



2009 NWF CAMPUS ECOLOGY FELLOWSHIPS: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Topic: Organizing and implementing the Midwest Regional Campus Climate Action Networks

Location: Chicago, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana or Minnesota

Timeframe/Compensation: The Fellow will serve a term of 2 semesters, Spring 2010 and Fall 2010, and receive a stipend of \$2000.00 for their work.

Applications are due December 20, 2009. All applicants will be notified of their status within one month of the application deadline.

Background:

Scientists agree that human-triggered greenhouse gas pollution is the cause of increasing temperatures. But they also agree that if we start now, we can cap – and then begin reducing – harmful carbon emissions before they cause irreversible damage. National Wildlife Federation has made confronting global warming a priority and NWF's Campus Ecology program supports that mission by offering Fellowships to undergraduate and graduate students working with other members of the faculty, staff, or administration on projects designed to help reverse global warming on campus and beyond. Campuses need to focus efforts on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Our regional networks help facilitate the meeting of committed faculty, staff and students in specific regions to work together to reduce global warming pollution.

Goal: To assist the Midwest Campus Field Coordinator to organize at least 2 regional networks in specific Midwest regions.

Students are encouraged to submit fellowship proposals if they are interested in working with multiple colleges and universities to assist in collectively reducing greenhouse gas emissions both on campuses and in some cases, specific cities.

Key Responsibilities:

The Midwest Fellow will be asked to

- Coordinate quarterly meetings
- Follow-up with campuses on a variety of sustainability issues
- Assist with communication within the networks (ex. Website design, blogs, listserves etc.).

The fellow would also play a role in:

- Researching appropriate and exciting new innovations for campuses to work together to reduce emissions (ex. Joint purchasing of renewable energy, multiple campus composting, etc.).
- Conduct research on other topics, as decided with the regional networks (sustainable food systems, protecting wildlife habitat and green space on grounds and roof, etc.)
- Researching and writing articles for e-newsletter
- Writing best practices resources focused on campus climate action networks

Fellowship Program Requirements:

- Participate in phone check-ins with NWF staff about project status and responsibilities
- Submit a written project update halfway through the Fellowship detailing the progress you have made and plans for the duration of your Fellowship.
- Submit a final report at the end of your Fellowship, template provided by NWF.
- Write one article for NWF Campus Ecology monthly e-newsletter (topic approved by NWF) or post at least two entries on NWF's Campus Ecology Blog.
- Secure at least two articles in campus and local press on your project, acknowledging NWF's Campus Ecology Program. Provide NWF with digital or printed copies of the articles.
- Provide NWF with a minimum of eight high-resolution digital action images depicting you and your project. Include captions for each photo, names of people depicted and photo release information for each person depicted for us in NWF annual report and other media.

Perks and Privileges:

- Professional development training and networking
- Possibility of academic credit for successful completion of the project, as an independent study or integration of fellowship project into course curriculum.
- Free Campus Ecology resources
- One year subscription to National Wildlife Magazine
- Free Campus Ecology individual membership

Eligibility: Undergraduate or graduate students from any college or university in the city of Chicago or the states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Minnesota or Indiana. Applications are invited from students in all disciplines and are not limited to environmental studies majors. Current and former employees of National Wildlife Federation and former NWF Campus Ecology Fellows are ineligible to apply.

Former NWF interns are eligible to apply following one year from their final work date.

The name on the application must be limited to **one individual** and the Fellowship reporting, training, or other requirements cannot be transferred to or shared with another student. Additional involvement should be noted in the proposal. The applicant must be enrolled in school through the duration of the 15 month grant period.

Grant Terms:

The Fellowship is for a term of 15 months. Fellows spend various amounts of time on their projects each week. The average amount of time spent is 10 hours weekly or 40 hours monthly.

The fellowship project is a labor of love not a job. The time invested by each student is typically considerable, but it is also flexible to account for schoolwork and other commitments and the working style of each

Fellow.

Fellows will receive a stipend for their work. Any Fellowship-related expenses accrued during the Fellowship period should be covered by the stipend.

Payments are dispersed in two installments: First installments of grant awards are made within two weeks of awarding the fellowship. Upon receipt and approval of the final report the final grant payment will be released. Grant funds must be distributed to an Administrative Office on campus (e.g.

Research, Grants and Contracts Office, Financial Aid Office, Campus Sustainability Office) to the attention of the appropriate administrator. Grant funds may be taxable; consult your tax advisor for U.S. Internal Revenue Service reporting requirements.

How to Apply:

To apply for a Fellowship:

1. Submit a cover letter and resume through NWF's Career Gateway website:

www.nwf.org/careergateway

2. Submit at least two letters of recommendation via email to campus@nwf.org with clear subject line that includes your full name.

Example: *John Doe's Fellowship Recommendation.*

*One recommendation must be from a faculty or staff person at your College or University.

3. Identify a grant processor or grant processing department on your campus that will be responsible for receiving and distributing the fellowship grant money. Please confirm with this person and/or department this role and get their approval and include their contact information in your application.

Applications are reviewed by a committee to determine which meet the selection criteria and fall within NWF Campus Ecology Fellowship Program. All applicants will be notified of their status within one month of their application deadline.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following:

- Demonstrated interest in and experience working within or with diverse constituencies
- Engagement with students, faculty, community organizations, and businesses
- Plans for outreach to local and campus newspapers
- Innovative approaches or models for the national climate action movement
- Strong communication skills of applicant to build diverse coalitions
- Initiative to overcome barriers and seek alternative avenues when necessary
- Proactive research and outreach to ensure project will successfully achieve the above
- Commitment to advancing environmental initiatives on academic, personal, and professional levels

-Desire to remain an active member in NWF after the conclusion of the Fellowship