily for summer projects, students may apply for support for projects conducted at other times of the year.
- Applications must be submitted at minimum two months prior to project start date.
- Applications will be reviewed by field station staff and the research committee. Program admittance will be based on the merits of the project and the availability of resources.

Permits

- Field station permits cover educational activities, not research. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that they have all necessary permits.
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval from the home institution is required if vertebrates are involved.
- Applicants will need to identify the required permits at the time of application and must have received the permits before commencing the project, and provide copies to CBFS.

Equipment and Station Resources

- Applicants must include a description of field station resources that they hope to use. This includes; equipment, lab space, aquaria, access to restricted areas or field station property, vessels, etc.
- Participants will be allowed to accompany scheduled activities (such as course related boat or Wallops trips) in order to accomplish their project, so long as there is space for them and their activities do not hamper those of the course/ group. This includes activities conducted by all field station programs, not just college.
- Participants may use the whaler, provided they are fully trained, follow all whaler use guidelines, and are 21 years old
- Standard fees, at the membership level of their home institute, apply for vessels, escorted trips, kayaks, etc., unless the student researcher is accompanying a scheduled activity.
- Lab space will be shared with other researchers. No research specimens or equipment allowed in dorm rooms.

Housing and Meals

- Participants will be housed in with summer course students. (Traditional Dorms unless otherwise assigned by the field station.)
- They must follow all the field station college rules.

- Participants are encouraged to eat meals with the other college community members. They are required to eat at least one meal per weekday in the cafeteria when in operation. It should be the same meal time each day and designated in advance.
- Fees for participants will be set each year as part of the budget approval process.
- 2016 fees are:
 - \$20 per night (includes 1 meal on weekdays)
 - \$29 per night (includes 2 meals)
 - \$37 per night (includes 3 meals)
- Participants will have access to the shared college student kitchen (during non winter months). This kitchen is intended as a place for keeping and preparing snacks, students should not plan on regularly cooking full meals.

Responsibilities

- Provide full and accurate information of their needs and goals before arriving.
- Act only with-in the approved scope of their project.
- Follow all field station rules, state and federal regulations, and partner organization rules (such as CNWR and NASA)
- Attend a weekly meeting with the College Program Coordinator to cover the progress of the research project, request help or resources, and discuss any difficulties.
- Complete a minimum of 6 hours of research activities per day. If research activities do not take up their full time, students will be assigned other duties by field station staff. Assigned duties will not conflict with research activities.
- During their time at the field station, participants may be asked to present their project to other students or other programs. This will be approximately 15 minutes on their topic, methods and experience thus far.
- All participants must create a research poster. The poster will be printed and displayed by the field station. Other public displays will be considered, such as videos, web pages or slide shows. The final product must meet the approval of the sponsoring faculty and the college coordinator. Students must submit a draft for feedback before the final version is approved.
- The field station must be credited in any publications.
- A copy of the final paper, results, or similar must be provided to the field station.

Responsibilities of Sponsoring Faculty and Chincoteague Bay Field Station Staff

- Assist the student in planning and implementing their project.
- Ensure student is following all federal/state and university guidelines
- Set clear expectations.
- Provide approved resources (subject to availability, etc.)
- Ensure that the student has access to the information they need to successfully complete the project.
- Monitor the progress of the project and provide support and feedback as needed.
- Provide a timeline for completion of the final project.
- Provide edits and feedback on the final project and any related papers.
- Complete the Student Researcher Evaluation Form