

# EPA Region 8 College/Community Partnership Program Communication Intern Description

**Position Title:** Region 8 Communication Intern

**Background:** EPA Region 8 is undertaking an initiative to reach out to colleges and universities to engage them in providing assistance to communities, at no cost to the community. This effort is based on a model piloted for the past two years in Region 4, EPA's Southern Region. To manage this work, Region 4 created the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP). To date, more than 40 schools are now engaged in CUPP in Region 4 states. Region 8 has been exploring the question of whether the CUPP model can be applied in our six-state region.

## **The anticipated benefits of the College/Community Partnership Program:**

- Use of a creative, collaborative effort between underserved communities and local colleges and universities provides technical support at no cost to underserved communities.
- Students benefit by utilizing gaining practical experience that can serve as a resume builder, while earning course credit(s) through their academic institution.
- Colleges benefit by students applying knowledge gained through their curriculum which can make their students more competitive in the job market.
- Communities benefit from the investment of innovative technical assistance and approaches provided by students, supervised by faculty, who are attending local academic institutions.
- Federal agencies and partner organizations benefit by seeing an improvement in the effective and efficient use of resources by providing underserved communities with a consistent source of technical assistance and planning.

## **Position Description:**

The Region 8 Communication intern would support the work of Rebecca Perrin, Region 8 Agriculture Advisor; Michael Wenstrom, Region 8 Environmental Justice Coordinator; and Lisa McClain-Vanderpool, Region 8 Office of Communications and Public Involvement to help promote the College/Community Partnership Program Initiative (CCPI) and assist in organizing and developing ways Region 8 can increase stakeholder engagement in Region 8 states. We are looking for an energetic student who is passionate about solving problems and designing creative solutions for a diverse audience.

*Specific duties* may include, but are not limited, to the following:

1. Work with the Regional Agriculture Advisor and the Environmental Justice Program to:
  - Develop stakeholder lists of Utah colleges and universities.
  - Develop demographic profiles of rural Utah communities.
  - Develop communication materials for colleges, students, and rural communities.
2. Work with the Office of Communication and Public Information to:
  - Develop general stakeholder lists by working with each EPA program office.
  - Determine optimal way to organize, sort and enhance lists (best software, what kind of data to collect, etc.).
  - Assist in development of various outreach tools to help build public engagement in Region 8 activities (social media, listservs, newsletters, etc.).

*Desired Skills:*

- Strong communication skills
- Basic Word and basic Publisher
- Ability to work independently
- Strong research skills
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship-building skills
- An analytical mind; able to bring new ideas to increase effectiveness of existing outreach

*Knowledge/Experience* (optional, but a bonus):

- Marketing/outreach design
- Environmental and/or agricultural education

**Timeline:** The intern will be on board for a minimum of 3 months, a maximum of 4 months.

**Desired hours per week:** 40 hours is preferred, however, this is negotiable.

**Desired start date:** Negotiable but not later than June 1, 2015. (Please note: From the time of acceptance, there will be a 2-4 week period prior to first day of work while paperwork is completed.)

**Contact:** Michael Wenstrom, 303-312-7009; Rebecca Perrin, 303-3120-6311