

What NYS Organizations Need to Know: The SUNY Climate Corps Internship Program

What is SUNY Climate Corps?

The SUNY Climate Corps program started in 2024 to connect SUNY students to internships at New York State Agencies, Authorities, and Public Benefit Corps (organizations) that are implementing the climate and sustainability goals in the CLCPA and EO22. The goal is to prepare students with substantive experience, knowledge, and skills necessary to excel in the environmental field across many disciplines: planning, technology, renewable energy, sustainable infrastructure, circular economy, etc. The program also aims to increase diversity in the field by providing paid internships to help break down barriers that often prevent students from participating in an internship. SUNY is hopeful that this program can help provide NYS Organizations with the next generation of leaders in sustainability.

Funding is provided to SUNY through a generous grant from Empire State Development (ESD) and provides for intern salaries.

How do NYS Organizations take part?

Organizations affected by EO22 are eligible to take part in this program. They will need a point person to communicate with SUNY on internships, sign an MOU agreement, and pass along communications from SUNY to students and supervisors.

What NYS Organizations provide:

Organizations should be prepared to provide meaningful experiences in the sustainability field to interns for the summer or longer. Descriptions will be collected by SUNY (Juliana Smith, juliana.smith@suny.edu) by mid-January (on a rolling basis for organizations joining later). See description examples from Parks and DEC last year: [SUNYinterns at DEC.docx](#) [NYS Parks Internships Summer 2024 240123.docx](#)

Organizations also need to provide quarterly invoices detailing how much was spent on intern salaries for reimbursement and where each intern is located for their position. They will also be asked to provide end of term reports from supervisors and interns about their experience.

What SUNY Provides:

SUNY provides reimbursement for intern salary costs up to a pre-determined level. We are planning to have a welcome event for all interns in Albany at the beginning of the summer. Additional meet ups and informational training for interns may be possible as well, and most likely online.

Contact: Send all communications to Juliana Smith, Sustainability Coordinator at SUNY System Administration, unless otherwise noted: juliana.smith@suny.edu

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