How to Apply

Applications due March 5, 2021

All application materials should be submitted online. Check the website for deadline extensions. Documents should be uploaded as a word document or pdf.

1. **Online Application**
   [http://hersinstitute.org/apply.html](http://hersinstitute.org/apply.html)

2. **Statement of Purpose (400-500 words):** Introduce yourself and explain how a HERS internship benefits your academic goals of graduate school. Include a description of previous research experience.

3. **Essay (400-500 words):** Describe an important environmental issue affecting Indigenous communities, particularly one that is of interest to you.

4. **College or university transcripts**
   Provide a copy of your most recent college or university transcripts (unofficial transcripts accepted). Official transcripts may be requested at a later time.

5. **Two Letters of Recommendation**
   We require both an academic letter of recommendation and a character reference. Letters are submitted online by the letter writer.

**Questions?**

Contact Katrina McClure, HERS Program Coordinator at HERS@ku.edu
Overview

Climate & environmental change is altering the landscapes and lifeways of Native communities. The Haskell Environmental Research Studies (HERS) Summer Internship program prepares tribal college students for graduate studies and to meet the challenges of climate change.

The goal of the HERS Institute is to promote Indigenous research methodologies by drawing on knowledge from Native peoples to develop broad understandings and strategies for responding to climate and environmental change in Indigenous communities.

The HERS Summer Internship program is a collaboration among:

- Haskell Indian Nations University
- University of Kansas
- Haskell Environmental Research Studies Institute
- Center for Indigenous Research, Science & Technology
- NSF Kansas EPSCoR Program

Program

The HERS Institute is an 8-week paid summer internship program in June and July. Interns learn about climate and environmental change and develop individual research projects. Interns learn writing skills and introductory skills in Geographic Information Systems. Interns complete a research proposal and a poster on an environmental issue affecting a Native community. Graduate students provide one-on-one mentorship throughout the process.

During the academic year interns have opportunities to present their work at professional meetings, workshops, and conferences such as the Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) or American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES).

Support

HERS interns will receive the following:
- Summer stipend
- Housing and meals
- Use of laptop and software
- Mentorship
- GIS instruction
- Writing intensive curriculum
- Professional development & networking
- Graduate school advising
- Access to KU’s libraries and research databases.

Eligibility

Applicants must be undergraduate students or recently graduated, in good standing, and eligible for enrollment in a tribal college or university.

HERS interns at National Research Centers, Konza Prairie Biological Station (left); HERS interns doing water quality testing fieldwork (right)

HERS interns at present research at the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO

Co-directors, Jay T. Johnson and Cody Marshall with HERS interns and graduate student mentors at Haskell Indian Nations University

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