



This packet will provide information on **Therapeutic Recreation Internship** opportunities with **Northeast Passage**, a program of the University of New Hampshire located in Durham, NH. This packet includes Northeast Passage’s “Internship at a Glance” information sheet, internship goals, and guidelines. Please see the accompanying application and application requirements, also available on our website.

Northeast Passage is committed to providing an internship experience, which applies all aspects of the therapeutic recreation process to community-based consumers with disabilities. All Northeast Passage Interns will be supervised by a Licensed, Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS/L).

Interns will be involved in assessing participant needs, planning individualized programs and activities, working directly with participants in program implementation, and documenting progress for participant evaluation. Interns will also be involved in program promotion and marketing, planning and conducting special events, fundraising, outreach and advocacy, direct services to individuals with disabilities in a variety of outdoor and recreational settings, and school programs.

Interested students should send application requirements to:

Northeast Passage
Attn: Internship Program
121 Technology Drive, Suite 161
Durham, NH 03824

If you have any questions, please contact us at (603) 862-0070 or via email at Crystal.Skahan@unh.edu.

Northeast Passage
A Program of the University of New Hampshire
Therapeutic Recreation Internship at a Glance

History of Northeast Passage

Northeast Passage, a non-profit program of the University of New Hampshire, was established in 1990 in order to provide recreational programs and services for individuals with physical disabilities.

Northeast Passage is a consumer directed organization serving people with disabilities living in New Hampshire and the surrounding New England Region. We are guided by a committed group of CTRS/L staff and volunteers consisting of people with disabilities, their family, friends, and advocates.

Through the 1990's, Northeast Passage became known as a leader in the field of community-based therapeutic recreation. Northeast Passage is the premiere organization in New Hampshire for providing resources on adaptive recreation, access to adapted recreation equipment, identification and delivery of quality instruction in a wide range of recreation activities, technical assistance on universal design in recreation environments, and networking with consumers and service providers for individuals with disabilities.

Northeast Passage continues to break new ground. Recreational opportunities have been expanded through consultation networks and inclusive programming.

For more information and the latest Northeast Passage endeavors, check us out online at <http://www.nepassage.org>.

Mission Statement

Northeast Passage's mission is to create an environment where individuals with disabilities can participate in life, community and recreation with as much freedom of choice and independence as their non-disabled peers.

Vision Statement

The relentless pursuit of a barrier-free world for individuals with disabilities

Northeast Passage Programs

I. Adaptive Sports & Recreation:

- Instruction, equipment and a chance to gain skills in many different activities.
- Designed to give all the information and skills needed to make an informed decision about continued involvement and opportunities to continue activities.

- Includes instruction for family and friends as well as the participant with a disability.
- Sports Offered Include: Cycling, Court Sports, Hiking, Water Skiing, Paddling, Golf, Sled Hockey, Power Soccer, Quad Rugby, Nordic Skiing and Archery.
- Equipment Rental: Our equipment rental program makes it affordable to “try before you buy”, gain skills, and be involved in more than one sport. Equipment Rental Examples: Adaptive cycles, water-skis, sports chairs, ice sleds, beach and all-terrain wheelchairs, access equipment, etc.

II. Recreational Therapy:

The Recreational Therapy program provides person-centered treatment for individuals or groups in their home community, using recreation to improve quality of life, health and independence.

Through this program, we offer wellness education, fitness plans, functional skill development, community integration, resilience techniques, resource and network development, individual and family recreation and peer advising.

The Community/Home Based program works with veterans in New Hampshire and Maine returning from the current war, as well as veterans from past wars. We work one-to-one in their home communities helping them remove the barriers preventing them from accessing their life and community to the fullest. This is a unique approach to veterans’ adjustment to civilian life and life with a disability, one that is state-of-the-art in the field of Therapeutic Recreation.

The School Based program is designed to work with parents, students, administrators, physical education, special education or classroom teachers, as well as other related service providers, to ensure equal opportunity for students with physical and developmental disabilities. Through individual or group Therapeutic Recreation interventions, the program facilitates the inclusion of students into the school curriculum. Through the use of adaptive equipment, direct instruction, and a focus on social awareness, students can upgrade their skills to a level where inclusive participation in recreation-based activities is successful.

III. Teaching & Research:

We take pride in preparing the next generation of therapists at the University of New Hampshire through practical classroom and living lab teaching. We also conduct clinical research demonstrating the efficacy of our work and advancement of the field of Therapeutic Recreation.

Goals for the Internship Experience

Our goals are:

- To provide the student with the opportunity to apply the therapeutic recreation process in a community based setting.
- To provide the opportunity for the student to assess own knowledge, skills and abilities within the therapeutic recreation field (or related field).
- To provide the opportunity to apply academic theories in a community-based setting.
- To provide the opportunity to interact with and work with a wide variety of persons with disabilities.
- To provide the opportunity to develop skills in leadership, programming, activity analysis, and problem solving.
- To provide the opportunity to observe and develop the skills necessary to be an effective team member.
- To meet school/university requirements for: length/duration of internship experience; completion of performance evaluations; communication with school liaison.
- To prepare the student for an entry level position within the field of therapeutic recreation (or related field).

Your internship experience will include:

- Assessment of program participants and individualized program planning.
- Program development, promotion and implementation.
- Documentation and evaluation of participant progress.
- Hands-on, direct experience with a wide range of physical and developmental disabilities.
- Exposure to various fundraising methods.
- Exposure to a wide range of adapted equipment and recreation activities.
- The opportunity to use recreation as a modality to maximize independence and functional skills, and promote awareness of a healthy leisure lifestyle for individuals with physical disabilities.

Procedure for Intern Selection

Northeast Passage will accept 1-2 interns per semester; Fall (September-December), Spring (January-May), and Summer (Summer - May-August).

Interns will work at least 40 hours per week for 14 consecutive weeks. Interns may be required to work some night and weekend events. Applications are accepted on an on-going basis, but decisions will not be made until the deadline. Applications must be received no later than the deadlines indicated below.

The student must submit the following to be considered for an internship:

- A resume and cover letter with requested starting date indicated.
- List three references from each of the following: the student's academic advisor, faculty member within the department, and a work/volunteer supervisor (these do not have to be letters; please list as reference including contact information).
- The completed [Northeast Passage Internship Application](#).
- An official academic transcript.
- A recent sample of your technical writing. For example, a Recreational Therapy assessment, treatment plan, SOAP note, etc.
- While not an official requirement, it is **suggested** that students who live within 200 miles of Northeast Passage volunteer for Northeast Passage prior to submitting an internship application. Students living outside the 200-mile radius of Northeast Passage are **encouraged** to show documentation of volunteer hours from other programs which provide services for individuals with disabilities.

Selection Process Deadlines

Based on a Northeast Passage staff review of submitted paperwork, the internship coordinator will request an interview by phone or in person with selected students.

INTERNSHIP **APPLICATION DEADLINE** **NOTIFICATION**
(14 weeks within the following)

INTERNSHIP (14 weeks within the following)	APPLICATION DEADLINE	NOTIFICATION
Fall September-December	May 15 th	No later than June 15 th
Spring January-May	September 30 th	No later than October 30 th
Summer May-August	February 15 th	No later than March 15 th

Thank you for your interest in Northeast Passage! We look forward to hearing from you.