

TITLE: Laboratory Intern

EMPLOYER: Interstate Environmental Commission (IEC)

LOCATION: Interstate Environmental Commission laboratory in Brooklyn, New York.

BACKGROUND: The Interstate Environmental Commission comprehensively addresses water quality issues and priorities in the IEC jurisdictional waters in the tri-state area (NY, NJ, and CT). IEC performs a diverse array of water quality projects that include ambient water quality monitoring surveys, compliance inspections, laboratory analyses, public education and outreach.

JOB SUMMARY: Assist with laboratory, and office work associated with IEC's seasonal water quality monitoring activities. Activities are generally water quality oriented, but can cover a wide range of environmental issues, according to program needs.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Interns will participate in laboratory analyses and duties to support the water quality projects outlined below.

- Performing a variety of chemical and microbiological analyses on water samples in IEC's laboratory including, but not limited to: bacteriological analyses utilizing membrane filtration techniques and multiple-well (IDEXX™ technique), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), turbidity and chlorophyll a according to standard operating procedures based on EPA-approved methods on completion of training and satisfactory demonstration of capability.
- Perform laboratory washing, sterilization, and preparation of bottles, coolers, equipment, quality control activities, and housekeeping, as necessary.
- Data review and data entry associated with laboratory analyses and field monitoring data.
- Organization and management of spreadsheets associated with data.
- Assist with pre and post-sampling calibration of equipment (YSI multiparameter meters), and post-sampling calibration checks.
- Participate in public education, outreach and information activities to promote and educate the public on regional water quality issues and projects, as appropriate.
- Develop and review standard operating procedures (SOPs), as requested.
- Providing quality assurance/quality control support to laboratory and field programs by assistance with methods, QA/QC checks, equipment maintenance and calibration, record keeping and supply inventory as applicable.
- Assist the Executive Director and staff in the general operations of the office and laboratory

EDUCATION: Minimum of 3 years towards a Bachelor's Degree in environmental science, biology, or closely related field. Bachelor's degree preferred.

QUALIFICATIONS: Ideal applicants will be highly motivated, detail-oriented, and flexible with a strong interest in water quality issues, willingness to work in laboratory setting

Required:

- Strong interest in environmental issues and desire to learn
- Ability to follow directions and guidelines outlined in IEC's Standard operating procedures, Project Plans and other documents; attention to detail
- Strong organizational and time-management skills; ability to multi-task
- Strong communication skills
- Strong computer skills, particularly Excel
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team; quick learner

Desired:

- Prior field and laboratory experience
- Prior experience with multi-parameter sondes, specifically YSI EXO1, YSI EXO2, YSI ProDSS, and associated software
- Experience with MS Access, ArcGIS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This is a paid position; hourly pay is between \$21.00-\$23.00/hour, commensurate with experience. It is estimated that the position will be a full-time, seasonal position, requiring 37.5 hours (5 days per week), with some flexibility. This is an in-person position; this position does not include a remote work option. This position is laboratory-based (field work/driving not required). The approximate start date is May 1, 2024 with an estimated end date of October 31st, 2024, with some flexibility in start and/or end dates to accommodate academic schedules and personal schedules. This position does not include benefits, other than statutory benefits such as workers compensation, social security taxes and unemployment insurance. Duties will occur at IEC's headquarters based in Brooklyn, NY. Occasional weekend work may be required in order to process samples.