



# Resource Assistants Program

## Fact Sheet

The U.S. Forest Service Resource Assistants Program (RAP) is a rigorous and immersive paid experience for U.S. citizens or permanent residents interested in natural and cultural resources careers who are at least 17 years old. Resource assistants are recruited by partner organizations and work under the direction of Forest Service staff to accomplish mission-critical work that develops leadership, critical thinking, and strategic communication skills. Through collaboration, coaching, and mentorship, resource assistants launch their careers and expand their understanding of our Nation’s natural and cultural resources and land management priorities. Students and/or graduates from institutions of higher education, especially minority-serving institutions, are strongly encouraged to apply to opportunities posted with our partner organizations.

### Objectives

- 1 Attract and retain a diverse and inclusive workforce
- 2 Accomplish mission-critical work and high priority projects
- 3 Promote career exploration and professional development for recent graduates
- 4 Facilitate Forest Service coaching and mentoring for a future workforce

### National Partner Organizations

Greening Youth Foundation  
[www.gyfoundation.org](http://www.gyfoundation.org)

Hispanic Access Foundation  
[www.hispanicaccess.org](http://www.hispanicaccess.org)

MobilizeGreen  
[www.mobilizegreen.org](http://www.mobilizegreen.org)

Environment For The Americas  
[www.environmentfortheamericas.wordpress.com](http://www.environmentfortheamericas.wordpress.com)

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences  
[www.manrrs.org](http://www.manrrs.org)



### Benefits & Outcomes

- Stipend, health care, housing allowance
- Training and travel allowance
- Diverse mission critical Forest Service work experiences
- Direct hiring eligibility at successful completion
- 147 (20%) conversions to FS positions since 2016

