

Welcome to the CLU-IN Internet Seminar

EPA NNEMS Fellowship 2010 Program Solicitation Sponsored by: US EPA Technology Innovation and Field Services Division

Delivered:

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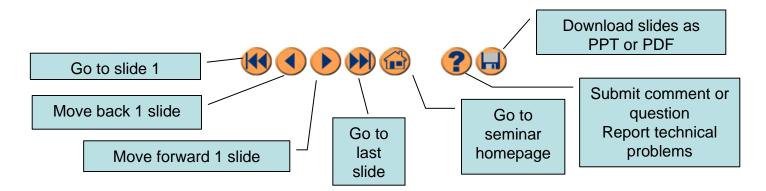
Moderator:

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Visit the Clean Up Information Network online at www.cluin.org

Housekeeping

- Please mute your phone lines, Do NOT put this call on hold
 - press *6 to mute #6 to unmute your lines at anytime (or applicable instructions)
- Q&A
- Turn off any pop-up blockers
- Move through slides using # links on left or buttons



- This event is being recorded
- Archives accessed for free http://cluin.org/live/archive/



Agenda

- Introduction of EPA and EED
- The NNEMS Fellowship Program
- Spotlight on Recent Fellowships
- Typical FAQs of Applicants
- Audience Q & A
- NNEMS Resources

Overview

Eligibility Requirements

Timing, Location, Compensation, and Housing

NNEMS Program Coordinators

How to Apply for a 2010 Fellowship

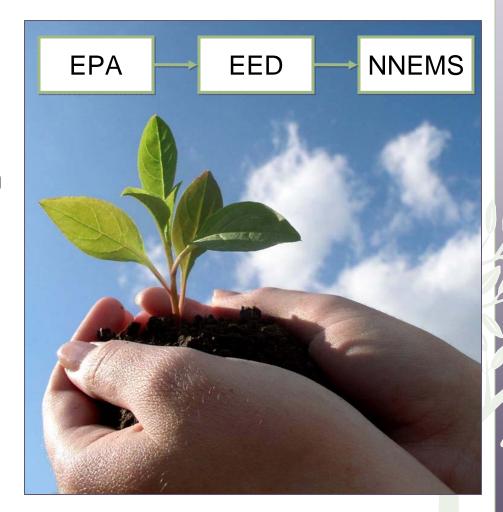
Application Package

Evaluation and Selection



Introduction of EPA and EED

- EPA
 - Mission
 - FY 2010 Budget
- Environmental Education Division (EED)
 - Mission
 - Programs
 - EE Grants
 - NNEMS Fellowships
 - Educator Training
 - PEYA





Overview

- Purpose of the program
 - Provide research opportunities
 - Increase public awareness
 - Encourage environmental careers
 - Help defray academic costs



- Environmental Policy, Regulation, and Law
- Environmental Management and Administration
- Environmental Science
- Public Relations and Communications





Eligibility Requirements

- General eligibility requirements
 - Citizens of U.S. or admitted for permanent residency
 - Enrolled for academic credit at an accredited school
 - Pursuing an environmental protection degree
- Associate or undergraduate students
 - Must have at least a 3.0 GPA at time of application submittal
 - Completion of 4 or more courses related to environmental studies
- Graduate or Ph.D.
 - Must be enrolled in a graduate or Ph.D. program
 - Completion of 1 semester or 4 undergraduate courses



Timing, Location, Compensation, and Housing

- Timing
 - Typically begin in May or June and end in August
 - Some fellowships of longer duration
- Location
 - EPA Headquarters
 - EPA regional offices
 - EPA laboratories
- Compensation and payment options
- Travel and housing



NNEMS Program Coordinators

- Program Coordinators
 - Promote program on campus
 - Assist students in preparation of applications
- Currently more than 250 existing coordinators who represent over 200 institutions
- A Program Coordinator is not required for a student to apply



Register Online to be a Program Coordinator

Sign up on the NNEMS Web site



How to Apply for a 2010 Fellowship

February 2010						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Application packages must be postmarked by **Friday, February 5, 2010**

- 43 projects are being offered in 2010
- Application process and timeline
 - Submit a separate application for each project
 - Include 1 original and 2 copies for each application
 - Send via mail or courier
 - Postmarked by Friday, February 5
- E-mail confirmation of receipt for all applications

The NNEMS program is very competitive – typically, about 10% of the applications received are awarded a fellowship.



Application Package

- Complete application package
 - NNEMS application form
 - Proposed research plan
 - Relevant information
 - Academic goals
 - Standard Form 424
 - Résumé
 - Official transcript(s)
 - NNEMS reference form
 - NNEMS disclosure and waiver statement

Forms are available on the NNEMS Web site



NNEMS Application Materials

[Interactive PDF, 631 KB, 17 pages, <u>about PDF</u>]
The application materials have been extracted from the *NNEMS*Catalog for 2010. Please see the <u>How to Apply</u> section of this site for additional information.

