

**Internship Program Opportunity  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**Project # EPA Water 2009-137**

An internship project is available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region 3 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Project Description:** This internship for EPA Region 3 will be served with the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Team. Organizationally, the TMDL team is in the Water Protection Division, Office of Standards, Assessment and Information Management (OSAIM).

The TMDL team is responsible for leading Region 3's TMDL program and supporting related watershed protection activities. The mission of the program is to work towards healthy watersheds by assisting states in meeting their water quality standards. Under the program established by Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, states identify impaired water bodies and develop TMDLs for these waters. TMDL specifies the amount by which a specific pollutant must be reduced to meet water quality standards and allocates pollution control responsibilities among the sources in the watershed. EPA reviews and approves the lists of impaired waters and develops TMDLs where necessary. TMDLs are a critical analytic underpinning for watershed decisions and can serve to integrate solutions to water quality problems from point and nonpoint sources and protect drinking water sources, wetlands, and other aquatic resources.

**Specific Tasks:** The intern will be assigned to a Region 3 TMDL project team. This team reviews reports as submitted by Region 3 states. The intern will also provide support to the team to assure that Region 3 state TMDL programs remain consistent with an existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between EPA and the states. The intern will be involved with the TMDL program manager who has the lead for evaluating the future direction of the TMDL program in Region 3. The intern will be assigned to the TMDL team responsible for:

- state program procedures and technical approaches for the development of TMDLs;
- various TMDL reports submitted by the states to assure consistency with technical procedures and agency policy;
- preparation of recommendations for the approval or disapproval of submitted TMDLs;
- preparation of Decision Rationales that support of the region's review decisions;
- data input for the National TMDL Tracking System;
- providing states with technical and programmatic direction as needed;
- tracking compliance with state and EPA TMDL MOUs;
- evaluating the Region 3 TMDL Program's future needs;
- recommending program adjustments that will enable the Region to maintain a viable program into the future.

**Expected Results:** This internship will provide exposure to a broad range of technical and policy issues surrounding aquatic resource protection. The intern will have the opportunity to present the results of the projects to management and others in written documents.

**Intern Qualifications and Skills:** Applicants should have received a bachelor's degree in environmental science or a related field within four years of the desired starting date. Knowledge of watershed planning and experience with federal and/or state agencies on environmental issues is advantageous. The ability to organize and understand scientific issues and develop written materials based on interpretation of environmental data is highly desirable. Experience with data management systems such as Excel is desired. Candidates should have excellent oral and written communication skills, be able to perform in a team environment with diverse people, have the ability to perform under tight deadlines and on multiple projects.

The program is open to all qualified individuals without regard to race, sex, religion, color, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, or status as a Vietnam era or disabled veteran. U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent resident status is preferred (but can also hold an appropriate visa status, however, an H1B visa is not appropriate). The intern must show proof of health and medical insurance. **The intern does not become an EPA employee.**

**Stipend and Length of Appointment:** The appointment will initially be full-time for one-year and may be renewed for up to two additional years depending on funding. The annual stipend will range from \$45,000-\$55,000 depending upon experience.

The EPA contact person for this project is Helene Drago. She may be contacted at [drago.belene@epa.gov](mailto:drago.belene@epa.gov).

The Internship Program for EPA Water is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. Please reference Project # EPA Water 2009-137 when calling or writing for information. For additional information and application material contact: Internship Program - EPA Water, Attn: Betty Bowling - MS 36, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831 Phone: (865) 576-8503 Fax: (865) 241-5219 e-mail: [betty.bowling@ornl.gov](mailto:betty.bowling@ornl.gov).

*Sam Bryant serves as the EPA Office of Water internship program coordinator. His email address is [bryant.samuel@epa.gov](mailto:bryant.samuel@epa.gov).*

An application can be found at <http://www.ornl.gov/orise/edu//EPA/app-gugrgpd.pdf>.