

Volunteer/Unpaid, DENVER, CO – EPA Region 8, Children’s Environmental Health & Healthy Schools Intern (CLOSING DATE: 03/26/2021)

Background:

Earth Day is every day at EPA! At EPA, you can protect human health and the environment of all Americans, and you’ll discover that EPA is one great place to work! Our diverse workforce connects to more than just a career--we share a common passion to promote a cleaner, healthier environment. Discover how exciting safeguarding our natural resources and protecting human health can be.

Children are more vulnerable to environmental hazards because their physiology is still developing, their behavior exposes them to more chemicals, and they eat, drink, and breathe more in proportion to their body size. In recognition of these susceptibilities, Executive Order (EO) 13045 (*Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*) was established in 1997, requiring all federal agencies to identify and assess environmental health and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children, and to ensure that their policies, programs, activities, and standards address those risks. EPA’s Office of Children’s Health Protection (OCHP), and the regional Children’s Environmental Health and Healthy Schools (CEH/HS) Program were created to assure all EPA actions and programs address the unique vulnerabilities of children.

The CEH/HS Program work focuses on advancing EPA’s mission and protecting children from environmental hazards. Specifically the CEH/HS activities include providing technical assistance and partnering with other EPA programs; providing technical assistance and partnering with external stakeholders/organizations; providing education on CEH topics; conducting outreach at community events and conferences and through social media, public service announcements, and newsletters; and supporting regional research projects. The CEH/HS Program collaborates with a variety of partners and aims to reach many target audiences, specifically those that have direct control or influence over environments where children live, learn, and play. Specific areas of focus include reducing childhood lead exposure, healthy homes and learning environments, reducing lead in school drinking water, air quality, asthma, and effects of wildfire smoke.

Job Description:

With the Region 8 Children’s Environmental Health Advisor, the Intern may work on activities such as:

- Gain familiarity with EPA’s Air Quality Flag Program (AQFP) and develop a robust outreach effort for the next AQFP promotion campaign (Fall 2021).
- Create a CEH/HS social media plan with new targeted messages ready for use during upcoming special recognition days/weeks/months.
- Assist with upcoming CEH/HS outreach activities.
- Develop CEH/HS listserv for targeted outreach, education, and technical assistance.
- Create a quarterly newsletter for target audience of school professionals and related organizations.

- Other as needed.
- The Intern will be invited to spend 10-20% of his or her time on professional development and will have access to training opportunities such as Toastmasters meetings and informational interviews with other EPA staff.
- The internship will culminate with a presentation of the Intern's work and insights to interested EPA employees.

Desired Skills:

- Excellent written and verbal communication
- Basic Excel, Word, and Publisher proficiency
- Knowledge of and basic proficiency with social media platforms
- Ability to work independently
- Works well on a team
- Interest in protecting public health and the environment

Knowledge/Experience (optional, but a bonus):

- Environmental policy
- Translating research and scientific data

Timeline: Intern will be on board for a minimum of 2 months, maximum of 4 months (there may be an opportunity to extend for a maximum of 6 months, but this is not assured).

Desired hours per week: 10-20 hours (preference will be given to qualified candidates available to work more hours per week).

Desired start date: June 1st (but may be negotiated) Note: From the time of acceptance, there will be a 2-4-week period prior to first day of work while paperwork is completed.

Work location: Virtual or in person based on the location of the applicant

How to Apply: Email your transcripts, resume and cover sheet to Kim Bartels at Bartels.kim@epa.gov by March 26, 2021.

For More Information: Kim Bartels, Children's Environmental Health Advisor, EPA Region 8 Office of the Regional Administrator, bartels.kim@epa.gov.

Human Resources Contact: Elaine Robles, (303) 312-6194 or Robles.elaine@epa.gov