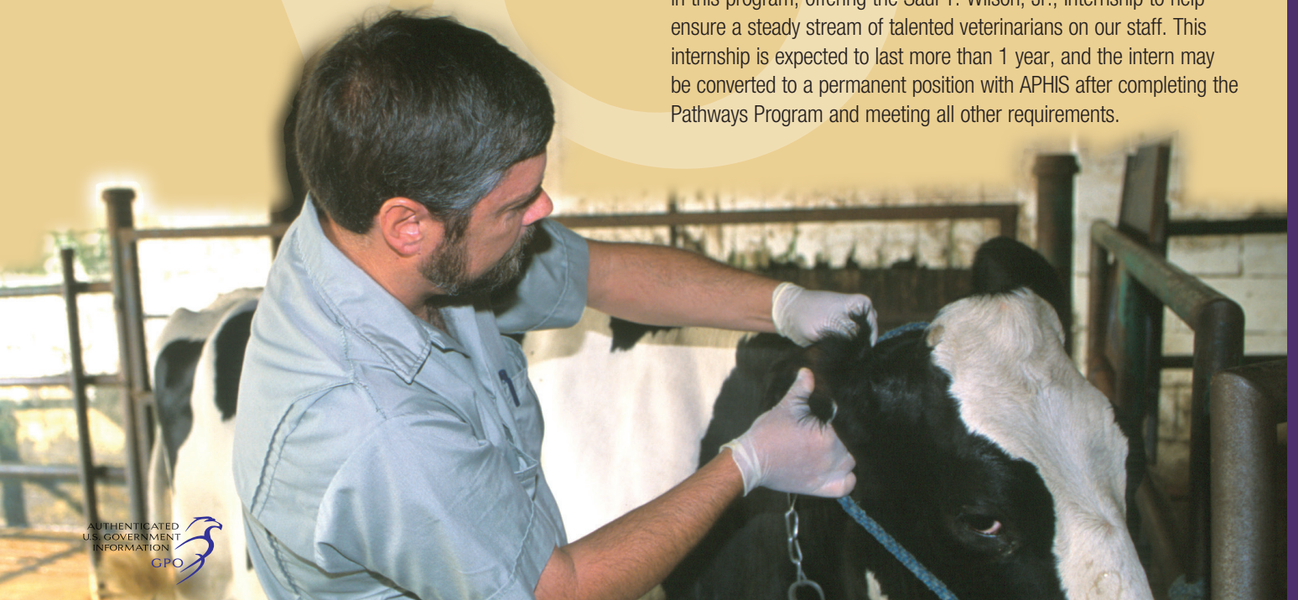
Veterinary Services (VS), a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), is proud to sponsor the Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Internship Program for undergraduate and graduate students in veterinary fields of study that support and are critical to the VS mission.

USDA Pathways Program: Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Internship

In carrying out our safeguarding mission, APHIS works to ensure the continued health of our Nation's livestock and poultry. Within APHIS, the VS staff serves as the veterinary authority for the United States. It is our job to protect and improve the health, quality, and marketability of U.S. animals, animal products, and veterinary biologics.

Increases in global trade, the emergence of zoonotic diseases, and the threat of agroterrorism demand a comprehensive approach to protecting animal and public health. VS brings a wealth of skills and expertise to this effort—from global disease surveillance and animal health certification to disease eradication and emergency preparedness. In all of this work, we follow One Health principles to promote a collaborative, all-inclusive approach and make sure our decisions are grounded in the best science and information available.

The USDA Pathways Program offers different "pathway" opportunities for students and recent graduates to work in agriculture, science, technology, math, environment, management, business, and many other fields. One of these pathways is the USDA Internship Program, which provides paid work experiences for students. VS participates in this program, offering the Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Internship to help ensure a steady stream of talented veterinarians on our staff. This internship is expected to last more than 1 year, and the intern may be converted to a permanent position with APHIS after completing the Pathways Program and meeting all other requirements.



AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

VS Mission

As the Nation's recognized animal health leader, we safeguard the health of animals, people, and the environment.

VS Vision

To improve the health, productivity, and quality of life for animals and people and maintain and promote the safety and availability of U.S. animals, animal products, and veterinary biologics.

APHIS—Many Goals, One Mission

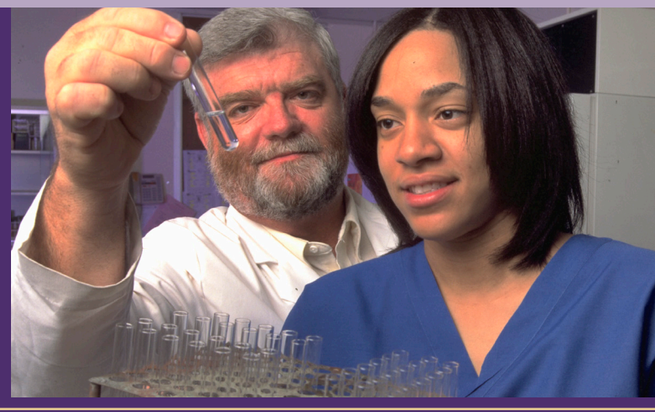
APHIS is a multifaceted agency with a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act, and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. APHIS builds and maintains a world-class system that safeguards the health of animals, plants, and ecosystems in the United States and fosters safe agricultural trade worldwide, resulting in abundant and affordable agricultural products for U.S. and international consumers. These efforts support USDA's overall mission to protect and promote food, agriculture, and natural resources.

USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

This publication supersedes Program Aid No. 1534, "The Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Scholarship Program in Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences," which was last revised in July 2003.

Issued September 2015

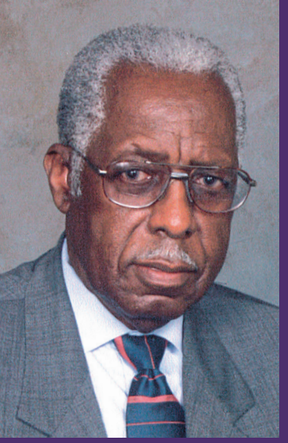
USDA
United States Department of Agriculture



The Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Internship Program

in Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences for Undergraduate and Graduate Students

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Program Aid No. 2175



Who Is Saul T. Wilson, Jr.?

Dr. Wilson dedicated his professional career to public veterinary medicine, first within APHIS and then at Tuskegee University after he retired in 1989. During his Federal career, he made outstanding contributions to the health of the Nation's livestock and poultry industries. He also played an essential role in eradicating foot-and-mouth disease from Mexico in the 1950s, helping protect our country against reinfection from this devastating animal disease. He made a long-lasting impact on APHIS and the field of public veterinary medicine. Today, his actions inspire veterinary students to practice public veterinary medicine.

Internship Experiences

As a Saul T. Wilson, Jr., intern, you will experience the real-world situations facing Federal regulatory veterinarians every day. Working in the field, you may:

- Assist with veterinary technician duties;
- Observe and/or conduct testing and identification activities to support disease management programs for livestock such as cattle, swine, and cervids;
- Contact owners to schedule animal disease testing;
- Attach animal identification tags and help with recordkeeping;
- Draw blood samples for laboratory testing;
- Brand animals that react to certain tests; or
- Help supervise disinfection and cleaning at affected sites.

Working in one of our animal health laboratories, you may conduct routine tests, log in test samples, track test results, or prepare specimens.

In an office setting, you may assist our disease programs with information gathering and data collection; data verification, tracking, coding, and entry; document review and literature searches; statistical, quantitative, or qualitative analysis; or producing preliminary analytical reports.

We provide a wide range of learning opportunities so our interns are prepared for life in the public veterinary field.

Internship Benefits

The Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Internship provides students:

1) Up to $5,000 per year for undergraduate studies and up to $10,000 for graduate studies for tuition, books, tutors, and laboratory fees.

2) Paid employment during summer and school breaks as a Veterinary Student Trainee, participation in the Federal Employees Retirement System and Thrift Savings Plan (401K), and paid vacation and sick leave. Based on the length of the work periods, compensation may also include health insurance benefits.

3) The possibility of conversion, without further competition, to a permanent appointment with APHIS upon successful completion of the program with a D.V.M. degree, training, and other work requirements.

After completing all of the mandatory requirements for the program, the student must become a full-time agency employee for at least 1 calendar year (12 months) for each school year (2 semesters, 3 quarters, or the equivalent) that the student was covered by the internship. If the student intern does not accept an APHIS employment offer, he or she must reimburse all financial assistance received under the Wilson internship program. If the intern fails to serve the entire length of the mandatory APHIS employment period, the student must reimburse the agency a prorated share of the funds awarded.

Application and Eligibility

Interested students must apply online via www.usajobs.gov. Locate the announcement using the key words "Saul T. Wilson" in the search engine under the "Student and Recent Graduates" tab.

Please note that you must have a USAJOBS account to apply. The announcement will open in the spring for approximately a 2-week period. Upon entrance on duty, you must:

1) Be a U.S. citizen,

2) Be enrolled as a full-time student and/or accepted for enrollment in an accredited veterinary college or university within the United States—

a. Undergraduate applicants must have completed at least 2 years (60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours) of a 4-year preveterinary medicine or other biomedical science curriculum.

b. Graduate student applicants must have completed not more than 1 full academic year of study in veterinary medicine.

3) Be in good academic standing, and

4) Agree to work for the agency during school breaks for a minimum of 640 hours prior to completing your studies.

Required Documents

The online application system will prompt you to answer self-assessment questions and to submit the following:

1) Resume;

2) Transcripts for all completed college work to date;

3) Proof of current enrollment and/or, if applicable, a letter of acceptance to graduate school; and

4) A copy of your Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD-214), if you are claiming Veterans' Preference.

Additional supplemental information and documentation will be requested at a later date if you meet the eligibility and initial application requirements.

For More Information

This internship may be available annually. To check availability or learn more, call the VS Management Support Division at (301) 851-3573 or visit our Web site:

www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-health/recruitment