City of Evansville

Summer 2020 Resilience Cohort Extern

The City of Evansville seeks a highly motivated student to assist with the development of a climate action plan in the summer of 2020. Completing a climate action plan provides communities with a strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change impacts.

The successful applicant will be hired as an Indiana Sustainability Development Program extern through Sustain IU, Indiana University's sustainability office. The extern will participate in the IU Environmental Resilience Institute's Resilience Cohort, along with other Indiana governments developing climate action plans. The extern will work with a city employee and receive on-the-job training from ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability on how to analyze the results of a greenhouse gas inventory using ClearPath, a cloud-based inventory software, and develop strategies to reduce emissions.

The extern will learn a replicable skill and gain valuable experience in greenhouse gas analysis, emissions reductions planning, and working in local government. They will also develop technical and project management skills beneficial to a career in climate science, policy, environmental management and local government and other related fields.

About Evansville: As Indiana’s third largest city, Evansville is undergoing a bit of a renaissance. Significant investment is underway most noticeably in the urban core, but also throughout the city. A new convention hotel (a Doubletree by Hilton) is now attached via pedestrian bridge to the Ford Center (arena) and the Old National Events Plaza (convention center), making this area a hub of activity for guests. Across the street from the DoubleTree sits the Stone Family Center for Health Sciences, a medical educational partnership between the Indiana University School of Medicine, the University of Evansville and the University of Southern Indiana. A second building on this campus, featuring clinical research space for IU and a new Deaconess Clinic, is under construction now and scheduled for completion June 1, 2020.

One of Evansville’s strong Regional Cities projects, a joint venture between Vectren and General Electric, is also expected to open late next spring. Vectren will be testing the effectiveness of solar energy in two apartment buildings, while GE will be testing the efficiency of their small urban appliances in that same setting. In all, 146 apartments are included in the project.
Evansville Regional Airport is also putting a canopy over its short-term parking lot to assist frequent fliers who most frequently use this lot. The canopy will be covered with solar panels, which will provide a significant amount of power to the airport.

Responsibilities

- Engage with community members and stakeholders to receive input and feedback
- Promote opportunities for the public to engage with plan development
- Communicate with government agencies, industries and local government officials to develop actionable emissions reduction goals
- Utilize Microsoft Excel and ClearPath to execute moderately complex data analysis
- Synthesize inventory analysis into actionable policy and program recommendations
- Participate in regular Resilience Cohort webinars and conference calls
- Assist in drafting a climate action plan
- Assist with other sustainability projects such as [list projects, as desired] and others depending on time and interest
- Attend a 4-day bootcamp training, hosted by Sustain IU and the Environmental Resilience Institute, May 18-21, 2020

Qualifications

- Prior quantitative coursework or research experience, preferably in a discipline applied to sustainability such as environmental science, environmental management, engineering, chemistry, or environmental economics
- Experience manipulating data using spreadsheets
- Experience summarizing research in reports and presentations
- Ability to follow detailed and technical instructions
- Enthusiastic about greenhouse gas management and reduction
- Effective written communication, especially for a public audience
- Exemplary verbal communication, including speaking publicly
- Self-motivated, proactive, and flexible with careful attention to detail
- Ability to prioritize and manage multiple ongoing tasks

Preferred Skills

- Experience in evaluating the environmental impact of products, activities, and systems
- Experience creating professional reports

Application Process

Applicants should submit the online application for ISDP, uploading a resume and cover letter. Applicants interested in the City of Evansville extern position should indicate so on their application. The application deadline is February 28, 2020.
Compensation
Compensation will be in the form of a scholarship from Sustain IU. The externship will span 10 weeks between May and August. The extern will be expected to work full-time and must participate in a mandatory bootcamp training in May 2020.