



**Summer Internship at Pima Prickly Park/Pima County Native Plant Nursery  
Offered by the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society**



**Location:**

Pima County Native Plant Nursery and Pima Prickly Park  
5845 N. Camino de la Tierra  
Tucson AZ, 85741  
Native Plant Nursery Office Phone: 520-724-5157

**Term and Scheduling:** Summer, 20 hours per week over 8 weeks, with a minimum of six Thursdays (from the hours of 6:30am to 10:30am) worked throughout the internship. All other days and shifts are set by the student and are flexible within the operational hours of the Native Plant Nursery (M-F, 6:00am-3:30pm, with some weekend hours available), and events or projects directed by the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society (various days and times).

**Compensation:** \$2,400 tuition paid directly to the accredited educational institution in which the student is enrolled, and a 1 ½ year membership in the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society.

**Background and Description of Work:** The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society (TCSS) is offering current and prospective college students who have an interest in plants, horticulture, and/or Sonoran Desert ecology an impactful, hands-on experience working with industry experts at Pima Prickly Park and the Pima County Native Plant Nursery (NPN).

TCSS is the largest Cactus and Succulent Society in the U.S., whose members and volunteers include specialists and leaders in Tucson's horticulture community. Pima Prickly Park is a collaboration between Pima County and TCSS that is fully designed and maintained by TCSS using salvaged plants from Tucson and surrounding areas. NPN, a part of Pima County's Natural Resources division, is a fully operational plant nursery that grows and salvages native plants for public projects and restoration, located adjacent to Pima Prickly Park.

This unique internship allows students the opportunity to participate in conservation and restoration efforts driven by the community through local governmental projects and programs, volunteer commitment, and shared-interest collaborations. Tasks and duties of nursery and conservation work in Arizona involve physical labor, working outdoors in extreme heat and occasional rain, sometimes in remote locations, and working with plants that have spines or thorns. Protective equipment and safety training will be provided.

Students will work under the supervision of Amy Belk, the Native Plant Nursery manager, as well as project leaders with the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society, and will work alongside industry professionals and experts to gain hands-on experience caring for plants that grow in the Sonoran Desert.

**Eligibility, Application, Requirements, and Deadline:**

Students must be at least 18 years of age and enrolled at an accredited university in the fall or spring semester following the internship.

Applications shall include the details requested on this form, as well as a one-page essay explaining the student’s background experience, educational goals, and/or why they are interested in this internship. Applications must be received by Amy Belk ([Amy.belk@pima.gov](mailto:Amy.belk@pima.gov)) no later than midnight on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to be eligible, and selections will be made no later than May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. You will receive confirmation of receipt within two business days. Please reach out to Amy Belk via telephone if you do not receive confirmation of receipt, as this may be an indication that your email was not received. An interview, which may be conducted in person or online, may be requested before selections are made. Visiting the nursery before applying for the internship is encouraged, and Amy Belk is happy to answer questions about the internship via email or telephone.

If selected, students must maintain a log of their hours and activities throughout the internship, and are asked to give a 10-15 minute presentation about their internship experience at a TCSS board meeting upon completing their assignment.

**Summer Internship/Scholarship at Pima Prickly Park/Native Plant Nursery**

**APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_