

**Internship Program Opportunities
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office Of Water
Washington, D.C.**

Project # EPA Water 2008-112

STORET/WQX

An internship project is available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds (OWOW) in Washington, DC.

Project Description: OWOW manages the ocean and coastal protection, wetlands and watershed assessment programs. OWOW's Assessment and Watershed Protection Division (AWPD) is responsible for overseeing non-point source, water quality monitoring and watershed-related activities. Water quality monitoring activities such as maintaining and georeferencing the 305b "impaired waters" list, performing the National Probabilistic Surveys and maintaining the EPA's Water Quality Data Warehouse (STORET) are the responsibility of the Monitoring Branch. STORET is an EPA database developed and maintained by AWPD for collecting and disseminating ambient environmental data relating to water quality. The original STORET was developed in the 1960's, and today the system continues to serve as EPA's principal repository for marine, freshwater, and biological monitoring data. STORET is currently used by a variety of groups, including federal agencies, states, tribes, local governments, academic groups, watershed and volunteer monitoring organizations, and the public. See <http://www.epa.gov/storet> for more information.

Specific Tasks: The goal of this project is to allow the intern to train with the Monitoring Branch, within the Assessment and Watershed Protection Division, and observe and participate in water quality projects in action. The intern will use new technologies such as a data warehousing, data exchange, and Geographic Information System (GIS) to aid in the development of sound environmental policies. S/he will learn about managing and analyzing data through, but not limited to, the Office of Water internet Web site and the STORET Tracking Record System. S/he will also be part of the STORET team who identify other water monitoring data being collected by EPA that are not currently part of STORET/WQX, and identify methods for making that data available through STORET/WQX or compatible Web Services. The intern will participate in the continued production and testing of the evolution of STORET, called the Water Quality eXchange (WQX), including the creation and use of Web Services, BIO/HABITAT schema and the new XML Generation Tool. WQX incorporates the Enterprise Architecture and works closely with other Agency systems, including OEI's Substance Registry System. The intern will be involved with the Branch Director and other Monitoring Branch leads in program presentations, outreach, and analysis, including representing the STORET team while assisting with data management and analysis of data from the National Surveys. Hands-on learning will come in the form of training programs in "leading-edge" technologies including Oracle, web services, XML, ESRI, etc.

Expected Results: The intern will participate in the various components of the EPA's water programs and observe how they work together to support EPA water quality goals and reporting requirements. S/he will gain educational benefits from EPA's water programs through exposure to the complicated arena of environmental protection and policy. The intern will gain skills and experience related to working with the latest data management and Internet technologies.

Intern Qualifications and Skills: Applicants should have received at least a bachelor's degree (master's degree is preferred) within four years of the desired starting date. The degree should be in an area emphasizing some aspect of water quality or resources. Experience with personal computers, the internet and data management and analysis are desired. Strong oral and written communications skills are essential.

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 is full time for one-year and may be renewed for two additional years depending on the availability of funding. The annual stipend will range from \$35,000 to \$55,000 depending on degree and experience.

The EPA contact person for this project is Dwane Young. His e-mail is young.dwane@epa.gov.

The Internship Program for EPA Water is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE). Please reference Project # EPA Water 2008-112 when calling or writing for information. For additional information and application material contact: Internship Program - EPA Water, Attn: Betty Bowling - MS 36, ORISE, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831 Phone: (865) 576-8503 Fax: (865) 241-5219 e-mail: betty.bowling@ornl.gov.

Sam Bryant serves as the EPA Office of Water internship program coordinator. His e-mail address is bryant.samuel@epa.gov.

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