



2009 NWF CAMPUS ECOLOGY FELLOWSHIPS: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Topic: Organizing and implementing the Southeast Regional Campus Climate Action Network

Location: Anywhere in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama or Mississippi.

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: College students, faculty, staff and administrators across the Southeast are working to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by their campuses in a wide variety of ways. Undoubtedly, some are further along than others. As an increasing number of individuals are beginning to take action to address global climate change, it is especially important for campus sustainability leaders to share information about best practices, lessons learned, innovative projects and emerging technologies with others, in order to accelerate emissions reductions throughout the region. National Wildlife Federation views climate change as one of the greatest threats to our ecosystems and the diversity of life that they support. NWF's Campus Ecology program helps to address this issue by providing resources and technical support to those working to reduce their campus greenhouse gas emissions. Campus Ecology field staff establish and support Climate Action Networks across the country to facilitate communication between campuses actively engaged in the fight against global warming. By connecting those leading the movement with others in their region, field coordinators work to build the foundation for resource sharing, mentorships, partnerships and other forms of collaboration between participating schools.

Goal: To assist Campus Ecology Southeast Field Coordinator in the development of a Climate Action Network of campuses in the region.

Key Responsibilities:

- Engage representatives (including students, faculty, staff and administration) from 10-20 campuses in discussions regarding successes and limitations that they have encountered when working to implement projects intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through conference calls, meetings, etc.
- Identify network needs and opportunities for collaboration to further accelerate a regional shift toward clean, renewable energy and carbon neutrality.

- Create tools for improved communication and sharing of resources and best practices among partner schools, as well as local businesses, non-profits and community organizations such as website development or other online tools.
- Support the organization of at least one gathering or summit to educate representatives from member campuses and provide time for face-to-face networking.
- Initiate the development of a regional Climate Action Plan involving the Network of schools and their surrounding communities.

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 curricula.
- 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 Southeastern United States. 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