

Student Volunteer Program with the State University of New York at Albany

Due to COVID restriction, the WFO Albany summer volunteer program will be virtual during the summer of 2021. A weekly severe weather forecast and weekly aviation forecast will be issued, and discussed with the group on Fridays via google meet. Volunteers will meet with staff via google meet to discuss careers and focal point activities. A curricula of materials will be assigned to the students in the commerce learning center.

The National Weather Service at Albany has a long-standing program hosting student volunteers at our office. Details:

The NWS at Albany typically hosts from 2 to 6 volunteers per semester. Positions are open to current students enrolled in an undergraduate meteorology program. Preference is typically given to upperclassmen in their sophomore to senior years. Volunteer opportunities are available throughout the year. These are unpaid positions. Volunteers typically work from 6 to 12 hours per week.

Activities include learning and assisting with our upper-air balloon launches, quality control of data, assist in creation of forecast discussions, decision support briefings, aviation forecasts and climate reports.

Volunteers will also work on a research project, training on severe weather forecaster using our weather event simulator, and will job shadow and observe forecasters during high-impact weather scenarios.

Additional possible activities include a field trip to our radar site, hydrologic sites such as river gages and dams, spotter talks and a trip to the New York State Emergency Operations Center. Anyone interested should contact: Michael Evans at the NWS in Albany (Michael.evans@noaa.gov) or Ross Lazear at the State University of New York at Albany (rlazear@albany.edu)