

# SEFRC QUARTERLY

## 2010 Conference: Making a Difference in Federal Employment

The 2010 Annual Conference of the Southeastern Federal Recruiting Council (SEFRC) is quickly approaching! You are cordially invited to join SEFRC on July 13-16, 2010 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Fla. to learn more about “Making a Difference in Federal Employment.”

SEFRC is busy preparing an exciting conference agenda for the July session. Tentative panels and presentations at the conference will include:

- Student internship opportunities;
- Advising on federal applications;
- Updates to the federal hiring process; and
- Opportunities in law enforcement.

Also, for the first time in SEFRC conference history, the organization will host a Friday morning networking session for participants. Colleges, universities and federal agencies from across the United States will be

represented, making this a unique and important networking and learning opportunity.

As it has in past years, SEFRC has teamed up with the Southern Association of Colleges and Employers (SoACE) to prepare a pre-conference session on July 13 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel. To register for the 2010 SEFRC conference or for the SoACE pre-conference session, please visit [www.sefrc.org](http://www.sefrc.org). The registration deadline is April 1, 2010, but we recommend that you register as soon as possible. For reservations and a hotel overview, please visit [www.rosenplaza.com](http://www.rosenplaza.com). If you have questions about the conference agenda or are interested in serving as a panelist, please contact Lola Andrade, Vice President of SEFRC ([Lola.Andrade@jwu.edu](mailto:Lola.Andrade@jwu.edu)).



### USAJobs Redesign

In January, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management launched a redesigned version of USAJobs. Among the updates are:

- Streamlined format for job vacancy announcements;
- Improvements to search tools, yielding more accurate results;
- A facelift to the design of the Web site, incorporating more white space and simple search capabilities; and
- Additional resources for students, veterans, executives and people with disabilities.

Also of note is the absorption of [www.studentjobs.gov](http://www.studentjobs.gov), previously the main resource for current students interested in federal opportunities. Resources for current students can now be found at [www.usajobs.gov/studentjobs](http://www.usajobs.gov/studentjobs).

To see the new USAJobs Web site, visit [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

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 UNDERSTANDING STUDENT AND ENTRY-LEVEL HIRING PROGRAMS

With summer coming quickly, many students and soon-to-be graduates have started to look for summer opportunities and full-time employment. The federal government has several programs to hire students and entry-level talent, but sometimes the acronyms can be confusing for applicants and advisors alike. Here are some brief descriptions of student and entry-level programs used widely by federal agencies:



**Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP):**

Traditional internship program for current students. Provides substantive work experience on a part-time or full-time basis. STEP internships do not have to be related to what the student is studying.

**Student Career Experience Program (SCEP):** Career-oriented internship program that can lead to noncompetitive conversion after the completion of 640 hours (sometimes less with outstanding academic achievement or performance on the

job) on a part-time or full-time schedule. Must be related to the student's course of study. Formal agreement is required between university and agency.

**Federal Career Intern Program (FCIP):** Targeted toward recent graduates at the GS-5, 7 and 9 levels. Available in many federal agencies and offers a more streamlined application process. Typically two-year rotations in an agency or between agencies with a particular focus on professional development. More information about FCIP positions can be found on specific agency Web sites. Eligible for permanent conversion at the end of the FCIP term.

TIP: For more information on student and entry-level hiring programs, visit [www.usajobs.gov/studentjobs](http://www.usajobs.gov/studentjobs).

**Presidential Management Fellowship (PMF):** The federal government's most prestigious fellowship program. Application window is in the fall (typically in October). Applicants must be in their final year of a graduate program and must receive a nomination from their college or university to be considered. Prepares the next generation of leaders in government by offering professional development and rotations in one agency or among several agencies. Eligible for permanent conversion at the end of the PMF term.

While this list represents the major student and entry-level programs that can be found across the federal government, some agencies have their own unique programs. And while unpaid internships are often difficult for students to take, they too often invaluable work experience and networking opportunities. More information about agency-specific programs and volunteer opportunities can be found on individual agency Web sites. A complete index of agency Web sites is available at [www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov).

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 JOIN THE DISCUSSION

The *SEFRC Quarterly* is a place to share news and events related to federal service.

Do you have great event or idea to feature in *SEFRC Quarterly*? Please contact Jennifer Carignan, Secretary of the Southeastern Federal Recruiting Council, at [jcarignan@ourpublicservice.org](mailto:jcarignan@ourpublicservice.org) with your suggestions!

## Calendar of Events

### March 24, 2010

University of Georgia  
Government and Nonprofit Career Fair  
<http://www.career.uga.edu/govtnonprofitcareerfair.html>

### March 25, 2010

Appalachian State University  
Making a Difference Career Fair  
<http://careers.appstate.edu/pagesmith/308>

### April 13, 2010

Georgia Association of Colleges & Employers  
College to Career Fair  
<http://www.gace.org/careerfair>

### July 13-16, 2010

Southeastern Federal Recruiting Council  
Annual Conference  
<http://www.sefrc.org>

## WEB SITES OF INTEREST

The following Web sites may be of assistance to you as you advise students and make connections with federal agencies and universities:

**USAJobs:** Premier Web site for federal employment. Also contains information about student and entry-level programs.

**USA.gov:** Central resource with links to all official federal agency Web sites.

**Making the Difference:** The Partnership for Public Service's one-stop resource for internship- and job-seekers. Provides tips on navigating USAJobs, preparing KSA essays, developing a federal resume and much more.

**Call to Serve:** The Partnership for Public Service's homepage for career advisors and federal agencies. Provides advising resources as well as directories of agency and university contacts for networking.

**OPM:** Official Web site of the Office of Personnel Management. Offers information for federal agencies, advisors and job seekers on federal human resources.

**SEFRC:** Homepage of the Southeastern Federal Recruiting Council.

**NACE:** Official Web site of the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

## 2010 CONFERENCE: CALL FOR SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

The 2010 Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla. will offer a prime opportunity for federal employees and university professionals to share their knowledge and expertise related to federal recruitment.

If you are interested in presenting at the 2010 Conference, please contact Lola Andrade, Vice President of the Southeastern Federal Recruiting Council at [Lola.Andrade@jwu.edu](mailto:Lola.Andrade@jwu.edu).

We hope to see you in Orlando!

## Student Opportunities

### STUDENT TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

WHERE: Office of the Inspector General,  
Department of Defense  
USAJOBS CONTROL NUMBER: 1830586  
DEADLINE: March 31

### STUDENT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

WHERE: Middletown U.S. Export Assistance Center (International Trade Administration)  
APPLICATION: <http://www.buyusa.gov/connecticut/studentinternships.html>  
DEADLINE: May 31

### ENGINEERING AIDE (SUMMER STUDENT HIRE)

WHERE: Department Of The Navy  
USAJOBS CONTROL NUMBER: 1822570  
DEADLINE: May 19

### PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWS PROGRAM

WHERE: Partnership for Public Service  
APPLICATION: <http://apps.ourpublicservice.org/fellows/default.aspx>

See Web site for fall deadline.