

GIS is the Future

GIS (Geographic Information Systems) technology is one of the hottest new tools in education and research and is one of the fastest growing high-tech careers for students today. GIS training helps students develop computer literacy, analytical approaches to problem solving, and communication and presentation skills.



Geography is a framework for organizing our global knowledge, and GIS is a technology that allows you to create, manage, publish, and disseminate this knowledge for all of society.

Why 4-H?



4-H is a nationally recognized youth development organization built on volunteerism and partnership with WSU Extension.

4-H is a national grant partner of ESRI. ESRI has more than 4,000 skilled employees worldwide who work with hundreds of business partners and tens of thousands of users.

4-H is also the bridge between several educational and state partners who help deliver this program. Partners include WSU Extension Programs, Mt. Baker Ranger District, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Ecology.



4-H GIS Internship



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Map your Future

The 4-H GIS Internship

Whatcom County High school juniors and seniors are encouraged to apply for this exciting opportunity to learn valuable skills and apply them in their own communities. This project easily qualifies as a senior project in most schools.*

Here's how the program works:

- Apply
- You are matched with a GIS mentor from the professional GIS community
- Complete a minimum 42 hours self-study online certification course in current GIS technology.
- Partner with a local community group or school GIS team collecting data.
- Assist your team in presenting their findings publicly.

*consult your guidance staff



Prerequisite Skills

- A strong interest in technology and innovation
- Experience using database and spreadsheet software
- Strong problem solving, analytic skills
- Self-motivated

This project will provide you with training and tools, leadership experience and opportunities for development and recognition in a fast growing career field.



Moving Beyond

Following your final project there may be additional community possibilities available to successful program participants such as:

- Professional Internships with partnering organizations.
- Leadership positions in GIS Summer Camps for youth
- County and community-based research opportunities
- Opportunities to showcase and network at National conferences.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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