



## Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

2230 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, MI  
(734) 971-6337  
[washtenaw.org/parks](http://washtenaw.org/parks)

### **Paid Internship Available: Blacksmith**

Do you appreciate the blacksmithing arts? Enjoy working with metal, hand tools, and fire? Does the idea of teaching a folk craft sound amazing? Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission and the Michigan Folk School has a unique opportunity for the right individual to assist in elevating our blacksmithing program. We are looking for a Folk School Blacksmith intern to learn the craft of the smith and to help teach entry level classes. This is an excellent opportunity to utilize your creativity, build experience in traditional craft, and to learn from a Master Instructor at the Michigan Folk School.

### **Scope of Work**

- Assist with the execution of blacksmithing classes
- Brainstorm and research ideas for historical content and context
- Submit monthly reflection entries illustrating development advances
- Develop new strategies for increasing engagement
- Problem solve student issues on the spot by correcting technique
- Learn the capabilities of blacksmithing materials and tools
- Create several smithed items under the guidance of the Master Instructor(s)

### **Qualifications**

1. Familiarity with metal arts of any kind, hand tool experience a plus
2. Ability to accept constructive criticism and to learn from problem areas
3. Being able to effectively communicate blacksmithing techniques across different learning styles
4. Strong grasp of time management
5. Ability to work alone as well as in groups
6. Capacity to be introspective and to reflect and evaluate quality of performance

### **Location**

Hybrid work environment. While this position allows for some remote work, most of the study will be at the Staebler Farm County Park/Michigan Folk School and this transportation is required. Attendance and assistant participation in a variety of blacksmithing classes will be necessary.

### **Time Commitment**

Internship to be completed within two years of start date. Completion would equal a minimum of 100 hours and a maximum of 130 hours.

### **Rate**

The pay for this internship is \$15+/hour

WCPARC can tailor this internship to align with college credits or independent study

### **How to Apply?**

Submit application at <https://www.mifolkschool.com/intern-apprenticeship-program.html>



**Michigan Folk School  
Blacksmith  
Intern-Apprenticeship Program**



**Cost Breakdown**

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Apprentice Hours	120 hours
Apprentice Pay Rate	<u>\$15 per hour</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1800</b>

Master Instructor Hours	30 hours
Master Instructor Pay Rate	<u>\$30 per hour</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$900</b>

Materials/Supplies	\$200
Discretionary Fund	\$150
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$350</b>

<b>Cost of Program:</b>	<b>\$3050</b>
<b>Off-set Cost:</b>	<b>\$840</b>
<b>TOTAL Cost of Program:</b>	<b>\$2210</b>

**Program Breakdown**

Class Hours:	4 Blacksmithing 101 classes: 24 hours	
	2 Forging Classes: 12 hours	
	3 Bladesmithing Classes: 36 hours	
	1 Intermediate Smith Class: 8 hours	
		80 hours
Apprentice & Master Instructor Hours		25 hours
Individual Study Hours		15 hours
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120 hours</b>

**Off-Set Program Cost**

Apprentice to teach	
1 Blacksmithing 101	\$420
1 Forging	\$210
1 Bladesmithing	\$210
	<b><u>\$840</u></b>