

Community Outreach Intern

The Illinois Environmental Council (IEC) is looking for a Community Outreach Intern to join our amazing team.

About the Position

The Illinois Environmental Council works to ensure a healthful environment for all Illinoisans through education, communication, and collaboration. IEC is looking for a Community Outreach Intern to help grow and execute IEC's presence at tabling opportunities throughout the Chicagoland area. This role will mainly focus on finding tabling opportunities, preparing tabling materials, and representing IEC at tabling events. The intern will also provide support to other staff involved in tabling event planning and execution as needed.

This is a unique opportunity to see firsthand how IEC builds connections with community members to advance environmental policies.

This is a part-time position, and candidates must reside within Illinois. Candidates who can report in-person to the Chicago office for the duration of their internship are preferred, but remote candidates within Illinois will be considered as long as they can attend in-person tabling events. Candidates with a driver's license and car access are strongly preferred, as this position will require travel around the Chicagoland area (gas mileage will be reimbursed by IEC). This position will last approximately through the completion of the 2026 Veto Session, which concludes December 3.

Responsibilities

- Identify tabling opportunities across the Chicagoland region for IEC to participate in
- Coordinate IEC staff members attending tabling events
- Prepare materials for tabling events, including all evergreen tabling materials, educational literature, and event-specific materials
- Attend tabling events representing IEC, with a focus on connecting with attendees and getting them interested in IEC's work
- Track tabling event metrics
- Add new contacts from tabling events into EveryAction
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications

- Passion for connecting and speaking with new people in person
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work with diverse groups and people
- Educational or work experience related to environmental issues and/or general public policy is a plus
- Tabling experience or similar experiences are a plus
- Excellent communication skills
- Strong time management skills
- Commitment to and knowledge of equity, diversity, inclusion, and allyship work
- Proficiency using both the Microsoft and Google software suites

- Highly organized
- Ability to coordinate multiple tasks and work independently
- Interest in environmental issues and policies
- Strong preference will be given to candidates with a driver's license and car access.

Physical Requirements — Have the ability to:

- Operate a computer
- Work at a desk for extended periods
- Ability to participate in meetings, events, or activities, including outdoor settings, that may extend over long periods
- Communicate and exchange information
- Legally drive a car in Illinois

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.

About Our Pay and Benefits

The Internship is a part-time position. Candidates must reside in Illinois. Compensation for this position is \$16/hr for 10-20 hours of work per week, roughly through the completion of the 2026 Veto Session on December 3.

- Location requirements: In-person preferred, remote possible, with the exception of tabling events
- Compensation: \$16 per hour
- Hours per week: Estimated 10-20 hours per week

- Duration: roughly through the completion of the 2026 Veto Session on December 3

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.

IEC/IECEF is an equal-opportunity employer.

Applications must be received by midnight on Sunday, September 6, 2026.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to:

Hannah Dembosky, Operations and Events Associate, hdembosky@ilenviro.org

About IEC

Since 1975, the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC) and Illinois Environmental Council Education Fund (IECEF) have 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 130 environmental organizations and over 600 individuals in the state, IEC carries out its mission to advance equitable public policies that ensure a healthy environment across Illinois through collaboration, building power, and advocacy.

IEC advances sound environmental laws and policies 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. From lobbying at the State Capitol to building consensus around an annual environmental agenda, IEC takes pride in leading our environmental movement in Illinois. We coordinate our affiliate member organizations to share resources, mobilize supporters and respond quickly to the most pressing issues facing the environment in Illinois.

IEC also supports environmental activists across the state, building programs and resources to cultivate the next generation of environmental leadership, such as our Young Professionals Board, Community Council, annual environmental scorecards, and other educational programs like our Civics for Environmentalists and Lunch & Learn series.