Helpful Tips:

- Be sure to carefully read the section, How to Apply, on page 5 of the NNEMS Catalog for 2010 for detailed instructions on applying for a NNEMS fellowship
- ✓ Confirm that you meet all of the eligibility requirements
- Include an official college transcript for each school attended
- Indicate on the application whether the Reference Form(s) will be sent under separate cover
- Type or complete online the application. If handwritten, write as neatly as possible
- Review the application to check for typographical or grammatical errors
- Mail the application so that it is postmarked on or before February 5, 2010



Evaluation and Selection

- Two-step evaluation process
 - External reviewers verify eligibility of applicants
 - EPA panels of reviewers evaluate all eligible applications based on 6 evaluation criteria
- EPA may conduct phone interviews
- Selection and notification of award status
 - EPA will contact students to offer fellowships
 - Notifications of non-award are sent to all applications
- Student acceptance of award



Spotlight on Recent Fellowships

EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) offers several NNEMS fellowships every year

EPA OSWER TIFSD: Successes of recent fellowships

- We have sponsored 71 Interns and Fellows since 1997, focusing on a diversity of topics related to advancing contaminated site cleanup practices
- Assessing the Use and Application of Zero-Valent Iron Nanoparticle Technology for Remediation at Contaminated Sites
- Fate, Transport, and Toxicity of Nanoscale Zero-Valent Iron (nZVI)
 Used During Superfund Remediation
- Solar Power Installations on Closed Landfills: Technical and Regulatory Considerations
- http://www.clu-in.org/studentpapers/



A NNEMS Fellowship Cycle from an EPA Program Office Perspective (Superfund)

- 12 months in advance:
 - Staff propose potential project areas related to current issues and priorities
 - Project and issue areas selected and submitted to NNEMS PO
- 3 months in advance:
 - Staff review and evaluate project applications
 - Pre-selected students may be interviewed over the phone or via email
- During Fellowship:
 - First 3 weeks focused on learning TIFSD and defining a project scope
 - Fellows are encouraged to be ambitious but realistic with projects
 - Ample support provided, including laptop/phone/workspace, etc., networking with subject-matter experts, training and meeting senior program management
 - Interim evaluations performed as part of on-going project mentoring
- Closing out the Fellowship:
 - Staff and subject matter expert project briefing required at end of Fellowship
 - For projects that meet TIFSD quality criteria final reports are edited and published and paired with Internet Seminars led by the Fellow



A NNEMS Fellowship Cycle from an EPA Program Office Perspective (Superfund)

- Two project areas submitted for 2010:
 - Use of Innovative Treatment Technologies to Address Dense Nonaqueous Phase Liquids at Superfund Sites
 - Green Remediation practices to reduce the environmental footprint of contaminated site remediation projects
- Our focus is on projects that advance our mission while providing a significant professional experience for our Fellows
- Seeking diversity in the candidate pool



Links

A NNEMS Fellowship Cycle from an EPA **Program Office Perspective (Superfund)**

- A Fellow's Experience Gabriel Sampson:
 - First year Master's student at UCSB
 - Green Remediation practices to reduce the environmental footprint of contaminated site remediation projects



- 3 weeks defining project scope, 6 weeks to outline, 8 weeks to draft report
- Internet seminar held on release of final draft (200 participants)
- Final report edited, proofed, and released through TechDirect to 40k subscribers.



Typical Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) of Applicants

- I will be taking a year off before attending school in the Fall of 2011.
 Am I eligible?
 - No. Only students who are currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate school at the time of fellowship award are eligible.
- Is the program open to international students who attend U.S. universities or colleges?
 - The NNEMS program is only available for students who are citizens of the United States, its territories or possessions, or who are lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residency.
- Do applications have to be received or postmarked by the date of the deadline?
 - Yes, the application packets must be postmarked on or before the date of the deadline. The deadline for the 2010 program is February 5, 2010. Applications postmarked after February 5 are ineligible and will not be considered.

continued



Typical FAQs of Applicants (continued)

- May I send my transcripts or the NNEMS Reference Form under separate cover?
 - We prefer that transcripts and the Reference Form be included in the application package, but they may be sent directly to the NNEMS Fellowship Program. If this information is sent separately, please be sure to note on your application packet that they will be coming under separate cover.
- What if a project description is described minimally? How can I develop my Proposed Research Plan in response?
 - Students can complete and submit a "Project-Specific Questions Form" that is available on the NNEMS Web site. A response to your question will be provided by e-mail as soon as possible.
- If I apply for more than one project, should each application be sent separately?
 - Yes, all applications may be sent within the same package.

continued



Typical FAQs of Applicants (continued)

- If I request an original, sealed transcript, may I break the seal to make copies of the transcript as required?
 - Yes. If you receive one original transcript from your university's records office, you may open the sealed envelope to make photocopies. Please include the envelope that contained the original transcript in the application package and note that it was opened to make the photocopies.
- When do I find out whether I was selected for the NNEMS Program?
 - Most applicants are notified of their acceptance or non-award in April or May.



Audience Q & A

- Simulcast participants may submit questions by clicking the button with a question mark that is located above the slides
- Phone participants may ask questions now

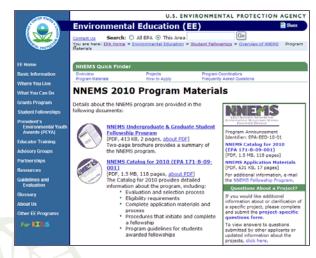




NNEMS Resources



- Main NNEMS Web site
 - www.epa.gov/enviroed/students.html
 - Encourage students to sign up for NNEMS Mailing List
- NNEMS Helpline
 - Send e-mail to <u>carolyn.pitera@tetratech.com</u>



- 2010 Program materials and Application forms
 Web site
 - www.epa.gov/enviroed/NNEMS/2010pm.html
- Questions and Answers about specific projects are posted here
 - www.epa.gov/enviroed/NNEMS/addprojinfo.htm

Resources & Feedback

- To view a complete list of resources for this seminar, please visit the <u>Additional Resources</u>
- Please complete the <u>Feedback Form</u> to help ensure events like this are offered in the future

