



IEC Clean Energy Policy Intern

The Illinois Environmental Council is seeking a Clean Energy Intern to assist the Energy Program Director and the team. The Clean Energy Intern will conduct research and analysis on Illinois' key clean energy policy issues. This work will help inform IEC staff and support our engagement and outreach efforts with partners. The interns would also assist the Program Director with admin during coalition meetings, including note taking and agenda planning.

This is a unique opportunity to get exposure to the state's energy policy advocacy coalition space and key stakeholders.

These positions will be located in Chicago, IL, and will require in-person collaboration at IEC's Chicago Office.

About IEC

Since 1975, the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC) has worked to safeguard Illinois—its people, its plants and animals, and the natural systems on which all life depends by building power for people and the environment. Representing over 100 environmental organizations operating in Illinois, IEC carries out its mission to advance public policies that create healthy environments across Illinois through education, advocacy, and movement building.

IEC works at all levels of government by bringing together the Illinois environmental community to influence decision-makers and ensure clean air, clean water, and healthy communities. We coordinate our affiliate member organizations to share resources, mobilize supporters, and respond quickly to the most pressing issues facing the environment in Illinois. From building consensus around an annual environmental agenda to lobbying city, state, and federal decision-makers, IEC takes pride in leading our environmental movement in Illinois.

Employee Benefits / Important Requirements

The Internship is a part-time in-person position located in Chicago IL. Candidates must reside in Illinois. Compensation for this position is \$16/hr for 30-40 hours of work per week, for 8 weeks.

- **Location requirements:** *In-person*
- **Compensation:** *\$16 per hour*
- **Hours per week:** *Estimated 30 hours per week*
- **Duration:** *8 Weeks*

PROJECT / DELIVERABLES

IEC is a trusted environmental voice in Illinois and a strong influence in Springfield and the City of Chicago. You will have an opportunity to engage and network with statewide environmental organizations, gather data, and develop educational materials on the state of clean and renewable



energy developments. Projects and deliverables are as follows and may vary depending on IEC's top priorities at the time of the internship.

- Support IEC's Energy Team to gather and organize data and policy information related to the implementation of the landmark state energy policies such as the Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability Act (CRGA Act) and the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA), federal funding shortfalls, and IEC's 2026/2027 legislative priorities.
- Develop educational materials for decision-makers, legislators, and the general public on IEC's clean energy priorities
- Develop memos for the Energy Team covering various hot-button clean energy issues.
- Attend affiliate and stakeholder meetings including Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition (ICJC) working group meetings.
- Support planning and communications around IEC's legislative energy tours.
- Support building relationships with IEC affiliates, allies, and stakeholders.
- Provide research for rapid response to the press and on social media.
- Represent IEC when engaging with affiliates, allies, and stakeholders.
- Other duties as assigned

About You

We're looking for a self-motivated individual excited to bring their research and analysis skills to educate lawmakers and decision-makers about the clean and renewable energy policies IEC/IECEF are advocating for in 2026. We are looking for someone who is organized, has strong communication skills, and can turn hard data into narrative conversation for community members and decision-makers.

"Must-have" Qualifications:

- Strong Time Management Skills
- Excellent Interpersonal skills and ability to work with diverse groups of people
- Commitment to and knowledge of equity, diversity, inclusion, and allyship work
- Proficiency with Microsoft and Google Software
- Passionate about the transition to Clean Energy, Green Workforce Development, and/or Clean Transportation issues.
- Self-starter on projects
- Passionate about the Clean Energy Transition

"Nice-to-have" Qualifications:

- Experience with Clean Energy, Workforce, and/or Clean Transportation Policies.
- You have worked with nonprofits, workforce development organizations, companies, or community organizations before.
- You have experience in analyzing hard data and transforming it into detailed narratives.
- You have facilitated or organized meetings in prior work.



- Experience working with Data Analytics Tools and Software.

Equal Opportunity Employer

IEC/IECEF is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, sex, gender expression or identity, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, protective order status, veteran status, sexual orientation, citizenship status, genetic information, ancestry, religion, pregnancy, certain arrest or criminal history records, homelessness and use of lawful products outside of work during non-working hours or any other protected characteristic as outlined by federal, state, or local laws.

Equity, Allyship, and Powerbuilding Values

IEC/IECEF is always working to ensure that everyone on our team feels engaged and supported in all areas of the organization's operations as we work to become a fully inclusive, multicultural, and anti-racist organization. We are only as powerful as the people in our movement and those we serve. Building power for people and our environment in Illinois requires us to actively combat social and political power dynamics that disenfranchise marginalized communities across a broad range of issues beyond those that fall squarely within traditional environmental policy. When marginalized communities are empowered, environmental protections become more possible. Thus we are called to stand in solidarity as allies with those fighting for justice and to strengthen our democratic institutions where power drives policy change.

How to Apply

Introduce yourself to us as a colleague in your cover letter. Show us your future here! We value great writers, so be yourself and take your time with the application. Stock cover letters won't do. Tell us why you want this job.

Applications must be received by April 1, 2026

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to Samira Hanessian at samira@ilenviro.org

IEC/IECEF is an equal opportunity employer.