
Fall 2026 Internship: Research & Education

Organization Overview:

Organic Seed Alliance puts the power of seed into the hands of growers. Our work promotes an abundant and diverse supply of organic seed, tended in perpetuity by skilled, diverse, and interconnected communities of seed stewards. To advance this mission, we serve growers working with seed across the U.S. through three program areas: 1) collaborative research on crop improvement and seed production for organic systems, 2) education on the agronomic, economic, and socio-political elements of seed work, and 3) legal and cultural advocacy toward policies that support organic agriculture and farmers' rights to save seed. Our approach emphasizes relationship building and network development across program areas.

Compensation: Up to 150 working hours at a rate of \$15/hour for undergraduate students (\$2,250) and \$18/hour for graduate students (\$2,700).

Internship Type: Remote

Start Date: Week of September 7, 2026 for 10 weeks

Eligibility: Open to current undergraduate or graduate students *and* recent graduate individuals ages 18–24, regardless of enrollment status.

Preferred Majors: Sustainable Agriculture, Agricultural Education, Environmental Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, etc.

Position Overview:

OSA is seeking a dynamic and motivated Intern to join our Research and Education team. The intern will work directly with the assistant director of programs to develop, promote, and execute the State of Organic Seed Project. The State of Organic Seed project (SOS) is an ongoing project of Organic Seed Alliance to monitor organic seed systems in the U.S. Every five years, OSA releases this progress report and action plan for increasing the organic seed supply while fostering seed grower networks and policies that aim to decentralize power and ownership in seed systems. During this internship, students can expect to assist in the initial research and outreach component of the project. This will include promoting the SOS survey, participating in qualitative interviews, and tracking public and private research funding.

Activities:

- Collaborate with the SOS Team and the SOS Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Attend weekly meetings with all OSA staff and supervisor
- Participate in an organic seed production asynchronous online course

- Learn about the State of Organic Seed Project
- Participate in survey outreach and qualitative interviews
- Assist in tracking public and private funding from 1996–2027 to identify investment gaps and determine priority crops and traits.

Measure for Success: Together the intern and assistant director will develop and identify SMARTIE internship goals. They can include but are not limited to:

- Development of professional skills and interests
- Shadowing staff to learn about potential career opportunities
- Outreach and Interview activity targets
- Number of public and private funds tracked

Knowledge & Skills Expected to be Gained:

This internship offers an excellent opportunity for individuals interested in gaining hands-on experience in sustainable agriculture research and education projects. This internship provides the opportunity to explore research and educational initiatives in an encouraging environment while being coached through the development of professional skills. Students can expect to be exposed to qualitative research methods and longitudinal studies.

Qualifications:

Strong interpersonal skills in email communications, in person, and over the phone

Interest in qualitative research projects

Passion for outreach to farming communities

Familiarity with Google workspace tools and Zoom

To Apply:

Please indicate on your application if you are attending a Historically Black College or University (HBCU), Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), or 1994 Land Grant Institution.

Enrollment in one of these institution types is not required.

Send a cover letter and resume to susana@seedalliance.org by August 31, 2026.