SUMMER WATER INTERN

May - August 2021

Work with partner organizations and help bring water science expertise to answer Pittsburgh's water challenges

Open to all Pitt Undergraduates
Applications due 1 March 2021

$5,000 stipend
Opportunity to develop independent research inquiries

Application details here:
https://www.water.pitt.edu/opportunities-0
Seeking Water Research Interns, Partner Organizations, and Advisors for Summer 2021!

Potential interns:
The Pittsburgh Collaboratory for Water Research, Education, and Outreach at the University of Pittsburgh is seeking talented and motivated Pitt undergraduates for paid summer research internships (May-August 2021). The interns will work with a partner organization that interacts with water systems (e.g., NGOs, municipality, agency, community, or other water practitioners), as well as an advisor to conduct independent research related to water. A list of potential partner organizations can be found on our website. The advisor can be external to the Collaboratory leadership team and should have the expertise needed to guide the intern through this project. Postdocs and visiting research scholars can serve as intern advisors; senior Ph.D. candidates will be considered. The intern will receive a $5,000 stipend. Applications are encouraged from across the University of Pittsburgh, regardless of major, school or departmental affiliation. You can find out more about the Collaboratory and previous intern research on our website. Applicants are encouraged to meet with a member of the Collaboratory leadership team to discuss proposal ideas and identify potential partner organizations and advisors.

Applicants should submit an application package that includes:
(a) A short research proposal (as described below);
(b) A cover letter that describes their interest in the position and includes the contact information for three references;
(c) Unofficial College transcript(s),
(d) A letter of commitment from the partner organization,
(e) A letter of commitment from an academic advisor.

Applications should be emailed as a single pdf to Megan Guy (megan.guy@pitt.edu) by 03/01/21.

Research proposals, not to exceed two pages in length, should address locally and/or regionally relevant water issues including but not limited to water quality, quantity, and the impact of water on local ecosystems, human health, or social equity. The proposal should describe the importance of the research question, the method through which it will be addressed, a timeline including intermediate benchmarks, and anticipated outcomes. If applicable, the proposal can address how the proposed research aligns with recommendations highlighted in the community consensus reports. Applicants will be selected based on the quality of their proposal and application materials. Applicants will be informed by 03/22/21 regarding acceptance of their application. The selected applicant, academic advisor, and partner organization will coordinate a meeting with representatives of the Water Collaboratory during April 2021 to discuss the internship scope, goals, schedule, and deliverables. The expected deliverables, including a written report and a presentation, should be completed by the end of August 2021.

This internship is a great opportunity to “get your feet wet” with independent research and to influence the critical intersection between water and urban environments. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Collaboratory leadership team.

Potential partner organizations:
Partner organizations interested in serving as community partners for Interns are encouraged to contact a member of the Collaboratory leadership team.

Potential faculty advisors:
If you have a project idea and potential community partner, but are looking for talented undergraduates, feel free to contact the Collaboratory leadership team for suggestions. Most semesters we have a pool of capable undergraduate students that are looking for project ideas, advisors, and partners.