

PAST PRIORITIES PROJECT
POSITION DESCRIPTION
Environmental Priorities Coalition

OVERVIEW:

The Environmental Priorities Coalition is a network of more than twenty leading environmental groups that builds power for the environmental movement in Washington State. Each year the community comes together to select three to four issues that advance our cause in the state legislature. This prioritization has helped us achieve groundbreaking successes and created a model used in states across the nation. Thanks to our focused power, we have been able to achieve cleaner cars and greener buildings, responsible limits on climate pollution, and reductions in dangerous toxins in children's products.

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION:

The intern will work with the Environmental Priorities Outreach Director and Washington Environmental Council's Legislative Director to conduct a research project to gauge the cumulative impact of the Coalition's past Priorities. WEC would like to document the long-term changes that have occurred because of the Priorities. This project would quantify the environmental benefits—energy saved, toxics eliminated, acres restored, waterways cleaned, etc., as well as examine the reasons a Priority may not have been successful after passage. Assessing the priorities will involve gathering data and talking to state agencies, partner groups, and other organizations responsible for the implementation of the legislation or budget policy.

INTERN RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the supervision of the staff mentioned above, this position will have the following responsibilities:

- Research and analyze the results of past Environmental Priorities campaigns to help quantify their impact on Washington's environment.
- Create a logic system to code Priorities by category that would allow for future comparisons.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of each Priority through research, interviews, policy analysis, and other identified ranking criteria.
- Identify possible success factors and measurements for the targeted campaigns.
- Analyze selected campaigns' common threads: including legislative, economic, personnel.
- Analyze outlying factors: including political climate, grassroots engagement, and if the lead group is still tracking or working on the issue.
- Summarize the result of the analysis into a useful report - highlighting success and shortfalls—that can be shared with Coalition members and certain outside partners including funders
- Time permitting, compare past Priorities efforts with similar proposals in other states to determine where the Priorities Coalition is leading and lacking in its efforts.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Masters level or law student required.

SKILLS REQUIRED:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Well organized with attention to detail and ability to keep complex projects moving forward.
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Ability to take initiative and carry out tasks independently

- Interest in environment issues and politics
- Ability to liaise with agency staff and community partners effectively
- Some experience or understanding of policy campaigns and the legislative process.

SCHEDULE:

We are flexible and can work around school or work schedules. We ask for a commitment of 8 – 10 hours a week for a minimum of 12 weeks. Some work may be done off site, but the position will be required to work from the downtown Seattle office for at least a couple hours every week. College credit can be arranged.

COMPENSATION:

A stipend of \$3,000 is available for this work.

TO APPLY:

Please send a resume, cover letter, and writing sample to Lisa Remlinger, lisa@wecprotects.org.