



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE

Green Infrastructure and Funding Research Intern (Summer 2024)

ABOUT US: At New Jersey Future, we believe that great places help build great lives. To help create and preserve our great places, we promote sensible and equitable planning, redevelopment, and infrastructure investments that foster vibrant cities and towns, protect natural lands and waterways, enhance transportation choices, support a strong economy, and provide access to safe, affordable and aging-friendly neighborhoods for everyone. We do this through original research, innovative policy development, coalition-building, advocacy, and hands-on strategic assistance. Embracing differences and advancing fairness is central to our mission and operations, and we are firmly committed to pursuing greater justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in our work and culture. New Jersey Future (NJF) is located in downtown Trenton, NJ. For more information, visit www.njfuture.org.

BACKGROUND: NJF's Mainstreaming Green Infrastructure (MGI) is a program aimed at moving green stormwater infrastructure practices into common practice. Years ago, green building standards, such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), were considered eccentric and expensive. Now, they are mainstream and understood to be the smart way to build. The same thing is happening with green infrastructure. A vital paradigm shift has accelerated the mainstreaming process: the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) updated its stormwater management rules, effective March 2021, to mandate the use of green infrastructure to meet the rule's stormwater requirements.

To improve water quality, reduce flood risk, and increase walkability in New Jersey municipalities, more work must be done to promote green infrastructure beyond new development. This internship will research the funding of green infrastructure projects and the planning and implementation of complete and green streets.

NJF's Funding Navigator Program is New Jersey's first nonprofit statewide program committed to helping localities access funding for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater needs. This program connects communities, municipalities, and water systems to the financing and support they need by assessing problems and identifying solutions or connecting them to free technical assistance providers. In addition to green infrastructure research, the intern will provide funding information to the Funding Navigator team so they can best serve municipalities for years to come. Ultimately, the intern's work will contribute to New Jersey Future's goal of promoting healthy, equitable, and resilient communities.

INTERNSHIP SUMMARY: New Jersey Future's Mainstreaming Green Infrastructure (MGI) and Funding Navigator programs seek a current undergraduate or graduate student or recent graduate to research funding opportunities for stormwater infrastructure, including green infrastructure and complete and green streets. The intern reports to the MGI Policy and Program Coordinator and Funding Navigator Community Outreach Specialist.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Green Infrastructure and Funding Research Intern's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Update the Green Infrastructure Municipal Toolkit to reflect updated funding opportunities for green infrastructure.

- Update the Green Infrastructure Municipal Toolkit with Complete and Green Streets resources, funding opportunities, and best practices.
- Conduct research projects as assigned, including municipal funding from the State Revolving Fund and other sources to support the Funding Navigator program.
- Recommend updates to the Jersey Water Check data dashboard.
- Write short internal reports to document findings.
- Collect stormwater data to update the Jersey Water Check data dashboard.
- Write a blog post to publicize results at the end of the internship.
- Complete other tasks to support the MGI and Funding Navigator programs as needed, including note-taking at meetings.

REQUIREMENTS

- Motivated by the organization’s mission and dedicated to creating equitable and sustainable communities.
- Current college student or recent college graduate.
- Experience gathering information through online research and stakeholder outreach.
- Strong writing, citation, and communication skills.
- Attention to detail in producing accurate and meaningful results and products.
- Ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously, using time effectively and efficiently.
- Ability to work independently and as a part of a team.
- Demonstrated initiative and adaptability.
- Interest in environmental sustainability, stormwater management, and/or policy.
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

COMPENSATION: This is a part-time job (averaging approximately 20 hours a week for 10 weeks) at the rate of \$18 per hour. As a part-time employee, you are not eligible for benefits such as disability, health, dental, vision, or life insurance. No vacation days will be accrued, but you will earn one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked. The MGI and Funding Navigator team will work with the successful candidates to determine the specific internship start date in May 2024 and ending date in August 2024.

New Jersey Future employees are working on a hybrid work-from-home and in-office schedule. The MGI and Funding Navigator team will work with the intern to determine whether their schedule will be hybrid or remote.

APPLICATION: Interested and qualified candidates should submit a cover letter and a resume to HR@njfuture.org by May 3, 2024. Please write “Green Infrastructure and Funding Research Intern Application” in the subject line. If selected to advance, relevant references and a brief writing sample with original content (not edited or contributed to by someone other than the applicant) may be required. Relevant references will also be required. NJF is currently unable to sponsor or take over the sponsorship of an employment visa at this time. If hired, employment eligibility verification will be carried out upon selection.



At New Jersey Future, we embrace differences and advance fairness as a means to nurturing powerful ideas and realizing meaningful social change. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply and will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.