



## GIS Internship

*Center for Resource Planning and Management (CRPM)*

*Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG)*

**Location:** Springfield, Missouri

**Internship Period:** One year (preferred); one to two years ideal; shorter terms may be considered

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## About CRPM & SMCOG

Missouri State University's Center for Resource Planning and Management (CRPM) is an applied research center within MSU's School of Earth, Environment, and Sustainability (SEES).

It is the specific mission of MSU's Center for Resource Planning and Management (CRPM) to:

- Provide public outreach services in planning and community development and to assist in development of public policy on resource utilization
- Enhance and support the University's academic programs in planning by providing undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity for hands-on participation in community planning and development projects
- Support and create opportunities for applied research and continuing professional development in the field of planning.

The CRPM supports Missouri State University's mission of producing educated persons and providing public service, with a focus on the University's themes of [public affairs](#) and economic development.

CRPM is the administrative agent for the **Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG)**, an association of local governments across a 10-county region. SMCOG is one of Missouri's regional planning commissions, supporting 88 cities, villages, and counties through planning services, grant assistance, regional coordination, and policy development. CRPM staff provide the day-to-day professional services to support SMCOG's mission, including GIS mapping and analysis.

## Position Summary

CRPM/SMCOG is seeking a motivated GIS Intern to support mapping and spatial analysis for a variety of local and regional planning projects. This is a paid, part-time internship intended for students pursuing a degree in geography, geospatial sciences, planning, public administration, environmental science, or a related field.

The GIS Intern will assist staff in creating and editing maps, conducting spatial analysis, managing geospatial data, and preparing visual materials for reports and public meetings. The internship is ideal for students interested in applying GIS in a real-world, multi-disciplinary planning environment.

## Example Projects

Interns may work on a variety of planning projects that support local governments and regional priorities, including:

- Creating maps for **comprehensive plans**, such as land use, zoning, and future growth areas
- Supporting **hazard mitigation plans** with maps of floodplains, hazard events, and critical facilities
- Preparing **transportation plans** by mapping crash data, traffic counts, and sidewalk networks
- Assisting with **environmental reviews** and public infrastructure project maps
- Supporting regional grant applications with location-based data visualizations

## What You'll Learn

This internship offers practical experience that complements classroom learning and prepares students for professional roles in the public or private sector. Interns will:

- Gain experience in **ESRI ArcGIS Pro**, ArcGIS Online, and basic cartographic principles
- Learn **proper file organization**, data management, and metadata documentation
- Work in a professional office setting with a collaborative team
- Engage with **local government officials and regional stakeholders**
- Understand how to **translate raw data into meaningful visual representations**
- Observe the inner workings of **regional planning efforts and public policy**
- Gain exposure to **state and federal programs**, including FEMA, MoDOT, and EDA initiatives

## Qualifications

- Enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program related to geography, GIS, planning, or a related field
- Familiarity with ArcGIS or similar GIS software
- Strong attention to detail and interest in community planning and public service
- Willingness to learn, take initiative, and communicate effectively

## Schedule & Compensation

- Flexible schedule based on student availability (typically around 20 hours/week during the semester with a minimum of 12 hours per week)
- Located at the CRPM/SMCOG office in MSU's Roy Blunt Hall
- Paid hourly; rate commensurate with experience and university guidelines (min. \$13.75/hour)

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## To Apply:

Please submit a résumé and brief cover letter expressing your interest in the GIS Internship to

[AishwaryaShrestha@MissouriState.edu](mailto:AishwaryaShrestha@MissouriState.edu)