

**Opportunity Title:** EPA Marine Pollution Prevention  
**Opportunity Reference Code:** EPA-OW-OWOW-2021-02

**Organization** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

**Reference Code** EPA-OW-OWOW-2021-02

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A complete application consists of:

- An application
- Transcript(s) – For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted. All transcripts must be in English or include an official English translation. Click [here](#) for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional recommendations. Click [here](#) for detailed information about recommendations.

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

**Application Deadline** 6/30/2021 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

**Description** \*Applications may be reviewed on a rolling-basis and this posting could close before the deadline. Click [here](#) for information about the selection process.

**EPA Office/Lab and Location:** A research opportunity is available at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Office of Water (OW), Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds (OWOW). The appointment will be served with the Freshwater and Marine Regulatory Branch (FMRB) located in Washington D.C.

In the past, communities around the world used the ocean for waste disposal, including the disposal of chemical and industrial wastes, radioactive wastes, trash, munitions, sewage sludge, and contaminated dredged material. Little attention was given to the negative impacts of waste disposal on the marine environment. Even less attention was focused on opportunities to recycle or reuse such materials. Wastes were frequently dumped in coastal and ocean waters based on the assumption that marine waters had an unlimited capacity to mix and disperse wastes.

For nearly 50 years, EPA's Ocean Dumping Management Program has stopped many harmful materials from being ocean dumped, worked to limit ocean dumping generally, and worked to prevent adverse impacts to human health, the marine environment, and other legitimate uses of the ocean (e.g., navigation, fishing) from pollution caused by ocean dumping. EPA's Freshwater and Marine Branch, in coordination with EPA's seven coastal Regional Offices (Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9 and 10), administers the Ocean Dumping Management Program.


**Research Project:** EPA marine pollution control programs are responsible for the development of polices, guidance, and regulations, and for the


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implementation of programs to protect ocean and coastal resources. This project will focus on conducting research to support EPA's Ocean Dumping Management Program. Through implementation of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, sometimes referred to as the U.S. Ocean Dumping Act, EPA works to safeguard the ocean by preventing or limiting the dumping of any material that would adversely impact human health and the marine environment.

**Learning Objectives:** This project will provide excellent exposure to a broad range of scientific, technical, and policy issues pertaining to sources of marine pollution and the protection of the marine environment. Under the guidance of a mentor, the participant will gain an understanding of EPA's marine pollution prevention programs and have an opportunity to develop research projects to support EPA's role in working with international and federal agencies and state and local governments on ocean and coastal management, and learn first-hand about the interaction between the various levels of government and the private sector on these issues. The participant's research will focus on assisting with the development of national-level reports describing monitoring of ocean disposal sites, evaluating wastes and other materials that may be considered for dumping into the ocean (this may include data analysis and/or literature reviews), and assisting with the development of tools to support the national program.

**Mentor(s):** The mentors for this opportunity are Betsy Valente ([valente.betsy@epa.gov](mailto:valente.betsy@epa.gov)) and Sarah Gilliland ([gilliand.sarah@epa.gov](mailto:gilliand.sarah@epa.gov)). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

**Anticipated Appointment Start Date:** **Summer 2021.** All start dates are flexible and vary depending on numerous factors. Click [here](#) for detailed information about start dates.

**Appointment Length:** The appointment will initially be for one year and may be renewed up to three additional years upon EPA recommendation and subject to availability of funding.

**Level of Participation:** The appointment is full-time.

**Participant Stipend:** The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. At this time, master's degree stipends are ~\$60,129 and Postdocs are ~\$72,750 per year. Click [here](#) for detailed information about full-time stipends.

**EPA Security Clearance:** Completion of a successful background investigation by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is required for an applicant to be on-boarded at EPA.

**ORISE Information:** This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and EPA. Participants do

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not become employees of EPA, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

**Questions:** Please see the [FAQ section](#) of our website. After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process please email [ORISE.EPA.OW@orau.org](mailto:ORISE.EPA.OW@orau.org) and include the reference code for this opportunity.

**Qualifications** The qualified candidate should have received a master's or doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields, or be currently pursuing one of the degrees and will reach completion by the anticipated start date. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Candidates with strong communication, writing, and analytical skills are preferred.

- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
  - **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 6/30/2021 11:59:00 PM.
  - **Discipline(s):**
    - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([12](#) 👁)
    - **Communications and Graphics Design** ([1](#) 👁)
    - **Earth and Geosciences** ([21](#) 👁)
    - **Engineering** ([27](#) 👁)
    - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([14](#) 👁)
    - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([46](#) 👁)
  - **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).