



Ohio Aquaculture Association Matching Aquaculture Internship Program

The OAA and the Aquaculture Boot Camp-2 Program at OSU South Centers have partnered to provide business development and mentoring opportunities for new & beginning farmers to enhance the likelihood of their success. The goals of this internship program are to 1) provide apprentice-type, hands-on training opportunities to new & beginning farmers and 2) transfer the vast knowledge of established, successful culturists to the next generation of aquaculture & aquaponic farmers.

The OAA will provide up to \$1000 to three OAA member/farm owners to partially defray the cost of paying an intern for their operation. All \$1000 must be used for the intern's salary. The farm owner, by entering into an agreement with the OAA, must match or exceed the \$1000 provided by the OAA such that the total intern pay package is at least \$2000. The OAA will provide the farm owner the \$1000 at the conclusion of the internship and upon receipt of time sheets and a one-page report (see below). The funds provided by the OAA and the farm's matching funds must be used in the day-to-day farming activities of the farm. Examples include but are not limited to fish husbandry, aquaponic planting & harvesting, water quality testing, general maintenance associated with fish culture and/or aquaponics, and market development (jointly with owner). Examples not allowed include but are not limited to mowing grass or vehicle maintenance.

At the conclusion of the internship, a one-page report will be submitted to the OAA providing a synopsis of the apprenticeship training, focusing on skills acquired and strategies to improve the program should additional funding be acquired. While either the owner or intern may develop the report, it is the preference of the OAA that the intern write the report initially and the farm owner review it jointly with the intern and then with the OAA Board.

Interested parties should contact Alycia Brehm at ohioaquaculture@gmail.com and request an Internship Application. Please specify intern application or farm owner application.