

**Internship Program Opportunity
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office Of Water
Washington, D.C.**

Project # EPA Water 2007-98

An internship project is available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water in Washington, DC.

Project Description: The internship will be served in the Water Security Division (WSD) which is primarily responsible for implementing activities to assist water utilities (drinking water and wastewater) in protecting their infrastructure from intentional acts (e.g., terrorist attacks) and national disasters. The intern will be trained in WSD's Threats Analysis, Prevention and Preparedness Branch (TAPPB). TAPPB develops emergency response and incident planning tools and guidance, develops emergency response planning workshops, funds and manages the development of research and technology tools in coordination with other agencies and EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center, and works to develop laboratory capabilities and monitoring and detection for drinking water systems under Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9 (HSPD 9).

Specific Tasks: WSD is developing and implementing a quantitative methodology to assess the human health and economic impacts of several hypothetical scenarios that might impact drinking water or wastewater utilities. The results from this effort will be used to help utilities improve vulnerability assessments and emergency response plans, as well as other related activities ongoing by the Department of Homeland Security. In the area of decontamination, WSD is leading an effort to develop a strategy for the water sector that will identify priorities for products, tools, and training that will be used by the sector for bringing a utility back into service following a contamination event. The intern will be involved in the development of EPA's consequence analysis and decontamination strategy. The project may include developing a short case study report covering the decontamination elements of an existing emergency response plan at a major utility and examining decision tree process flows for regulatory issues associated with decontamination.

In addition to supporting activities surrounding the development of the consequence analysis and decontamination strategy, the intern will participate in the public relations aspects surrounding the development of the Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA). This alliance of laboratories will be able to analyze a surge of drinking water samples. Utilizing various methodologies, the awareness of the WLA amongst EPA's stakeholder community will be promoted. Tools and educational materials will be developed that will contribute to the enhancement of the nation's laboratory infrastructure. The intern may be involved in creating reference materials and training courses, facilitating national meetings, developing issue papers, and communicating with the laboratory community.

Expected Results: The intern will learn processes by which water sector utilities assess vulnerabilities and consequences, and the activities needed for responding to and recovering from contamination events. This internship also provides excellent exposure to a broad range of environmental and policy issues surrounding water utility protection and security. The intern will have the opportunity to learn and participate in the education, outreach, and partnership activities related to EPA's water security programs. Through this internship, the intern will have a better understanding of how EPA implements a variety of non-regulatory, voluntary programs, and the linkages between EPA's programs and state water utilities and laboratories.

Intern Qualifications and Skills: Applicants should have received a bachelor's public health or economics within four years of the desired starting date. A demonstrated knowledge of routine environmental laboratory practices and procedures and strong analytical skills are desired. Applicants should have experience with MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Strong verbal and written communication skills are essential. The intern should have the ability to perform in a fast-paced team environment.

The program is open to all qualified individuals without regard to race, sex, religion, color, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, or status as a Vietnam era or disabled veteran. U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent resident status is preferred (but can also hold an appropriate visa status, however, an H1B visa is not appropriate).

Stipend and Tenure: The appointment is for one year and may be depending on funding availability. The intern will receive an annual stipend not to exceed \$50,645. The intern does not become an EPA employee.

The EPA contact person for this project is Patricia Tidwell-Shelton. Her e-mail address is Tidwell-Shelton.Patricia@epa.gov.

The Internship Program for EPA Water is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE). Please reference Project # EPA Water 2007-98 when calling or writing for information. For additional information and application material contact: Internship Program - EPA Water, Attn: Betty Bowling - MS 36, ORISE, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831 Phone: (865) 576-8503 Fax: (865) 241-5219 e-mail: betty.bowling@ornl.gov

Sam Bryant serves as the EPA Office of Water internship program coordinator. His email address is bryant.samuel@epa.gov.

An application can be found at <http://www.ornl.gov/orise/edu/EPA/app-gugrgpd.pdf>.