

## Position Announcement – GIS Specialist – Lexington, KY

Offered By: **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service & student conservation association**

**6-month GIS Internship position (with potential for permanent position)**



### About

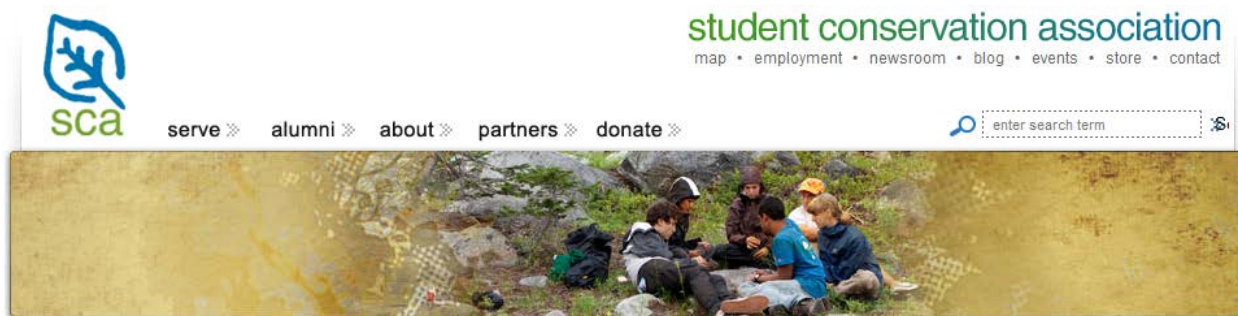
Originally established by Congress in 1935 as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), NRCS has expanded to become a conservation leader for all natural resources, ensuring private lands are conserved, restored, and more resilient to environmental challenges, like climate change.

Seventy percent of the land in the United States is privately owned, making stewardship by private landowners absolutely critical to the health of our Nation's environment.

NRCS works with landowners through conservation planning and assistance designed to benefit the soil, water, air, plants, and animals that result in productive lands and healthy ecosystems.

### Mission Statement

NRCS is an agency committed to "helping people help the land"—our mission is to provide resources to farmers and landowners to aid them with conservation. Ensuring productive lands in harmony with a healthy environment is our priority. With operations in the United States, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Guam, our agency touches the lives of a diverse range of individuals.



### About

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is America's conservation corps. Our members protect and restore national parks, marine sanctuaries, cultural landmarks and community green spaces in all 50 states.

### Mission Statement

SCA's mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of our environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land.

### Conservation begins here

Tens of thousands of green professionals, from park superintendents to urban planners, can trace their start to SCA. This is where college and high school students connect with nature, render hands-on service, gain new skills and perspectives, and launch a lifetime of stewardship.

### SCA Conservation Internships

Ages 18+ Expense-paid, year-round conservation internships.

Each year, SCA places over 2,000 interns in a diverse array of businesses, public land agencies and nonprofit organizations throughout the U.S. With a staggering array of conservation, environmental and sustainability-based internships available, find the one that allows you to do the type of work you dream of doing. *(Over for details)*

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is partnering with NRCS-KY to provide a 6-month, expense-paid GIS internship. SCA helps recruit a national pool of applicants, and then helps them complete his or her online application. Finally, SCA will prescreen candidates; NRCS-KY will select specific candidates from the pool to interview & make the actual selection for this position. Expected start date: January 2014.



## GIS Specialist

Lexington, KY, known as the Horse Capitol of the world lies in the Kentucky's Bluegrass Region and is home to the University of Kentucky.

The incumbent will serve as an assistant to the State GIS Specialist. One of the responsibilities of the State GIS Specialist is to provide strong support and guidance to project planning in acquisition of appropriate resource data and application of GIS, GPS, and database acquisition. It is important that the individual have a strong background in Natural Resource Conservation Planning. A critical objective of this training position would be to provide KY-NRCS with a candidate who is recently 'GIS-trained' and well-versed in emerging GIS technologies and skills. Kentucky NRCS is currently pursuing the innovative use of new high-resolution elevation data derived from LiDAR (Light-Detection & Ranging) data. Therefore, a candidate with a good working knowledge of utilizing new GIS tools involving LiDAR would be extremely valuable to KY-NRCS to help us gain new expertise. We hope to have a candidate highly capable of assisting us in this new endeavor to further implement practical GIS applications to make efficient use LiDAR and other emerging GIS technology.

### Quick Facts

**Site Name:** NRCS Kentucky  
**State:** KY  
**Location:** Lexington  
**Headline:**  
The NRCS goal is to help landowners maintain healthy and productive working landscapes. Geographic Information Systems are a critical tool used by NRCS to accomplish its goal.  
**Position Code (PO):**  
PO-00407650  
**Organization:** Government  
**Agency:** Natural Resource Conservation Service  
**Start Date:** Fri, 01/10/2014  
**End Date:** Thu, 07/31/2014

### ***Preferred Education:***

A bachelor's degree in GIS, cartography, computer science, geography, or other GIS related field OR a GIS certificate from an accredited institution with a minimum of three (3) years of related professional experience. A minor or emphasis in Environmental Studies/Natural Resources is preferred.

### ***Specific Skills, Knowledge and Abilities We Seek:***

Proficiency in ArcGIS v10.0 or higher, including experience with file geodatabases  
Strong knowledge of ArcGIS extensions, including Spatial Analyst  
Experience with Python (ArcPy) scripting language to customize/automate GIS tasks  
Working knowledge of ArcGIS Server/web-based GIS tools is preferred

### **To Apply: Apply on-line thru SCA:**

- Go to 'The Student Conservation Association' website: <http://www.TheSCA.org/>
- Search "GIS Specialist KY" (the Position Code is: PO-00407650)
- Review position details
- A \$25 setup/application fee will be due (once per person per lifetime with SCA)
- Complete/update your on-line Application on the SCA website