



2026/27 Internship Program

Chugach National Forest Avalanche Center

Position: Avalanche Center Intern

Location: Glacier Ranger District, 145 Forest Station Road, Girdwood, AK
and/or Seward Ranger District, 33599 Ranger Station Spur, Moose Pass, AK
Chugach National Forest Avalanche Center, chugachavalanche.org

Timeframe: Minimum 12-week commitment (between December 2026 and April 2027)

Objective: This internship opportunity is open to students and aspiring snow/avalanche professionals seeking experience from a Forest Service Avalanche Center.

Requirements:

- A3 certified Pro 1 avalanche education (or equivalent).
- Current WFR, OEC (or equivalent) medical skills and competent rescue skills.
- Ski and snowmachine in steep mountainous terrain and enjoy rugged winter conditions.
- Operating mountain snowmachines is required and previous mountain riding is a plus!
- Professional goal towards snow science, avalanche forecasting or associated fields.
- Proficient in avalanche companion rescue and safe travel protocol
- Computer skills (i.e. interpreting weather station data, snow pilot, editing/annotating photos)

Benefits/Compensation: A stipend of \$100/day worked will be provided. Housing is available at the Glacier Ranger District bunkhouse (Girdwood) and the Seward Ranger District bunkhouse (Moose Pass). The intern will gain experience in daily avalanche center operations, field observations, avalanche forecasting, and public outreach events hosted by the avalanche center.

Expectations: Intern must participate as a field partner, write field observations, join in weekly stability meetings, assist in office work such as compiling weather/avalanche data, and share in other avalanche center duties. Intern must be available for 3-5 days per week for a minimum of a 3-month period. Completion of an internship project is optional. This would be a self-tailored task culminating with a written paper or article.

To apply: Send a cover letter and resume to Andrew Schauer at staff@chugachavalanche.org. Cover letter should include 1) pertinent background information, 2) reason of interest, 3) skills/knowledge hoped to be gained, and 4) how the program can assist with future goals. Resume should include 1) pertinent snow/avalanche experience and 2) three references.

Application period closes June 30, 2026

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