



Rural Internship Objectives

SHARED GOALS

An RHMA RURAL INTERNSHIP provides a student with 6-10 weeks of practical, multigenerational ministry experience in a small, rural setting under the guidance of a seasoned ministry mentor of the same gender. The student will experience an authentic, incarnational ministry. The student will have the opportunity to develop leadership skills, further define their philosophy of ministry, and clarify their sense of calling by living among and working with healthy, rural ministry leaders serving with RHMA. The ministry mentor and host church will have the opportunity to practice disciple-making habits, hospitality, and shared leadership with a student who is eager to learn.

RHMA RESPONSIBILITIES

- Help connect a student with RHMA staff in an RHMA location
- Work through an application process with the student
- Provide \$3000 to help provide finances for the internship
- Provide a network for finding additional prayer and financial support partners

MENTOR AND HOST CHURCH RESPONSIBILITIES

- Secure free housing for intern for the duration of their internship
- Secure compensation for the intern by working with RHMA to determine appropriate amount and methods and any support raising the intern may be expected to do.
- Schedule 4 meals per week for intern (ideally with congregation members) (recommended, not required)
- Provide the intern with a discretionary ministry budget for breakfast/lunch/coffee meetings and ministry travel (recommended, not required)
- Facilitate and oversee the intern's ministry experiences (see 'Intern Responsibilities')
- Arrange ministry experiences for the intern in all following ways:
 - Prepare and teach at least 2 Bible lessons, with evaluation following
 - Organize at least 1 worship service, with evaluation following
 - Work with a team of church volunteers (VBS, outreach, etc.) and participate in team feedback at the conclusion
 - Participate in outreach with the church and/or ministry leader
 - Visit the sick, elderly, and/or shut-ins at the direction of the ministry leader
 - Observe church leadership meetings (as deemed appropriate by pastor)
 - Complete a cultural study to better understand the community
- Select and purchase 2 books for intern to read during and discuss with mentor during the internship (RHMA can provide recommendations)
- At the conclusion of the internship, facilitate a meeting and written feedback for the intern including constructive criticism, examples of strengths, and areas for growth



INTERN RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Sent well:** Have received affirmation from a local congregation regarding their support of this internship
- **Supported well:** Gather a prayer team for ongoing prayer needs during internship (and in some cases, a financial support team to contribute to their internship compensation)
- **Provide well:** Providing their own methods of transportation
- **Follow well:** Follow the leadership of the receiving church with humility, openness to learn, and willingness to serve
- **Complete well:** Complete approx. 18 hours/week of ministry service that include:
 - o Participation in ministry each Sunday
 - o 2 hours of personal, spiritual growth
 - o 1 hour of coaching
 - o 4 hours of ministry shadowing
 - o 2 hours of discipleship/outreach shadowing
 - o Lesson planning
 - o Meeting planning and participation
 - o Pastoral visits and care
 - o Attending various meetings
 - o Complete a cultural study on the surrounding area
- **Serve well:** Use additional time to either get a part-time job or volunteer in the community in order to gain relational/social experience in a rural setting