

Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Business Development Internship

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Business Development Division is seeking an intern for the spring of 2027 (January 18, 2027 – April 14, 2027). The selected candidate will receive hands-on experience with programs and initiatives that work to grow Tennessee's economy through agriculture and connect Tennessee agricultural producers with consumers across the state and nation.

Location:

Ellington Agricultural Center
Holeman Building
424 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN 37220

Major Duties:

Agribusiness Consultant Shadowing and Field Exposure:

- Spend at minimum one day assisting and shadowing each Agribusiness Development Consultant and Regional Consultant to gain exposure to agriculture business development initiatives across Tennessee.
- Shadow department livestock grader to observe livestock grading procedures, market reporting, and the role of grading services in supporting Tennessee producers.
- Participate in meetings, site visits, and other business development activities as scheduling permits.

Research and Outreach:

- Under the guidance of Business Development staff with market research on Tennessee-made agricultural and forestry-related producers.
- Assist with outreach and promotional initiatives such as Pick Tennessee Products.
- Support Business Development staff with communications, research, administrative coordination, and logistics when needed.

Other duties may be assigned as needed.

Education Requirements:

- Applicants must possess a high school diploma and be currently pursuing a degree in agricultural marketing, agricultural business, agricultural communications, or another related field.
- Recent college graduates, master's students, and doctoral students may apply.
- Applicants must be in good academic standing with a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

Essential Knowledge and Required Skills:

- Applicants must be a self-starter.
- Strong interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills.
- Ability to plan and execute projects with limited supervision.
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office.
- General knowledge and understanding of agriculture and forestry systems is preferred.

Comments:

- This is a paid internship.
- Some travel may be required.
- This internship is part of the TDA's central internship program. In addition to regular project work, interns may be expected to participate in internship-specific events and activities that support learning, professional development, department outreach, and program engagement.
- All participants in the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Internship Program are required to complete an improvement project within their assigned division. Interns will identify an opportunity for growth, develop a project outline, and explain the project's intended outcomes and contributions to the Department. At the conclusion of the internship term, participants will present their projects to Executive Leadership during a luncheon.
- For more information on the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Business Development Division please visit: <https://www.tn.gov/agbusinessdevelopment>.

Working Conditions:

- This internship is primarily office-based but requires regular travel, with the possibility of remote work at times.



How to Apply:

To apply for this internship opportunity, please send the following documents to

Jamye.Freeman@tn.gov:

- Resume
- Letter of intent
- Most recent transcript
- Two professional letters of recommendation
- DD214 (**veteran candidates only**)

PLEASE NOTE: Once your application has been received, you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please reach out to Jamye.Freeman@tn.gov.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2026.

Other Information:

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's Workplace Discrimination and Harassment policy, the State is firmly committed to the principle of fair and equal employment opportunities for its citizens and strives to protect the rights and opportunities of all people to seek, obtain, and hold employment without being subjected to illegal discrimination and harassment in the workplace. It is the State's policy to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment of an individual because of that person's race, color, national origin, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.