



**SAUNDERS**  
**BROTHERS**  
SINCE 1915

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**Position Description**  
**Student Intern Program(College)**

**Company Overview:** Saunders Brothers is a wholesale nursery and orchard operation in central Virginia. The wholesale nursery grows a wide range of annuals, perennials, woody shrubs, and trees and sells to independent garden centers, landscapers, and landscape distributors throughout the Mid-Atlantic and the Northeast. Saunders Brothers orchard operation grows fresh peaches, apples, Asian pears, nectarines, and cherries to sell at our own Farm Market, other farm markets, and grocery stores.

**Position Description:** Saunders Brothers is offering a 10-12-week internship program for a college student or a recent graduate. The program is designed for a qualified Horticulture, Plant Pathology, Crop and Soil Science, or other related agriculture degree. The timing of the program will be based on the intern that is selected and available projects.

**Outline of Internship:** Saunders Brothers internships are designed to be tailored around needs of the company as well as the interests of the student chosen. The internship may be a specific project or a rotation through multiple departments including woody and tree production, perennial and annual production, propagation, fruit production, field plant production, quality control (including integrated pest management), shipping, grafted fruit tree production, and farm market.

**Requirements and Duties:**

- Must have a strong desire to learn about the exciting world of beautifying our landscape and providing wholesome and safe food products to the world.
- Must have strong interest in learning more about plant and fruit production.
- Must have a strong desire to work in agriculture production.
- Must be able to perform tasks of a physical and repetitive nature.
- Must be willing to work with Hispanic workers and be open to learning Spanish.
- Must be willing to work inside and outside in all types of weather conditions.
- Must have good math skills.
- Must have good communication and listening skills and be able to effectively work with entire staff at Saunders Brothers.
- Must be willing to work Saturdays and after hours, as necessary.
- Must provide their own transportation to work and have a valid driver's license.
- Must have excellent attention to detail, organizational skills, and communication skills.
- Must be able to handle multiple tasks, prioritize workload, and have flexibility as work demands change.
- Must have a strong work ethic and integrity, be a team player, and have the willingness to learn and adapt.

- Must prepare and present a final presentation on the internship that outlines what was learned and how the program can be improved for future internships.
- Must abide and adhere to all safety and company policies.
- Must be willing to perform other duties as needed.

**Housing:** Housing will be offered to the candidate at no cost. May be required to pay utilities.

**Start Date:** Will be based on company needs and intern availability.

**Work Time and Hours:** Will be based on type of internship offered. Typically, Monday through Friday 7:45 am to 5:00 pm, some Saturdays, and additional hours as needs arise.

**Pay and Benefits:** Student interns are paid \$12.67 per hour. In addition, employees are offered discounts on plants and farm market purchases. This is a part-time position with no vacation or holiday paid leave.

**Drug Testing and Background Checks:** Saunders Brothers is committed to providing a drug-free and safe workplace. Therefore, all employees (full and part-time) are subject to random drug testing, reasonable suspicion testing, and post-accident testing. In addition, all new employees will be subject to a background check.

**Information and Application:** Contact Mari Johnson at [jobs@saundersbrothers.com](mailto:jobs@saundersbrothers.com) or call at 434-277-5455. The job description may be seen at [www.saundersbrothers.com](http://www.saundersbrothers.com) and the application downloaded from the website. We will be accepting applications until March 15 for the summer internships.

**Outline of Internship:**

The intern may rotate through the following departments at Saunders Brothers, Inc.

1. **Woody & Tree Production:** Will learn production techniques for woody plants and tree production. This will include planting, pruning, plant nutrition, and new variety evaluation. (2 weeks)
2. **Perennials/Annual Production:** Will learn growing techniques associated with more than 200 varieties of herbaceous plants. This will include planting, pruning, plant nutrition, quality control, and new plant evaluation. (2 weeks)
3. **Woody Propagation:** Will learn the system of procuring, sticking, and rooting of vegetative cuttings. (1 week)
4. **Orchard/Field Plants:** Will learn growing techniques for high quality peaches, apple, nectarines, and Asian Pears. In addition, will learn about the production of high quality boxwood in the field production. (2 weeks)
5. **Quality Control:** Will learn scouting techniques and rationale for spraying crops based on an IPM program. Intern will also learn herbicide selection and rationale. Principles of ET based irrigation will also be shared with the intern. (1 week)
6. **Shipping:** Will assist in pulling orders and loading trucks. They will also assist in tagging product to be shipped. (2 weeks)

### **Saunders Brothers Core Values**

Faith- Our Core Values and business practices are directed by our Christian faith.

Integrity-Honesty and truthfulness are foundational to our business.

Passion- We strive to enthusiastically share our love for Agriculture.

Family- Every team member is a part of the Saunders Brothers family.

### **Business Purpose**

To make a profit doing something we love.

To have a positive impact on our employees, customers, suppliers, community, and environment.

To provide a productive, nurturing, and fulfilling environment for our team.

### **Strategy**

To be a premier supplier of superb-quality plant material for garden centers, landscapers, and public gardens throughout the Eastern United States.

To be a premier supplier of extraordinary fruit to the people of the Mid-Atlantic area.