Environmental Health Fellowship
Summer 2021

Time Period: Summer term, 2021
Location: Remote / McMurray, PA (as determined by pandemic conditions)
Compensation: Stipend equivalent to approx. $20/hour

Job Description

The Southwest Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project (EHP) is a non-profit organization located in McMurray, PA, whose mission is to defend public health in the face of oil and gas development. EHP provides frontline communities with timely monitoring, interpretation, and guidance. We engage diverse stakeholders: health professionals, researchers, community organizers, public servants, and others, because knowledge protects health.

EHP conducts air emissions monitoring, data analysis, and health assessments, and provides guidance for health protective measures and educational presentations. EHP is expanding its analysis efforts and looking for a fellow to champion this effort.

EHP is offering a full-time, 12-week Environmental Health Fellowship during the summer of 2021. The Fellowship will give the successful candidate the opportunity to apply his/her skills in environmental education, project management, and research to the topic of Unconventional Oil and Gas Development (UOGD) and its impacts on human health and the environment. Throughout the summer, the Fellow will learn about EHP’s work while conducting his/her own research. The fellow will summarize research findings, build materials for sharing these findings to the general public, and have the opportunity to present or publish the final product.

The Fellowship offers the successful candidate the opportunity to conduct one of the following:

1. An analysis of shale gas facility air emissions dynamics, which would allow EHP to better identify pollution events and more accurately model dispersion of air pollutants;
2. A health economics approach on the effects the industry has on communities from a physical and/or mental health standpoint;
3. A cost/benefit analysis for a community looking to host UOG infrastructure;
4. A research and/or analysis projects that fits within the scope described above.
Qualifications

The ideal applicant will have completed a bachelor’s degree by December 31, 2020, and currently be enrolled in a post-graduate public health program.

Appropriate academic backgrounds:
- Public Health/Environmental Health
- Environmental Studies/Environmental Sciences
- Computer Science/Programming
- Economics

Relevant skills and experiences:
- Completed and/or conducting an undergraduate / master’s level research project;
- Proficiency in programming languages, specifically R, Python, and HTML (as needed for area of study);
- Familiarity with a variety of statistical tests;
- Self-motivated and ability to work independently;
- Have a high attention to detail;
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Application Process

Qualified applicants should email a cover letter, resume, and contact information for references to Jessa Chabeau, Regional Manager (Appalachia), at ichabeau@environmentalhealthproject.org. Questions about the position can be directed to her by email or at 724-260-5504. Review of applications will begin on March 15, 2021, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

This position is eligible for a $10,000 stipend over a 12-week period. Fellowship payments are not considered wages and do not create an employer-employee relationship. There are no insurance benefits associated with this role. The fellow will be allotted 1 or 2 days to take off over holidays when the office is closed and may use an additional 4 days of time off during the length of the fellowship.

This position is made possible by funding from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies.