



Public radio from Western Michigan University
102.1 FM NPR News | 89.9 Classical WMUK

WMUK News Internship Program

WMUK-FM seeks the right candidates for a 26-week, 10-hours-per-week, paid internships in its news department. The internship is offered during the fall and spring semesters at WMU. The person(s) chosen will work closely with WMUK's award-winning news department to research, report, write, produce, and present audio news content for the station's broadcast service and its website.

Required qualifications: Successful candidates will show an understanding of basic journalistic principles; a "nose for news"; an ability to write clear, compelling stories for radio; a willingness to work with an editor to revise stories; an ability to operate computers, digital audio recorders, digital cameras, and other electronic equipment, when training is provided; and 10 hours each week to devote to the internship.

Preferred qualifications: Previous journalism experience.

Compensation: \$10.50/hour (Level SE-2); no benefits.

This position reports to WMUK's News Director, although the person chosen will also work closely with, and be supervised by, other members of the station's news department.

Candidates must submit a completed application to sehvilla.mann@wmich.edu by Monday, March 27, 2023.



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NEWS INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

LOCAL ADDRESS: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

SEMESTERS APPLIED FOR: _____

ENROLLED WMU STUDENT?

I AM CURRENTLY A: _____ (Select one)

DO YOU HAVE DIGITAL AUDIO EDITING EXPERIENCE?

DO YOU HAVE JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE OUTSIDE OF CLASS WORK?

IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE BRIEFLY: _____

Email this form to: sehvilla.mann@wmich.edu or send by regular mail to: Sehvilla Mann, News Director,
WMUK-FM, Friedmann Hall, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI
49008-5351

WMUK internship application – examples and exercises

1. Dear Applicant: please share up to three examples of your best journalistic work, or your best writing if you haven't filed news reports. Send links and/or attached files sehvilla.mann@wmich.edu . Then, on this form, please answer two questions: What are you most proud of as you look back at this work? What if anything would you do differently?

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2. Your editor has asked you to interview South Haven Assistant City Manager Griffin Graham about an item she saw on the 1/17/2022 City Council agenda:

The City Council will be asked to consider the formation of an Ad Hoc committee to review possible regulations of houseboats and floating homes in the City of South Haven. (Navigate to page 2 of the 1/17/22 meeting after clicking on this link: <https://southhavencitymi.documents-on-demand.com/?l=c01096b23658e71180be001fbc00ed85&r=6642417D7A0B5C8F54D3B2DDC4DA9985&d=a27892058275ec11a361000c29a59557>)

Your editor says she hears that the houseboats are serving as short-term rentals for tourists, in a town where tourism is big business. However, it also sounds like they're not yet subject to South Haven's myriad regulations for short-term rentals. Additionally, your editor has heard that many locals feel a boom in short-term rentals is changing life in South Haven, and not for the better. (You can do some Googling if you'd like more info!)

What questions will you ask Graham so you can write a story about the proposal?

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3. Finally, submit a paragraph-long pitch for a story you'd like to report for WMUK. Explain what the story will be about, why it is important to tell it, whom you'll interview and what kind of sounds you will include to help tell the story. Remember that the station serves listeners from the lakeshore to Albion, so the pitch needs to be relevant to listeners beyond the WMU campus. (Some WMU stories are big enough to interest people beyond the campus community, but not all). You can get a sense of the stories WMUK reports at our website, wmuk.org. You can share more than one pitch, but it's not required.