

Rio Vista Bracero Reception Center



Latino Heritage Internship Program

2023 Internship Program

The Latino Heritage Internship Program (LHIP) seeks to engage Latino undergraduates and recent graduates ages 18 - 30, and up to 35 for veterans, for this unmatched leadership training program that is focused in the cultural and natural resources field.

Heritage Documentation Programs (HABS/Architectural Intern / Historic Preservation Technician - Washington D.C.

The selected intern will work with a team of permanent HDP staff architects to produce measured drawing documentation of the Processing Center or other historic structure at the Rio Vista Farm in Socorro, Texas. Travel from Washington, DC, to El Paso and a per diem for five days to undertake the field work will be covered by the Historic American Buildings Survey. The site, originally a 14-acre farm built in 1915 to shelter El Paso County's indigents and orphans, became a processing center for more than 80,000 braceros per year. In 1942, the United States reached an agreement with Mexico to establish the Bracero Program, which brought Mexican workers known as braceros ("strong arms") into the U.S. on a temporary basis to better domestic farm-labor shortages. From 1951-64 the site was associated with the Mexican Farm Labor Program, the "largest single temporary alien worker program" ever undertaken by the United States. The Braceros played a vitally important role in the nation's agricultural economy in the postwar era, comprising nearly a quarter of US agricultural workers by 1959. The program greatly enhanced the profitability of the US agribusiness sector, providing a steady, reliable supply of highly-skilled farmworkers at relatively low wages and permitting expansion of certain crop sectors. In 2016 the National Trust for Historic Preservation named the site a National Treasure and has since provided financial support for the preservation and interpretation of the site. In 2019, the National Park Service made the site a National Historic Landmark.

Internship Requirements

- Age 18 - 30, and military veterans up to age 35
- Must be a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident
- All interns are required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination
- All interns are required to complete their internships at the Career and Leadership Workshop in Washington, D.C. from July 31- August 4, 2023

COMPENSATION

- Weekly stipend of \$640
- Cost of round-trip travel to the park/site (some restrictions may apply)
- Housing will be provided

DRIVER'S LICENSE

- Applicant must have a valid driver's license to drive a government vehicle

Qualifications

- Proficiency in the use of computers and AutoCAD
- Ability to work outdoors to conduct fieldwork
- Basic knowledge of building construction, surveying methods, ability to create legible hand sketches/field notes
- Detailed oriented

TIME FRAME

- **Applications must be submitted by 11:55 pm your time on Feb. 6, 2023**
- Top candidates will be selected for interviews in February, placement decisions will be made in March
- Suggested dates of internship: May 15, 2023 - Aug. 4, 2023



Learn more and apply:
<https://latinoheritageintern.org/application/>



Contact lhlp@environmentamericas.org with any questions.