



Kansas City Climate Resiliency and Community Engagement Intern

Position Description

We are looking for a college student to support the development of Kansas City's Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan. The position is a paid internship through Brendle Group, funded and locally hosted by the Kansas City Office of Environmental Quality. We are committed to inclusive and just hiring practices, recognizing historic inequities in the sustainability and community planning professions.

We are looking for candidates who are knowledgeable and passionate about climate action and community engagement and have the desire to support a resilient, equity-focused future for Kansas City. The position will be supported by [Brendle Group](#), a Colorado-based sustainability planning and engineering firm, and our Kansas City-based project partner [Sophic Solutions](#). Brendle Group will provide project guidance as well as professional development opportunities.

The position is funded at \$16.50 per hour for 10 hours per week, beginning in Fall Semester (August) 2021 and funded through January 2022. The internship will include physical office space at City Hall, as well as flexible, remote work options. BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) community members-are encouraged to apply.

Position Responsibilities

- Participate in project team meetings and other collaboration opportunities.
- Support outreach and engagement planning to ensure efforts are tailored to the audience, respecting the differences in culture, race, ethnicity, age, and other community characteristics.
- Support engagement activities:
 - Help identify and map community stakeholders.
 - Support interviews with community members about the project.
 - Assist with preparation, set-up, facilitation, and break-down of community workshops and events.
 - Support maintenance of online community engagement platforms and supportive materials.
- Support tracking and analysis of community engagement outcomes to help inform potential climate action strategies and metrics, including data entry and coding.
- Develop a community engagement summary, to be included in the final plan document, which may take on different forms such as a story map or other project deliverable.

Desired Qualifications

Successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a combination of the following skills, experiences, and abilities:

- Currently based in Kansas City metro area or within easy travel distance of the Kansas City metro area.
- Currently enrolled in a community college, college, or university undergraduate or post-baccalaureate degree program.
- Understanding of how people engage differently due to cultural and socioeconomic differences.
- Passionate about climate justice, and/or the following: the environment, public health outcomes, making a difference in communities, and finding collaborative solutions to achieving goals.
- Proactively identifies and takes initiative to communicate issues and solve problems
- Ability to communicate by phone, email, online video platforms, or in person in one-to-one or group settings.
- Willingness, comfort, and ability to engage with and travel to various communities throughout Kansas City.

In addition, the following skillsets and experiences would be beneficial for this position:

- Spanish or other language skills (e.g., non-English languages, American Sign Language (ASL), etc.).
- Ability to present to and engage with diverse audiences.
- Ability to connect sustainability, environmental issues, and climate change to the lived experiences of people of color, disabled, and low-income populations.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office.

Internship Highlights

- A living wage (\$16.50/hour).
- The experience of working in a local government sustainability program on a well-defined project that advances a community's sustainability and equity goals.
- The experience of working on a project that is inclusive of anti-racist practices and centering the thoughts of people who have been historically underserved and underrepresented. This work is committed to amplifying those voices.
- Ability to lead a professional deliverable for resume-building experience.
- Mentorship and professional development opportunities through Brendle Group
- A safe working environment that is responsive to COVID-19 risks, including remote working options and clear precautions at in-person activities, including social distancing and personal protective equipment.
- An option for a physical desk space and computer provided by the City of Kansas City, MO.
- Reimbursable expenses to cover transportation and other project-related costs.

Application Process

To apply, please send your resume, two references, and a compelling cover letter and/or video submission addressing our job requirements and how this internship supports your ideal career path to hr@brendlegroup.com. Applicants will be required to fill out a City of Kansas City, Missouri background check at the time of interview.

- Application deadline is Wednesday, May 26, 2021
- Interviews will be conducted the week of May 31st, 2021 (*subject to change*)
- Estimated start date will be the week of August 16th, 2021 (*subject to change*)

About the Project and Employer

Kansas City Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan



In May of 2020, Kansas City, Missouri's City Council passed [Resolution No. 200005](#) directing the Office of Environmental Quality to update its Climate Protection Plan to include new greenhouse gas reduction goals, resiliency, and equity. The result will be a Climate Protection and Resiliency Plan that builds upon the climate protection strategies from the original plan and includes a framework to help the City adapt to the climate impacts it is already facing. The goal is a carbon neutral, equity focused, and resilient Kansas City by 2040. Learn more about [Kansas City climate action](#).

Brendle Group



Brendle Group is an engineering and planning firm committed to balancing the problems our clients need solved today with the collective needs of our communities in the future. Our goal is to collaborate on meaningful projects that have big impacts. Since our founding in 1996, our company purpose has been to create lasting impacts that inspire and sustain our communities and our world.

With more than 300 completed projects across 30 states, our portfolio includes innovative projects that address energy, climate, and water challenges for clients in the public and private sectors. We believe our team members bring a unique blend of technical expertise, innovation, and agility to help anticipate and solve new sustainability challenges. Learn about [Brendle Group](#).