Farmland Protection Policy Research Intern  
American Farmland Trust  
Farmland Information Center

Internship Description
National nonprofit agricultural conservation organization seeks a part-time, paid intern to conduct research and collect resources relating to state and local farmland protection programs, laws and policies. Specific tasks include:

- Conduct research online and through interviews of current state planning laws and policies that protect farmland and encourage compact development;
- Document relevant provisions in state planning laws and policies and assist with comparative analysis by state; and
- Identify exemplary state and local laws, policies and/or plans for inclusion in the organization’s online farmland protection resource collection, www.farmlandinfo.org.

Interns are expected to attend regular check-in meetings with the project team (by phone or in person) to report on progress and ask questions. Typically, internships involve 15-20 hours of work per week for at least 12 weeks. Interns will work from AFT’s Northampton, Massachusetts office.

Interns will have the opportunity to:
- Learn about farmland protection laws, policies and programs at all levels of government;
- Become familiar with “tools of the trade” in farmland protection; and
- Gain an understanding of the issues facing agricultural conservation professionals nationwide.

Previous AFT internships have helped fulfill graduate study requirements and have led to employment with AFT and other organizations.

Qualifications
Relevant Bachelor’s degree or equivalent education and experience; graduate-level coursework in planning or legal education preferred. Interest in public policy, agricultural conservation and familiarity with land use issues helpful. Strong communication skills, research ability and knowledge of spreadsheets (Excel) required.

Compensation
Academic credit and/or a paid stipend. AFT interns not receiving academic credit may earn $12 dollars per hour as undergraduates and $14 dollars per hour if enrolled in graduate school.

Apply
Interested applicants please email your resume and cover letter to pmccabe@farmland.org.