



Legal Fellowship for New Law Graduates Ossining, New York

Join our dynamic legal team at Riverkeeper, New York's premiere champion of the Hudson River and its watershed. Help advance Riverkeeper's goals of a healthy Hudson and safe drinking water through litigation, policy advocacy, coalition building and public outreach.

Background

Established in 1966, Riverkeeper is an independent, member-supported environmental organization whose mission is to protect the environmental, recreational, and commercial integrity of the Hudson River and its tributaries, and to safeguard the drinking water supply of nine million New Yorkers. For more information, visit www.riverkeeper.org.

Position Overview

Riverkeeper seeks a new law school graduate who will contribute to Riverkeeper's presence and effectiveness in protecting the Hudson River, its tributaries, and the watershed that provides New York City's drinking water. The Fellowship is a full-time, six-month attorney position with full benefits and the potential to renew through one year. Our preferred starting date is December 15, 2022.

As part of the legal team, the Fellow will advance Riverkeeper's policy goals of fishable, swimmable waterways, and clean drinking water. The Fellow will be involved in every aspect of our program and gain hands-on experience bringing impact litigation, enforcing environmental laws, investigating pollution complaints, reviewing proposed legislation, regulations, and environmental permits and drafting legal documents. The Fellow will also represent Riverkeeper in meetings with government officials, the public and media outlets. The position offers a flexible, mostly remote work schedule and requires some travel throughout the Hudson River Valley to attend meetings and appointments that may be outside of normal business hours.

The Legal Fellow will report to the Legal Program Director and work closely with Riverkeeper attorneys and other staff to protect and restore the Hudson River in a manner consistent with climate and environmental justice principles. Riverkeeper's campaigns are focused on a range of issues, including reducing sewage pollution, fighting new fossil fuel infrastructure in the Hudson Valley, watchdogging the Indian Point nuclear power plant decommissioning, ensuring the remediation of Superfund and other legacy industrial sites, restoring critical habitat and declining fish populations, improving water quality, and ensuring climate adaptation policies are environmentally sensitive.

Riverkeeper is looking for an attorney with an exceptional commitment to the environment and an outstanding academic and experiential-learning record. Riverkeeper is an equal opportunity employer and highly values diversity.

Requirements

All candidates must:

- Have a strong commitment to Riverkeeper's mission and values;
- Have obtained a J.D. in 2021 or 2022;
- Be admitted to practice law in New York State, or be eligible to sit for the next administration of the New York State bar exam;
- Demonstrate understanding of federal and state administrative and environmental law;
- Have excellent writing, research and communication skills;
- Be energetic, creative, well organized, independent, hard-working, personable, and have a sense of humor; and
- Be able to maintain a flexible work schedule and willing to work some evenings traveling throughout the Hudson Valley for meetings.

Candidates will be preferred who also have:

- Coursework or experience in environmental policy and/or litigation;
- Coursework or experience in public oral advocacy;
- Coursework or experience with the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, and/or the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, etc.

Compensation and benefits

Compensation for this position will be commensurate with experience, with a minimum of \$30,000 per six-month period, plus generous benefits, including eligibility for medical insurance, commuter benefits, retirement savings account, as well as paid holidays and time off. Candidates able to assist with supporting the fellowship by obtaining matching third-party funding, for example, from their law school, are encouraged to do so.

Application Procedure:

Please submit your resume, cover letter and writing sample, not to exceed ten pages, to humanresources@riverkeeper.org by November 27, 2022. Please write "Legal Fellow" in the subject line. Phone calls will not be accepted.

Riverkeeper is an AA/EEO employer. Riverkeeper is committed to attracting, developing, and retaining exceptional people, and to creating a work environment that is dynamic, rewarding, and enables each of us to realize our potential. Our work environment is safe and open to all employees and partners, respecting the full spectrum of race, color, religious creed, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliation, ancestry, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, and all other classifications protected by law.

People from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.