



Division of Social Justice
Environmental Protection Bureau - Buffalo
Science/Policy Externship
Reference No. EPB/SCI_BUF_EXT/UGS_SPR_2024

Application Deadline is January 26, 2024*

2024 Spring Semester Externship for Academic Credit for Graduate & Undergraduate Students

The Office of the New York State Attorney General's (OAG) [Environmental Protection Bureau](#) (EPB) in Buffalo is seeking applications from graduate and undergraduate students for a science/policy externship during the 2024 Spring Program. The EPB is responsible for enforcing state and federal environmental laws and has the power to file lawsuits on behalf of the State of New York to protect public health and the environment. The Bureau enforces environmental standards and defends State agencies when their regulatory efforts are challenged in court. In addition, the Bureau's attorneys and technical staff investigate and respond to citizen complaints, file lawsuits for public nuisance conditions, prosecute environmental crimes, enforce solid waste laws, and prepare reports and brochures on environmental issues.

Students will assist the scientific and policy staff in exploring difficult and groundbreaking environmental and legal issues. Responsibilities include researching issues using the internet; briefing staff on technical issues and keeping them updated on the most recent developments; drafting reports and fact sheets; procuring technical information and undertaking scientific and data analyses; preparing presentations using Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint; and assisting staff in preparing for negotiations with violators of environmental laws.

In addition, students may gain experience working with Federal, State, and Local government agency staff, non-profit environmental organizations, and experts. In the past, students have worked on issues including climate change, hazardous and solid waste management, toxic air emissions, public health, sustainability and energy-related matters, drinking water quality, and wetland management. Students work closely with the staff scientists, policy analysts, and other professional staff who will provide them with mentoring, guidance, and advice, thereby facilitating learning and performance. The key qualities we look for include a strong background in science, intellectual curiosity, initiative, effective writing and communication skills, and an interest in the quality of our environment.

Spring Program Details

- **The format of this placement is hybrid.** Students who are working in a hybrid placement may report to their designated workstation two or three (2-3) days per week. On the days students will be working remotely, they will need to have access to a reliable computer, a secure internet connection, a phone, and a sufficiently quiet and private workspace to telework.
- Applications from students who started college/university during the 2023-24 academic year will not be considered.
- At the time of hire, students are required to provide written confirmation from their schools indicating their acceptance into an externship program or an approved independent study. Additionally, this confirmation must indicate the following information:
 - The appropriate externship contact at the school;
 - The parameters of the externship, including the employer's responsibilities;
 - The required minimum/maximum work hours to be completed by the student;
 - The number of credits the student will receive upon completion of the placement.
- Students are encouraged to commit to work part-time (15 hours/week) during regular business hours for at least a semester (10-12 weeks) or the minimum stipulated by their externship or independent study.
- Applications will be received online until **January 26, 2024**, and externship offers will be made on a rolling basis.*
- Students who are hired for the spring program may begin their placements on January 17, 2024, or after.

- U.S. citizenship and New York State residency are not required, but applicants must be eligible to be employed in the U.S.
- Applicants are encouraged to learn more about the OAG prior to submitting their applications by visiting the [Divisions and Bureaus](#) and [Press Releases](#) sections of the OAG's website.

*Candidates from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
The OAG is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to workplace diversity.*

HOW TO APPLY

The following section provides detailed information about the application process and application requirements. Please review the complete list of instructions prior to preparing and submitting your application materials online.

- Applications for spring placements must be submitted online. To apply, please click on the following link:

[EPB/SCI BUF EXT/UGS SPR 2024](#)

- Applications are submitted separately for each bureau/regional office, and an applicant's candidacy for each application is determined separately by each bureau/regional office.
- The application deadline is **January 26, 2024**, but please be advised externships will be filled on a rolling basis.*
- **The following five (5) documents are required for your application:**
 - 1. Cover Letter**
 - You may choose to address to the Legal Recruitment Unit, 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY, 10005.
 - Indicate why you are interested in a placement with the OAG and what makes you a strong candidate.
 - 2. Resume**
 - Ensure your resume is complete and current prior to submitting your application.
 - 3. List of three (3) references.**
 - Submit only professional (i.e., supervisor or professor) references.
 - Indicate the nature and duration of your relationship to each reference.
 - Include contact information and email addresses for each reference.
 - Please note, your references will not be contacted until after you interview for the placement.
 - 4. Writing Sample**
 - Select a sample from an assignment you prepared for school that demonstrates your ability to analyze and organize information into an effective document.
 - We recommend submitting a sample that is 3-6 pages in length.
 - 5. Course List**
 - In lieu of a transcript, please provide a list of science courses, engineering courses, and any other courses relevant to your application that you have successfully completed since beginning college or university. If you are currently pursuing a graduate degree, this list should include courses that you have successfully completed for both your undergraduate and graduate degrees.
 - Please be advised this information will be used to assess whether you have the necessary science and other prerequisites for this placement
- **Failure to submit a complete application will delay the consideration of your candidacy.**
- Please submit your application for a spring placement at least three (3) weeks prior to any deadlines that could impact your candidacy and note this in your cover letter.

If you have questions about a placement with the OAG, the application process, or need assistance with submitting your application, please contact Legal Recruitment via email at recruitment@ag.ny.gov.