

How to apply

Enquiries and applications should be directed to:

Bronwyn Collins (Coordinator)

Student's Volunteer Botanical
Internship Program

Australian National Herbarium

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Canberra ACT 2601

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Or

Brendan Lepschi (Herbarium Curator)

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Your application should include:

- a transcript of academic record;
- a CV and a statement of interests or aptitudes that you consider relevant;
- names and contact details for one or two referees (at least one academic);
- approximate finishing date of your coming exams, and your contact details (including for period after exams).



Conditions of internship

- Selection criteria include enthusiasm, ability to benefit from the Program, teamwork capabilities, and academic achievement.
- Intern placements are unpaid, and financial and accommodation support is not available. Interns requiring accommodation should consult the SVBIP Coordinator who can provide information on available options.
- Interns work as registered volunteers, under an arrangement providing free ComCare insurance cover during working hours. Overseas applicants must have full personal insurance.
- The Program runs 5 days a week (4 days over a longer period possible for preferred applicants).
- Interns will work mostly in normal office hours, with longer days for field trips.
- The CANBR reserves the right to terminate Internships without notice.



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Centre for
Australian
National
Biodiversity
Research

**The Australian
National Herbarium**

Student's Volunteer Botanical Internship Program

**January –
February 2012**

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Scientific experience

Botanical skills

Training in job-seeking in
science & conservation

For more details see our Interns Website:

<http://www.cpbr.gov.au/intern>

Applications close **21 November 2011**

2012 Student's Volunteer Botanical Internship Program

Students of botany, environmental science, and related subjects are invited to apply for selection for the nineteenth annual Student's Volunteer Botanical Internship Program.

The Program runs for seven weeks over January and February 2012 (Tuesday Jan 3 to Friday Feb 17). Up to 12 placements may be offered. Selection will be by written application.

Who is it for?

- The Program is intended to be of benefit to those seeking either professional or technical careers in plant sciences or conservation management. The Program is designed primarily for tertiary students who are well-advanced in their course of study, although recent graduates are welcome to apply.

What does it involve?

- Interns will assist staff at the Centre for Australian National Biodiversity Research (CANBR) in Canberra in the curation of the herbarium collections and in research support.
- In return, Interns receive a broad spectrum of practical training in collections management, botany, plant conservation, and job-seeking in the scientific workforce.
- Training sessions are conducted by professional scientists and technicians from the CANBR and related institutions. Training complements, rather than duplicates, that given at tertiary level.



Program outline

- Interns work in Canberra at the Australian National Herbarium, part of the CANBR, a joint facility of CSIRO Plant Industry and the Australian National Botanic Gardens.
- *Training sessions:* Training sessions will occupy about 40% of your time with us. Many of the skills taught are relevant to a wide range of specimen-based disciplines. You will be introduced to sources of information on the Australian flora, principles of plant identification, and curation of scientific collections. Seminar sessions will address a range of theoretical and practical issues in taxonomic botany and plant conservation, and look in detail at some major research projects. The Program includes some field work, with training in specimen selection and preservation, field data recording, and permit and access protocols.
- Specific training will be given in the preparation of posters and seminars, and in the development of CVs and job applications. Guidance will also be given for job-seeking in the scientific and conservation job markets.
- *Work sessions:* Interns work in teams under staff supervision, helping us with both routine and advanced tasks including specimen preparation, plant identification, collections management, and limited research assistance.
- We attempt to accommodate Interns' interests, but allocation of tasks and team membership remains at our discretion.



Outcomes of the Program

The main benefits to you will be:

- Seven weeks intensive experience in a mainstream scientific institution.
- Specialised training that will help you in further studies and getting that first job in your field.

Detailed statements of accomplishment will be given at the end of the Program, and work references are available for the future.

Course credits: Students at some campuses are entitled to use the Internship for course credits. If in doubt, discuss it with your academic supervisor. Successful applicants must make all necessary arrangements with their institution. We will supply supporting documentation only if requested. If specific projects are needed to satisfy course requirements this may be arranged. However, these projects must be negotiated with us and are to be undertaken essentially on your own time, not that of the Program.

