# PROJECT DESCRIPTION
## 2020 FALL/WINTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NPS UNIT: BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK</th>
<th>PD #: 2020432, 2020433</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Position Title:</strong> Natural Resource Interpretive Assistant (2)</td>
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<td><strong>Position Type:</strong> GIP Intern</td>
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<td><strong>Primary natural resource discipline:</strong> Multidisciplinary</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project keywords:</strong> Geology, Astronomy, Winter Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> Bryce, Utah</td>
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## COVID-19 NOTICE
This project description was developed prior to the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak. Therefore, project timelines and structure remain flexible and it may be necessary to postpone start dates, begin work remotely, or reformulate the project’s description. Should any development in the COVID-19 outbreak impair a project’s timeline or results, the GIP Team will work with the park and project mentors to assess the situation and determine the best course of action at that time.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

**Position Description:** This incumbent will be a primary part of the fall and winter season Division of Interpretation at Bryce Canyon. Duties will include completing original research to prepare and present interpretive programs about Bryce Canyon’s unique geology and natural resources. Programs will include geology talks and natural history walks or snowshoe tours. Duties will also include staffing the park Visitor Center and providing park information, working to further develop Bryce Canyon’s library of geological props and communication aids to improve interpretive programming. Interns will gain skills in interpretive program development, night sky star-gazing and telescope operation, as well as experience working with curriculum based education and school groups.

This intern will work directly with the visiting public at Bryce to help them better understand and appreciate the natural and cultural resources of Bryce, and work to improve the visitor experience and promote stewardship in our national parks. The intern will have individual projects to help develop interpretive and communication aids to help the public better understand geological processes in our parks. These aids will be used by future interpreters and interns.

The GIP will interpret the park’s fundamental values, purpose, significance to help create more stewards to help support and protect the NPS mission and its natural and cultural resources.

This position is offered through the National Park Service’s Geoscientists-in-the-Parks (GIP) Internship Program in partnership with Stewards Individual Placement Program (Stewards) and The Geological Society of America (GSA).

**Work Products:**
- Intern will develop 2 communication aids (diagram, poster, demonstration, etc.) that can be used to describe geological process in the park. This will be accompanied by a Standard Operating Procedure and Program Plan.
- Intern will have completed a 3 day Interpretive Foundation Training and 10 hours of telescope operation experience.
- The intern will assist 2,000 visitors in the visitor center and/or during programs over the course of 20 weeks.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

Public Speaking, Higher education course work in Geology, Astronomy, Biology or other natural resources, Customer Service, Background or experience in education or interpretation.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident (“green-card-holder”) between the ages of 18 and 30 years old, inclusive, or veteran up to age 35. Prior to starting this position, a government security background clearance will be required.

**VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Applicant must have a valid driver license and a good driving record.** Intern will drive government vehicles to interpretive program locations.

**A personal vehicle is RECOMMENDED but not required for this position.** A personal vehicle is not required to report to work but is recommended because the closest grocery store is a 15 minute drive, and most staff travel 1.5 hours to get to larger grocery stores. While Bryce Canyon is remote and having a person vehicle is preferred for off time to explore the area and to get groceries, the housing area is 1 mile from the office. Intern could walk to and from work. During winter months, it is frequently in the single digits in the early mornings and afternoons. It is a short walk, but interns would need warm winter gear.

If the GIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, Stewards will perform a driving records search, and the GIP’s ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. GIPs will have to have had their license for 3 years or be over the age of 21 to be insured as drivers under Stewards insurance policy. Examples of things that will preclude a GIP from driving a park vehicle include: GIP under the age of 21 years old that has been licensed less than three years, DUIs, multiple moving vehicle violations, suspended or revoked license, or three or more accidents (regardless of fault) in the last 3 years. If the driver’s search is favorable, Stewards will provide driver’s liability insurance while the intern is driving a NPS vehicle for their GIP position. If the GIP is denied coverage by Stewards, they will not be permitted to drive during work hours.

**HOUSING**

**Park housing is available and will be provided at no cost to the participant.** Housing provied will include a shared room or private room depending on availability single, in a 2-3 bedroom apartment or home, with shared bathroom, kitchen, and living space. Intern must bring bedding (twin xlong), basic kitchen supplies (coffee pot,, pots/ pans, utensils, plates, cups, etc.)

**INTERNSHIP DATES**

**Start Date:** 11/1/2020  
**Number of weeks:** 20 weeks  
**Flexibility of dates:** Yes

**LIVING ALLOWANCE**

20 weeks ($350/week = $7,000)

**RELOCATION ALLOWANCE**

$250

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLOWANCE**

$1000
AMERICORPS PROGRAM

AmeriCorps is a program that engages individuals in intensive community service work with the goal of “helping others and meeting critical needs in the community”. The GIP Program is supported through AmeriCorps by providing a Segal Education Award in addition to the GIP’s living stipend and relocation allowance.

Upon successful completion of the GIP position, the GIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a $1,612 - $6,095 pre-tax education award that can be used for paying back student loans or for continuing their education. The amount of the education award is based on the length of the position.

AmeriCorps limits the number of terms an individual can serve to 4 terms. If an applicant has previously completed 4 GIP or other AmeriCorps positions, they will not be eligible to apply for an additional GIP position.

NATURAL AND PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

Natural Environment: Bryce Canyon is at 8,000 feet and during the fall and winter temperature can get as high as the high 40s, to the single digits. We frequently get more than 100° of snow. The park is located in remote Southern UT. The nearest small towns are Bryce, UT and Tropic, UT with small grocery stores, a hardware store, and gas stations and few restaurants. The larger community of Panguitch has a hospital, library, and larger grocery store. Most local travel to Cedar City (90 miles) for larger grocery runs.

Physical Work Environment: At 8,000 feet, Bryce has cold winters and weather can be severe. Interns will give programs in winter weather in temperatures between 10 degrees to 65+ degrees. Duties will include roving and walking regularly in all weather conditions. Snowshoes hikes and walks will be given up to 3 miles, with 200 feet elevation change. The main duty station is the Headquarters building that houses the interpretive offices and the Visitor Center. Work will include standing for 4-5 hour shifts and answering repetitive questions. Interns will use a shared computer bank but will have private drawers and lockers for personal item storage. There is library for a quiet work space and a shared work room.

MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS

Mentoring: The park’s supervisory park ranger will train and mentor staff by proving a 1-week orientation and training, review program outlines and provide coaching sessions to improve park programs and projects. GIPs will work with seasonal park rangers to develop programs and communication aids.

Learning Goals: New skills will include interpretive programming development, telescope operation, NPS mission, and interpretation foundations. Interns will learn the communication techniques and tools to engage audiences and help visitor understand complex natural resource processes. Interns will develop skills in public speaking and customer service. Interns will also learn about the internal workings of a National Park.

SUPERVISORS/MENTORS

Primary:
Todd Cullings
Interpretive Supervisor
PO Box 640201
Bryce, UT 84764
(435) 834-4743 | todd_cullings@nps.gov
www.nps.gov/brca

Secondary:
Amanda Cochran
Deputy Chief of Interpretation
PO Box 640201
Bryce, UT 84764
(435) 834-4742 | amanda_cochran@nps.gov
www.nps.gov/brca