



How do I apply?

Prospective OAT interns must complete a Virginia state application online at jobs.wm.edu. Positions are typically posted in January and close in March.

Please be sure your application is accompanied by a cover letter that clearly states your interest in aquaculture training.

Where do OATs end up?

Over the last 15 years, OAT alumni have leveraged their internship experiences into jobs at hatcheries, commercial shellfish farms, research institutions, and state agencies up and down the East Coast.

To date, OAT employers have included:

Virginia

Cherrystone Aqua-Farms
Oyster Seed Holdings
Rappahannock Oyster Company
Shores & Ruark Seafood
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
JC Walker Brothers
Ward Oyster Company
White Stone Oyster Company

Maryland

Morgan State University/PEARL
University of Maryland/CES

North Carolina

Oysters Carolina
University of North Carolina, Wilmington

Massachusetts

Aquacultural Resource Corporation

Maine

BlueTrace
Mook Sea Farm
Running Tide



OYSTER
AQUACULTURE
TRAINING

The OAT Program

VIMS | WILLIAM & MARY
VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE
AQUACULTURE GENETICS &
BREEDING TECHNOLOGY CENTER

What is the OAT program?

The OAT program is a 6-month paid internship at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) in Gloucester Point. The program runs from March through July each year.

Participants attend lectures and facility tours and work alongside staff from the Aquaculture Genetics & Breeding Technology Center (ABC) learning important skills including:

- Broodstock conditioning
- Spawning
- Larval husbandry
- Microalgae production
- Nursery operations
- Farm operations

Externships are arranged at research facilities, state agencies, and private companies throughout the season based on each applicant's career goals.

For more information and a detailed curriculum description visit:

vims.edu/oat

If you have further questions, please email Amanda Chesler-Poole at achesler@vims.edu

