



# Interpretive Career Training Opportunity

## *Come Work With Us*







# Work with Us

*Do you like working with people? Do you have a passion for helping people understand the significance of America's heritage? Maybe a career with the National Park Service is for you. The National Park Service offers opportunities to work in 391 national parks across the country to preserve their history and create places for outdoor fun.*

A great career await you in the National Park Service! You can play a vital role in helping to preserve America's cherished natural, cultural and historic resources. Dinosaur National Monument is seeking a qualified, highly motivated student who is interested in a career with the National Park Service. We are piloting a new student program that involves two summers of on-the-job training. At the end of the training and the student's graduation, we will assist the graduate in being placed in a permanent job in a variety of locations throughout the nation. The National Park Service is committed to achieving a talented and dedicated workforce that reflects the diversity of America.

## **Benefits of Working for the National Park Service**

- Work for a leading conservation agency
- Serve America
- Live and work in beautiful, scenic places, and rich cultural areas
- Do interesting and meaningful work
- Comprehensive life and health insurance
- Excellent vacation and sick leave benefits
- Family friendly work policies
- Flexible workplace opportunities
- Leave sharing program
- Flexible work schedules
- Great retirement benefits, including the Thrift Savings Plan (401K)





National Park Service interpreters work with the public, helping them enjoy their visit.

### What Is Interpretation?

When people visit parks, museums, and historical sites, the place comes to life when the visitor understands the significance of what they are seeing. Sometimes, the significance of the resource is obvious to the visitor and sometimes it is not so obvious. National Park Service park rangers and park guides use interpretation as an essential tool to reveal the resource significance to visitors and provide meaningful experiences.

When most people hear the word “interpreter,” translating the meaning of one language into another language is generally the first thing that comes to mind. In museum, historic site, and park settings, an interpreter “translates” the meanings of landscape, artifacts, events, people, and other resources associated with the site into a language that helps visitors understand the significance of the site. Interpretation is based on the philosophy that people will *care for* what they first *care about*. Interpreters provide information and inspiration in such a way so that promotes positive visitor experiences. Interpreters are visitor experience specialists.

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*I'll interpret the rocks, learn the language of flood, storm and the avalanche. I'll acquaint myself with the glaciers and wild gardens, and get as near the heart of the world as I can.*  
-John Muir, 1896

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### **About This Career Training Opportunity**

Dinosaur National Monument is offering an interpretation career training opportunity through the Student Career Employment Program (SCEP). During this two year program, the student trainee continues to attend school during the fall and spring, and participates in a paid training program for 10-12 weeks during two summers. Upon successful completion of all SCEP requirements, the participant is provided 120 days of non-competitive status to help them obtain a permanent position in one of over 390 National Park units throughout the country.

**During the first summer of the internship,** the participant will learn about the mission of the National Park Service through formal training and on-the-job experience. Formal training includes an expenses-paid trip to the Grand Canyon for two weeks to meet with several dozen colleagues from other parks to explore resource stewardship and learn more about National Park Service operations. Other training will help the participant understand the mission of the National Park Service, career and retirement planning, and behaviors expected by National Park Service employees.

On-the-job experience allows the participant to work with various managers at Dinosaur National Monument to gain a better understanding of how each program supports the mission of the National Park Service. Some of these programs include fee collection, law enforcement, interpretation, budget, human resources, information technology, contracting, procurement, grazing, and wildlife management. Some of the more active on-the-job activities include a rafting trip guided by experienced boaters to learn about invasive weed and recreation management and hiking the monument's backcountry in search of paleontological resources.

**During the second summer of the SCEP training,** the participant will begin specialized interpretative training. Through formal and on-the-job training, the participant will learn and practice the fundamentals of interpretation. The participant will staff the information desk, providing information and orientation to assist visitors in planning their visit. The participant will research, develop and present a variety of presentations about the various resources of the monument and prepare a special project. Additionally, the participant will travel to the Washington DC area for a week of training concentrating on teamwork, leadership, and problem solving.

**Upon completion of the SCEP requirements,** the participant receives 120 days of non-competitive status. This means, that internship graduates may apply for entry-level interpretive positions in the National Park Service without having going through the traditional competitive application process. While a permanent position is not guaranteed, graduates of similar programs rarely have not been offered a permanent position with the National Park Service. The staff at Dinosaur National will make every effort to assist in finding a position in the graduate's desired area of the country.



## Requirements

For this internship opportunity, applicants must be a U.S. citizen enrolled at an accredited institution as a degree-seeking student in a related field. Applicants must have at least 30 semester hours (or 45 quarter hours) of education above high school and at least a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. During the internship the participant must maintain grades and attend school fall through spring at least part-time. Any changes to declared degree, student standing, and attendance could affect continued eligibility.



For a minimum of 10-12 weeks during two summers, the participant will participate in a training program at Dinosaur National Monument. Some travel will be required. The intern will be required to wear a National Park Service uniform and work weekends and holidays during the summer. Additionally, the participant must possess a valid driver's license and successfully complete a background investigation.

## Other Information

This is a paid training program, working 40 hours per week, 8 hours per day during the summer. Participants who have a minimum of 30 semester hours (or 45 quarter hours) of education above high school are eligible for a salary of \$11.95 per hour during the summer portion of the SCEP training. Participants who have a minimum of 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) of education above high school are eligible for a salary of \$13.41 per hour during the summer portion of the SCEP training. The participant is also eligible for life and health insurance and will earn vacation and sick leave.

On-site housing is available for this position (the cost is approximately \$300 per month). Housing is a two-bedroom apartment that is shared with one other person. The housing complex is located in the monument and is occupied by approximately 18 other employees.

The summer start and end dates are negotiable to accommodate different schools semester start and end dates.

**Pictograph (images chipped into the rock) left by the Fremont Culture and fossil resources draw thousands of visitors to Dinosaur National Monument each year.**



Interpreters may present programs in the park, in the community, and in schools to a variety of audiences.

### How to Apply

To apply for this interpretive career training opportunity, submit the following:

- Current OF-612 application (available at [www.opm.gov/forms/pdf\\_fill/of612.pdf](http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of612.pdf))
- A one-page summary of your career aspirations and why you are interested in this career training opportunity
- Most recent transcript (unofficial transcript is acceptable)
- Letter from institution stating you are a student in good standing and taking at least a part-time course load
- Summary of course requirements for degree you are seeking (may be copied from college catalog)
- Contact information for at least three references (include a mix of academic and supervisory references, if available)

Send resume and other documentation by March 27 to:

Carla Beasley  
Dinosaur National Monument  
PO Box 128  
Jensen, UT 84035  
or by email: [carla\\_beasley@nps.gov](mailto:carla_beasley@nps.gov)

### For More Information

To learn more about Dinosaur National Monument, visit our website at [www.nps.gov/dino](http://www.nps.gov/dino). To learn more about northeastern Utah, visit [www.dinoland.com](http://www.dinoland.com).

For more information about this career opportunity, contact Carla Beasley at (435) 781-7702 or [carla\\_beasley@nps.gov](mailto:carla_beasley@nps.gov).

The National Park Service is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.



Scenic panoramic views abound throughout the Dinosaur National Monument.

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



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Dinosaur National Monument  
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Dinosaur, Colorado 81610  
[www.nps.gov/dino](http://www.nps.gov/dino)