

Opportunity Title: Wetland and Stream Regulatory Program

Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-Water-2016-397

Organization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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How to Apply A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcripts – [Click here for detailed information about acceptable transcripts](#)
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional references

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

If you have questions, send an email to EPArpp@orau.org. Please include the reference code for this opportunity in your email.

Description A postgraduate research training opportunity is available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Water (OW). This appointment will be served with the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Wetlands Division, in Washington, DC.

The intern will be mentored by Wetlands Regulatory Program staff that provides technical support for several priority areas, such as the update of the program's Avoidance & Minimization Project (AMP) website which helps to organize and facilitate rapid access by EPA Regions to our best regulatory program practices and resources. This project will also provide training for technical support to ongoing branch priorities through GIS analysis, our national tracking system for coordination on Clean Water Act section 404 projects, and collecting and evaluating program information to identify priorities for further research, technical resource and training development.

Through this project, the participant will be trained to identify a priority set of project-specific information to organize, manage and analyze. S/he will learn to identify trends in program and project implementation and best practices, and recommendations for more efficient and effective program implementation. Potential subject areas for research projects include:

- Compilation and analysis of project file histories to develop case studies of what improvements were realized, what issues did not see improvements, and what trends exist across projects.
- Compilation and analysis of project files to identify what issues and project types should be used to organize the program history for most efficient access and integration with modern tools for informing review of proposed projects.
- Compilation and analysis of information from EPA and Corp's Clean Water Act section 404 permit tracking systems to compare EPA review focus and results to the overall programmatic impact on aquatic resources nationally or regionally.

This research training opportunity will provide an exceptional professional



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development opportunity in a highly collaborative, multidisciplinary environment. The research participant will have access to a team of experts collaborating in and across disciplines on emerging and high-profile projects and topics including:

- Clean Water Act section 404 regulatory authority and practices
- Review and analysis approaches for complex development projects impacting all types of aquatic ecosystems
- Wetland and stream restoration policy and practice
- Alternative approaches to design, build, operate and evaluate different types of projects that may result in a discharge to aquatic resources (e.g. mining, transportation, pipelines, water supply reservoirs, or retail developments)

Through this program, the intern will gain a better understanding of how EPA implements a variety of regulatory and non-regulatory programs to increase understanding and positive perception of the functions and values of aquatic resources.

The intern will have an opportunity to obtain a broad view of CWA issues and how its programs interrelate, and will gain an understanding of aquatic resource protection programs. S/he may also have the opportunity to generate reports, analyze data, create maps, conduct geospatial analyses, write memoranda and create outreach documents. S/he will also have opportunities to submit research project results for publication in trade and peer reviewed journals.

This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and EPA.






Qualifications Applicants must have received a master's, or doctoral degree in natural science, engineering or statistics within five years of the desired starting date, or completion of all requirements for the degree should be expected prior to the starting date..Familiarity with the Clean Water Act Section 404 program is desirable.

The appointment is full-time for one year and may be renewed upon recommendation of EPA and contingent on the availability of funds. The participant will receive a monthly stipend. The annual stipend range will be commensurate with the level of education. Funding may be made available to reimburse the participant's travel expenses to present the results of his/her research at scientific conferences. No funding will be made available to cover travel costs for pre-appointment visits, relocation costs, tuition and fees, or participant's health insurance. The participant must show proof of health and medical insurance. The participant does not become an EPA employee.

The mentor for this project is Brian Topping (topping.brian@epa.gov). The desired start date is January 4, 2017.

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- Eligibility**
- Requirements**
 - **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
 - **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 month(s).
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Communications and Graphics Design** ([1](#) )
 - **Earth and Geosciences** ([2](#) )
 - **Engineering** ([1](#) )
 - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([12](#) )
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([7](#) )
 - **Mathematics and Statistics** ([1](#) )