

WAMA Internship Grant

WAMA has established an internship grant to assist airports in funding internship salaries and activities. The purpose of the grant is to. The grant can be applied to an existing airport internship program or to the establishment of a new program. The purpose of the grant is to encourage airports to establish and maintain internship programs in support of the development of future airport professionals. Internships are very valuable to both the airport and the interns. The airport receives the benefit of additional help with airport operation, maintenance and development tasks and the intern receives the benefit of experience from being involved in these tasks. Internships are not very readily available to students in the aviation field and there is a need to provide incentives and financial support to encourage the establishment and enhancement of additional internship programs. Any airport with an existing internship program or an interest in establishing one can apply for the \$1,000 WAMA internship grant. **One internship per year will be awarded to one WAMA member airport.** Emphasis will be placed on development of new internship programs at member airports.

The guidelines for the internship are quite broad to allow the receiving airport maximum flexibility in applying the internship grant funds. Flexibility is needed so that the program can be as effective as possible. The funds can be used to cover part of the internship salary or for other activities such as attendance at aviation conferences. It can be more difficult for some airports to receive budget approval for special activities than for intern salaries. The WAMA grant can be most helpful by funding those activities that are more difficult for the airport to fund. The grant funding level will be \$1,000 per year for the one airport deemed to be the most deserving of the internship grant. The selection of the airport to receive funding will be made by the WAMA Scholarship Committee. Consideration in selection will be given first to airports that have not recently received this award. Subject to that, the award will be made to the airport that:

- can demonstrate the greatest benefit to the prospective intern
- can demonstrate the most benefit from having an intern
- has the greatest financial need to support the internship program

Two airports that have internship programs are Paine Field and Arlington Municipal Airport. Contact them to learn more about internships and for advice on the application and selection process they use for interns at their airport: