Social Justice Division
Environmental Protection Bureau—New York City
Student Assistant for Environmental Justice and Community Engagement
Reference No. EPB/EJ_NYC_PUGS_2026

Academic Year Paid, Part-Time Placement for Graduate or Undergraduate Students
Application Deadline is August 21, 2026*

The Office of the New York State Attorney General's (OAG) Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB) in New York City is seeking applications from graduate and undergraduate students for a paid environmental justice placement during the 2026-2027 academic year (fall and spring terms). EPB is responsible for enforcing state and federal environmental laws and takes legal action on behalf of the people of New York to protect the public health and environment. The EPB defends state agencies when their regulatory efforts are challenged in court. The EPB's legal and scientific staff also investigate and respond to citizen complaints, participate in community engagement, and prepare reports, brochures, and other information for the public on environmental issues. In its work, EPB prioritizes reducing environmental and health disparities, and promoting environmental justice in New York. The EPB's Environmental Justice Initiative monitors developments in the field, manages outreach and nurtures engagement with communities and advocates, identifies opportunities for legal action, and addresses health concerns associated with environmental exposures. **The selected students must have availability to start this placement in early September 2026.**

The student intern will report to the Senior Counsel for Environmental Justice and to the Senior Environmental Scientist, both of whom work on the EPB's Environmental Justice Initiative. Responsibilities will include participating in community engagement activities, including those directly related to environmental justice and consumer issues; developing and disseminating outreach and educational materials in both formal settings and informal settings; assisting with outreach to and management of relationships with community-based organizations; attending and facilitating meetings with community-based organizations; and creating public-facing educational materials that help to communicate the risks that environmental contaminants pose to human and ecosystem health. The student intern will also conduct research on environmental justice issues, including health and demographic data, pollution sources, and relevant policies, while updating project databases and preparing presentations.

In addition, the student intern may gain experience working with federal, state, and local government agency staff. Former EPB student interns have worked on issues related to climate change, toxic air emissions, contaminated consumer products, pesticides, sustainability and energy, drinking water quality, and other public health matters.

Successful candidates will have a strong interest in community engagement on environmental, public health, and social justice issues and experience communicating science to lay audiences. Additional key qualities include intellectual curiosity, respect, self-motivation, and strong listening, writing and public speaking skills. Candidates must be available to participate in occasional after-hours commitments in the New York City area. Preferred qualifications include Spanish language skills and experience facilitating group discussions.

Placement Details

- **The format of this placement is Hybrid.** Students report to their designated workstation two or three (2-3) days per week. On the days students work remotely, they need a reliable computer, a secure internet connection, a phone, and a sufficiently quiet and private workspace to telework. However, students who are available to complete all their weekly work hours in-office are preferred.
- **At the time the student receives and accepts a paid placement offer, they must provide written documentation demonstrating they are a full-time graduate student in good academic standing as defined by their school. Applications from students who are starting university during the 2026-27 academic year will not be considered.**

- The student intern hired for this placement will work part-time for the academic year (15 hours/week for 24 weeks for a total of 360 paid hours over the course of the fall and spring terms). Graduate students are paid the hourly rate of $19.38 and undergraduate students are paid the hourly rate of $17.75.
- *Applications are accepted online until **August 21, 2026**, and paid placement offers are made on a rolling basis.
- Students who are hired for this placement may begin on September 2, 2026, or after.
- United States (U.S.) citizenship and New York state residency are not required, but applicants must be eligible to be employed in the U.S.

Candidates from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
The OAG is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to workplace diversity.

How to Apply

The following section provides detailed information about the application process and application requirements. Please review the complete list of instructions prior to preparing and submitting your application materials online. You will be unable to edit or amend your application after it has been submitted.

- Applications for this placement must be submitted online. To apply, please click the following link:

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- Applications are submitted separately for each bureau/regional office, and an applicant's candidacy for each application is determined separately by each bureau/regional office.
- **Please limit your application submissions to three (3) total across all bureaus/regional offices.**
- *Applications are accepted online until **August 21, 2026,** and placement offers are made on a rolling basis.
- **The following five (5) documents must be submitted with your application:**

Your documents should reflect your own thoughts/work product in text that was written by you. Do not use artificial intelligence (AI) to generate application documents. Once submitted, you will not be able to access or edit your application. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to have someone review/proofread your documents ahead of submitting your application online.

1. **Cover Letter**
   - You may choose to address your letter to the Legal Recruitment Unit.
   - Indicate why you are interested in a placement with OAG and what makes you a strong candidate.
   - You may wish to include information about what life experiences you will bring to the position that will enhance OAG's ability to better serve the diverse population of this state.
   - Please indicate your availability to attend evening committee meetings.
2. **Resume**
   - Ensure your resume is complete and current prior to submitting your application.
3. **Reference List**
   - Submit a list of three (3) professional references (i.e., supervisor or professor).
   - For each reference, indicate the nature and duration of your relationship.
   - Include contact information and email addresses for each reference.
   - Please note that your references will not be contacted until after your interview for the placement.
4. **Writing Sample**
   - Submit a paper completed for school or a writing sample that was prepared for a job or during an internship/externship.
   - Submit a sample that demonstrates your ability to analyze and organize information into an effective document.
   - We recommend submitting a sample that is 2-4 pages in length.
   - If needed, please include a cover page providing the reviewer with any relevant background information or context.
5. **Course List**
   - In lieu of a transcript, please provide a list of courses relevant to your application that you have successfully completed for **both your undergraduate and graduate education.**
   - Please be advised this information will be used to assess whether you have the necessary policy and science and other prerequisites for this placement.

- **Failure to submit a complete application will delay the consideration of your candidacy.**
- If a bureau wishes to schedule an interview, they will contact you directly to arrange this meeting.

The OAG provides reasonable accommodation for applicants with disabilities. If you have questions regarding a position with OAG, the application process, or need assistance with submitting your application, please contact Legal Recruitment via email at recruitment@ag.ny.gov or phone at 212-416-8080.

For more information about OAG, please visit our website: ag.ny.gov