



McKinney Climate Fellows Program

Eager to work for the planet?

McKinney Climate Fellows (MCF) is a workforce-development program administered by IU's Environmental Resilience Institute and Integrated Program in the Environment that provides real-world, hands-on experience for both undergraduate and graduate IU students interested in the sustainability field. Fellows tackle climate, sustainability and community resilience projects and challenges across the state of Indiana. The Resilience Cohort, an allied program, helps Indiana city, town, and county governments develop and implement climate action strategies and sustainability initiatives. McKinney Climate Fellows thus serve local governments, businesses, as well as nonprofits across Indiana.

Benefits

- Get paid: \$5,200 for undergraduate students; \$6,400 for graduate students.
- Gain hands-on work experience and grow as a professional in the field of sustainability in an immersive, real-world setting.
- Access professional development and resources in the environmental field.
- Meet and learn from a network of peers passionate about sustainability across the state through Zoom sessions, weekly Climate Connection groups, and discussions with MCF alumni.
- Highlight your work at the IU Sustainability Symposium, the annual MCF Celebration, or other ERI-hosted events.
- Earn internship credit.

Eligibility

- Be a current undergraduate or graduate student from any IU campus of good academic standing, including international students, enrolled at IU for the duration of the placement. **(*Student does not have to be enrolled in classes over the summer but must be enrolled at the University.)**
- Possess valid US work authorization.
- For summer positions, available to work full-time (40 hours/week) for 10 - 12 weeks between May and August.
- For fall or spring positions, available to work part time (12.5 - 15 hours/week) between August and April.
- Able to relocate to the location of the organization.
- Able to attend Climate Camp (tentatively scheduled for May 11, 2024).

Required Qualifications

- Strong oral and written communication skills, including presentation skills, and ability to collaborate with diverse audiences, specifically racially, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse communities.
- Foundational understanding of climate change and environmental issues.
- An understanding of the concepts of institutional and structural racism and bias and their impact on underserved and underrepresented communities.
- Passion and interest to work in Indiana in the climate or sustainability fields after graduation.

Preferred Qualifications

- At least one relevant academic or work experience
- Experience working directly with people from diverse racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Experience with quantitative and/or qualitative data analysis.
- Experience with ArcGIS Pro, QGIS, ERDAS or other mapping and remote-sensing software.
- Ability to speak a second language.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

We encourage you to apply even if your experience does not align with the desired qualifications listed above. We aim to hire students from a variety of educational backgrounds to expand the idea of what it means to be a climate or sustainability professional. We also highly encourage people of color and international students, especially those from the Global South, to apply. The McKinney Climate Fellows and Resilience Cohort programs support the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive, and equitable spaces. Indiana climate solutions should advance equity, with climate action that reduces adverse impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

Compensation

For summer positions: \$6400 for graduate students and \$5200 for undergraduate students for 400 hours. For fall or spring positions: \$3200 for graduate students and \$2600 for 200 hours.

Limited, need-based relocation stipends may be available.

Feedback and Evaluation

The Fellow will be given regular feedback from their supervisor on progress and performance. Fellows will be required to track and report their hours and progress towards personal and organizational goals. Success in the Fellowship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional

and timely manner. The Fellow should learn how the organization identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships. If a candidate fails to sufficiently meet expectations, compensation will be withheld or withdrawn.

Application Deadline

Please visit our website to complete your 2023 MCF program application. *Apply by **December 18, 2023, 11:59 PM ET***. All applicants are considered for all positions and geographies. For more information about the timeline and program, please visit the

Questions?

To inquire about the MCF Program, please email our team at avaghart@iu.edu or haydene@iu.edu.

To inquire about the Resilience Cohort Program, please contact anagore@iu.edu.

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The McKinney Midwest Climate Project (MMCP) at ERI is helping to advance the transition to sustainable and climate-friendly practices in Indiana and the Midwest. Through partnerships with communities, businesses, and nonprofits, MMCP is expanding ERI's impact, engaging students in sustainability and environmental career training, and empowering the region to adopt high-impact solutions that address climate change.