



## **2022 McKinney Climate Fellow Indiana Land Protection Alliance position**

### Who We Are

Conservation Law Center (CLC) is an independent, non-profit organization that provides legal counsel to conservation organizations and works to improve state and federal conservation law and policy. The organization works with clients on a wide range of transactional, policy, and litigation matters pertaining to both regional and national conservation issues. CLC also operates the Conservation Law Clinic in partnership with the Indiana University Maurer School of Law in Bloomington. In that capacity, the Center works with student interns on its live projects, advising clients and researching legal and policy solutions on regional and national conservation issues.

Indiana Land Protection Alliance (ILPA) is Indiana's statewide coalition of land and water conservation organizations. ILPA unites and empowers Indiana's land trusts, which collectively preserve more than 140,000 of natural and working lands, through education, advocacy, communication, and collaboration.

### POSITION SUMMARY

The McKinney Climate Fellow will be placed within Conservation Law Center and will be responsible for taking the lead on select initiatives and assist with sustainability, climate, and community resiliency projects. The Fellow will provide support for the Statewide Climate Resilience and Adaptation Plan

The Fellow will use existing data and research to assess impacts of climate change to Indiana's diverse habitats and ecosystems. The Fellow would survey planning work that has already been accomplished by land trusts in Indiana and the Midwest to develop statewide adaptive ecological management strategies and goals for preserved lands and waters that Indiana's land trusts could incorporate into existing stewardship/ restoration/ land management plans.

The Fellow would leverage existing research and GIS data to develop priority conservation areas that could guide and be incorporated into land trusts' strategic acquisition plans. Priority conservation areas developed through a climate lens would enhance resiliency of lands that are already protected and create natural solutions for surrounding communities (such as green infrastructure and constructed wetlands to enhance flood capacity).

Duties will include:

- Use existing data and research to develop an inventory of Indiana's habitats and ecosystems and assess potential impacts from climate change
- Model existing work to develop comprehensive management and restoration plans for land trusts and agencies to incorporate into respective strategic plans
- Develop statewide land acquisition/ preservation priorities based on climate change implications

- Legal research which may include federal and state protection of wetlands, and permitting requirements and legal considerations for natural solutions such as constructed wetlands
- Develop a memo with strategies and recommendations, which may be shared with land trusts, state and local agencies, and newly established Wetlands Task Force
- Attend the Boot camp May 16 – 20, 2022
- Attend weekly (virtual) “Lunch and Learns”, Wednesdays from 12:00pm-1:30pm
- Submit weekly Canvas reports over the course of the fellowship

### Qualifications

- Experience working with Microsoft Office products, effective verbal and written communication, self-motivated, ability to prioritize and manage multiple ongoing tasks
- Student must be knowledgeable, and/or have experience or coursework in data tracking of measurable outcomes on projects[such as: tracking greenhouse gas emissions reduction over time at the organization, or other similar quantifiable processes]
- Equity mindset/lens and other critical indicators related to DEI in climate work are preferred

### Compensation

Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship through the Environmental Resilience Institute. The Fellow will work full time for 10 weeks, beginning May 30, 2022, and ending August 5, 2022.

### Feedback and evaluation

The Fellow will be given regular feedback from staff on progress and performance. Success in the fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The Fellow should learn how this organization identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The McKinney Climate Fellows Program supports the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive, and equitable spaces. Indiana climate change solutions should be equitable in implementation, and projects with equity considerations are encouraged to reduce climate change impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

### Application instructions

To apply for this position, complete an application on the Environmental Resilience Institute’s website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email Danni Schaust at danmcphe@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Monday, February 14, 2022.