SLAC - PIRG Fellowship (Winter Recruiting Day) at United States Public Interest Research Group

Chicago, IL, USA

employees

industry

company

Salary for this position is $25,500 in the first year and $27,000 in the second year

Paid

U.S. PIRG’s Fellowship Program

PIRG stands for the Public Interest Research Group. We take on issues where the public needs a champion — someone to stand up to powerful interests when they push the other way. Here’s just one example: The overuse of antibiotics is creating “superbugs” that kill at least 23,000 Americans each year, and is getting so bad that doctors are worried antibiotics could stop working. Yet most antibiotics aren’t used to treat sick people — they’re sold for use on livestock, and big factory farms routinely give them to animals that aren’t even sick. That makes no sense whatsoever. So we organized consumers and ten thousand doctors nationwide to convince McDonald’s to go antibiotic-free. With PIRGs in 25 states, we reached more than 125,000 people in the field and millions more online, and McDonald’s agreed to stop selling chicken raised on human antibiotics. We still have more to do, but we’re now seeing big changes in the food industry. We take the same non-partisan, fact-driven, result-oriented approach to problems ranging from money in politics to Wall Street reform. And these strategies have been effective for more than 40 years. We’re hiring Fellows to work on these problems: whether it’s stopping the overuse of antibiotics on factory farms, or one of our other top priority campaigns like checking the influence of billionaires and Super PACs over our elections, giving consumers the right to know if GMOs are in their food, passing new recycling laws, or promoting smart transportation options for a 21st century economy.

Locations and start dates:

We’re hiring for positions in D.C., Boston, and Chicago. If you’re flexible, you can apply for multiple locations. We accept applications on a rolling basis.

Start date: August 1, 2016.

Salary & Benefits:

Salary for this position is $25,500 in the first year and $27,000 in the second year.

U.S. PIRG offers a competitive benefits package. Eligible staff receive health insurance, paid holidays, sick days, and vacation days; and the opportunity to enroll in our college loan assistance and 401(k) programs. We also offer an excellent training program and opportunities for advancement.

To learn more and apply Visit jobs.uspirg.org Contact Grace Lee at grace@pirg.org for any information or questions!

U.S. PIRG is an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, age, sex, handicap, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or veteran status.

Duration

This is a two-year program, expressly designed to prepare future leaders within PIRG.

Contacts

Grace Lee

Desired Skills

Qualifications:

We look for smarts, leadership experience, top-notch written and verbal skills, and an eagerness to learn. We value experience organizing, including building campus groups.

All of our candidates do at least two interviews, the 2nd one being with one of our senior staff. If we decide at that point we’d like to hire them for a fellowship position, we’ll have them do a final 3rd round interview with our executive director or one of our senior program directors. We require that at least one of these interviews are done in-person.

Once hired, our staff are evaluated based on: how well they perform during our classroom training, how well they perform in the job, if they’re successful at hitting their campaign goals. Every staff person has a staff director they meet with regularly to check in on their trimester plan and progress, with formal staff evals done at least three times during their first year on staff (one per trimester).

Responsibilities

What Fellows Do:

Our Fellows don’t just sit behind a desk. You’ll be out in the real world — recruiting new groups to join a coalition, speaking in a church
basement or town hall to win a new endorsement, organizing a news event or rally, meeting with an editorial board, or doing whatever else it takes to urge our public officials to do the right thing. This is a two-year program, expressly designed to prepare future leaders within PIRG. We do have more problems than we should tolerate in America, and we have plenty of solutions that we could be putting to use. And while powerful industries and other special interests will continue hiring lobbyists, we need you to help us balance the scales, stand up for the public, and help solve more of America’s problems.

All of our fellows direct a citizen outreach office over the summer. As a director, they are in charge of recruiting, hiring, and training canvassers and field managers, manage the budget and day-to-day operation of the campaign office, and are responsible for working staff to hit fundraising and campaign goals. The canvass is something we take pride in because it’s how we fund our organization while also building the citizen support to win our grassroots campaigns. Last year, for example, we raised over $9 million dollars and signed up over 10,000 new members, and that people power was one of the reasons why we were able to convince McDonald’s to stop using antibiotics in their chicken.

We do group trainings on how to canvass effectively and safely, and then we train directors on how to implement that with their staff during the summer. Safety is one of our top priorities on the canvass since our staff does go door-to-door, and we have a few policies in place to make sure this happens: 1. Our directors and field managers are required to scout every neighborhood we canvass before we send staff there. We also have years of maps and past member information to help inform which are our most supportive neighborhoods. 2. We are strict about enforcing that canvassers do not enter anyone’s home. 3. Our field managers are out in the field with all of our canvassers and do regular check ins throughout the canvassing shift. 4. If any canvasser feels uncomfortable canvassing by themselves, we can pair them up with another canvasser.

United States Public Interest Research Group

U.S. PIRG is a consumer group that stands up to powerful interests whenever they threaten our health and safety, our financial security, or our right to fully participate in our democratic society. For decades, we’ve stood up for consumers, countering the influence of big banks, insurers, chemical manufacturers and other powerful special interests. - See more at: http://www.uspirg.org/page/usp/about-us#sthash.ldHIbO23.dpuf

Interviews that are related to this job

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January 8th 2016 in

Qualifications

Allowed School Years
Senior

Allowed Majors
All majors allowed

Work Authorization Requirements
US work authorization is required