Ogallala Commons is a 501c3 nonprofit organization offering education and leadership to reinvigorate Great Plains communities. Centered over the vast High Plain-Ogallala Aquifer, our outreach also stretches westward to the Rocky Mountain foothills and eastward to the river-braided prairies of the Midwest. Learn more at our website: www.ogallalacommons.org

Since 2007, Ogallala Commons has created over 300 internships and apprenticeships that provided candidates with work experience and professional skill-building--essential for transitioning to the realities and requirements of a full-time career. Our internships or apprenticeships, though like a job, are actually work training instead of job employment.

OC Community Internships range from 200-240 hours over 8-12 weeks, but can be spread across a 6-9 month time frame.

OC Community Apprentices are longer than internships: 500-600 hours. OC builds apprenticeships when a candidate and the partner are ready and willing to create a pathway to a full-time job.

OC Community Interns and Apprentices gain work experience in a wide variety of career fields, such as:

- assisting economic development directors with revitalization projects
- shadowing in rural hospitals to gain nursing experience
- planning and conducting community festivals and fairs
- researching and writing grant proposals
- delivering educational programs for youth and adults
- building local history exhibits for communities
- wildlife monitoring and natural resource conservation projects
- developing community gardens and community health outreach
## 2016 COMMUNITY INTERN & APPRENTICE LEVELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Stipend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school intern (200 max. hours @ $9 per hour)</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Intern (230 hours @ $10 per hour)</td>
<td>$2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Adult or Grad Student Intern (240 hours at $11 per hour)</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Apprentice (500-600 hours @ $10 per hour)</td>
<td>$5,000-6,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to work experience hours, OC requires interns and apprentices to complete 8 Products that equip them with professional tools and references:

- Attend an Orientation Retreat in Dumas, Texas on June 7-8, 2016
- Craft and execute a Work Plan
- Publish 5 online blogs with 10 photos during program time frame
- Conduct an “Commonwealth Mapping” exercise
- Do 10 hours of Community Service
- Prepare Internship Portfolio (via PowerPoint)
- Present a Harvesting Ceremony (using Portfolio slides)
- Submit an Evaluation of the internship or apprenticeship and receive an evaluation from your Supervisor

## WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INTERNSHIP OR APPRENTICESHIP?

Be a member of a cohort working in 8 states (Colorado, Kansas, South Dakota, Nebraska, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Wyoming). Wherever you are located, be connected to other youth and older adults who are passionate about building up community assets, while honing skills and exploring career options.

Learn about Commonwealth: Pathways to Careers

Commonwealth is a set of assets that every community already has, and OC views commonwealth as a foundation for building careers and enterprises, as well as vibrant communities. To learn more, check out this site: [http://ogallalacommons.org/about-us/commonwealth/](http://ogallalacommons.org/about-us/commonwealth/)

Build your Network

In today’s world, it is not just a case of “what you know” but “who you know.” People whom you meet can open doors and inspire key insights. From the Orientation Retreat through the Harvesting Ceremony, our program focuses on building connections between an ever-expanding circle of people.

## WHY SHOULD I DO AN OC INTERNSHIP OR APPRENTICESHIP?

## HOW DO I APPLY?

You can apply on our webpage using this link: [http://ogallalacommons.org/get-involved/apply-for-an-internship/](http://ogallalacommons.org/get-involved/apply-for-an-internship/)

You can also contact Shelby Thibodeaux, OC Intern & Apprentice Coordinator (713) 480 - 4908 shelby@ogallalacommons.org www.ogallalacommons.org