

Opportunity Title: EPA Coastal Acidification Vulnerability Research

Opportunity

Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-ORD-CPHEA-PESD-2020-05



Organization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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How to Apply

Connect with ORISE...on the GO! Download the new ORISE GO mobile app in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) to help you stay engaged, connected, and informed during your ORISE experience and beyond!

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 1/29/2021 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 training opportunity is available at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Research and Development (ORD), Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment (CPHEA), Pacific Ecological Systems Division (PESD) in Newport, Oregon.

Research Project: The research participant will participate in a research project focused on assessing the role of land-based drivers of coastal acidification in estuaries of the United States. The project will utilize existing and novel biogeochemical, spatial, and model data to evaluate the patterns and trends of estuarine acidification in estuaries around the U.S. This research project will help inform a vulnerability assessment of U.S. estuaries to land-based sources of acidification, including the roles of eutrophication and land use change. Activities that the research participant may be involved in include:

- Field activities including sampling streams and estuaries for water chemistry, and servicing water quality instrumentation.
- Compiling and analyzing datasets of stream and estuarine water quality (including nutrients, pH, alkalinity, and stable isotopes), land use, and other relevant indicators of land-based sources of acidification.
- Compiling scientific literature relevant to the project.
- Collaborating with government and academic researchers to help develop hydrodynamic and biogeochemical models of coastal and estuarine systems.
- Contributing to scientific manuscripts and presentations on this research project, including opportunities for presenting at scientific conferences.

Learning Objectives: The research participant will have the opportunity to gain knowledge by collaborating with a multidisciplinary team of EPA researchers. Through regular interactions with this team, the research participant will gain experience with conducting field work and maintaining water quality monitoring instrumentation, collecting water quality samples, analyzing samples, compiling and analyzing large datasets, laboratory management, following quality assurance protocols, and preparing reports and presentations. The research participant will have an opportunity to communicate their findings through publication of manuscripts and participation in scientific conferences. The research participant is encouraged to collaborate on writing of manuscripts for publication and project reports.

Mentor(s): The mentor for this opportunity is Stephen Pacella (pacella.stephen@epa.gov). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).

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Anticipated Appointment Start Date: February 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 four 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. 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 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 EPArpp@orau.org and include the reference code for this opportunity.








Qualifications

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

Preferred skills:

- Experience in the fields of oceanography, marine science, environmental science, hydrology, biogeochemistry, or other similar and relevant fields
- Experience with technical/statistical software packages (e.g. R, Matlab, Python, GIS), data analysis, and their application to environmental analysis

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
- **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree received within the last 60 months or anticipated to be received by 2/28/2021 11:59:00 PM.
- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** (1 )
 - **Earth and Geosciences** (10 )
 - **Engineering** (2 )
 - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (14 )
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (10 )
 - **Mathematics and Statistics** (2 )
 - **Other Physical Sciences** (9 )
- **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).