

The Carolinian Canada Student Research Program Pilot Project 2007-2009

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Carolinian Canada Student Research Program was launched as a pilot two-year program from May 2007 to May 2009 in partnership with the University of Waterloo, Faculty of Environmental Studies Co-op Program. Aimed at linking on-ground stewardship needs to university research and student work experience, the program provides matching funding for student researchers.

Research Assistantships are available to University of Waterloo 3rd to 4th year Faculty of Environmental Studies co-operative education students in partnership with employers in government agencies, businesses and non-government organizations for research relating to the Carolinian life zone of southwestern Ontario. The Assistantships offer student skills to employers; practical education and training to students; and produce valuable work relating to biodiversity conservation and environmental planning, management and decision-making in the Carolinian Canada ecoregion.

BUDGET

A \$10,000 assistantship is offered for each term. UW Faculty of Environmental Studies provides \$5,000 and the employer matches with an additional \$5,000 for a four month student work term. Program delivery is provided through an in-kind contribution from Carolinian Canada Coalition.

Two-Year Pilot	CCC In-Kind	Employer Match	UW Match
Total Investment per Partner	\$5,000	\$30,000	\$30,000

Budget Details

TWO-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM		CCC In-Kind	Employer Match	UW Match
Term	Employer			
Summer 2007	rare Charitable Research Reserve	1,500	5,000	5,000
Fall 2007	-	500	0	0
Winter 2008	Nature Conservancy Canada	500	5,000	5,000
Winter 2008	rare Charitable Research Reserve	500	5,000	5,000
Summer 2008	-	500	0	0
Fall 2008	Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority	500	5,000	5,000
Fall 2008	Association for Canadian Educational Resources	500	5,000	5,000
Winter 2009	Association for Canadian Educational Resources	500	5,000	5,000
Total Investment per Partner		\$5,000	\$30,000	\$30,000

*In-Kind: program set up and delivery, web postings, e-news, materials preparation, employer liaison, monitoring and reporting

EMPLOYER SELECTION CRITERIA

The CCC Selection Committee chooses research positions based on a number of criteria.

TYPE OF WORK	
Research	Scientific base of job
Stewardship	Practical applications for Stewardship in CC
Carolinian	Connection to unique Carolinian ecosystems and issues
BENEFITS FOR STUDENT	
Feasibility	Complexity of the work for the student
Experience	Learning opportunities
Support	Logistical and other support for the student
Financial	Pay
EMPLOYER	
Assist	Employer need
Capacity	Qualities / achievements of the employer
Seasonal	Not flexible regarding work term
CCC Connections	
Objectives	Suitability to the Coalition's objectives
Partner	Partnership Potential for current projects / past support
Funds	Fundraising potential / past support

WORK TERM STATUS

The Student Research Project timelines include six [6] terms from May 2007 to May 2009. The pilot program has one assistantship remaining for Winter 2009. The program has had an excellent response from employers and students.

Term	Employer	Student	Job Title	FES Year	Status
May - Aug 2007	rare Charitable Research Reserve	Lauren Cymbaly	Invasive Species Intern	3A	Complete
Sept - Dec 2007					No match
Jan. - Apr 2008	Nature Conservancy Canada	Alex Hood	Restoration Research Assistant	4	Complete
	rare Charitable Research Reserve	Lauren Cymbaly	Planning and managing natural heritage	3B	Complete
May - Aug 2008					No match
Sept - Dec 2008	Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority	Mark Funk	Stewardship Specialist	2B	Complete
	Association for Canadian Educational Resources	Meghan Gillespie	Technical Advisory Team Intern	2B	Complete
Jan - Apr 2009	Association for Canadian Educational Resources	Jason Weiler	Technical Advisory Team Intern	2	In Progress