



Division of Social Justice

Environmental Protection Bureau- Albany

Science/Policy Externship

Reference No. EPB/SCI_ALB_EXT/UG_SPR_2022

Spring Semester 2022 Externship for Graduate or Undergraduate Students

The [Environmental Protection Bureau \(EPB\)](#) of the New York State Office of the Attorney General (OAG) in Albany has externships available during the spring 2022 semester for graduate and undergraduate students; this is an unpaid placement. Interested students must be receiving course credit for their work at the OAG as part of an independent study or externship program. Students are encouraged to commit to work part-time (approx. 15 hours/week) for at least a semester (10-12 weeks) or the minimum stipulated by their externship or independent study.

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 Chief Scientist, the Policy Analyst and other professional staff in the office who will provide 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.

Placement Details

- **Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and as our return to workplace continues, OAG Leadership has determined the 2022 Spring Program will be an exclusively remote experience.**
- **Applications from students entering their first year of college/university during the academic year 2021-22 will not be considered.**
- Students hired for spring externships may begin their placements on January 19, 2022 or after.
- 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; and
 - The number of credits the student will receive upon completing the externship.

- Applications will be accepted online, and the placement will be filled on a rolling basis.
- Applicants must be available by video conference for interviews.
- U.S. citizenship and NYS 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 [Media](#) sections of the OAG 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 document requirements. Please review all of the instructions prior to preparing and submitting your application materials online. To apply, please click on the following link: [EPB/SCI ALB EXT/UG SPR 2022](#)

- Applications are being received online. 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 following documents are required for each application that is submitted:**
(Click on the document name to learn more)
 1. [Cover Letter](#)
 - Address to Legal Recruitment.
 - Indicate why you are interested in a science/policy externship with the OAG and why you are the best candidate.
 - Indicate your availability and preferred work schedule.
 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 externship.
 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.
 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 master's 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 allow at least three (3) weeks for your application to be processed and reviewed by the hiring bureau/regional office. You may submit an application status request [by clicking here](#).

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