

2018 Call for Fellowship Hosts

HOST APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 30, 2018

Washington Sea Grant (WSG) invites Washington's ocean and coastal managers and policymakers to partner in a unique fellowship program for students interested in marine resources and the policy decisions affecting them. The WSG State Fellows program matches highly motivated and well-trained graduate students with Washington "hosts" in state, tribal and federal agencies as well as nonprofit organizations for a one-year paid fellowship.

BACKGROUND

Established by WSG in 2008 as the Marc Hershman Marine Policy Fellowship, the program has successfully placed 38 fellows with host offices in Olympia, Seattle and Tacoma. Past and current mentors include the Makah Office of Tribal Affairs, The Nature Conservancy, Puget Sound Partnership, and the Washington Departments of Ecology, Health, and Natural Resources. In 2018, the program is being renamed and expanded to become the WSG State Fellows Program.

Modeled after the highly successful national Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship, the WSG State Fellowship provides graduate students (near completion of degree or recently completed) an opportunity to acquire "on-the-job" experience in the planning and implementation of coastal and marine resource policies and programs in the state of Washington. The program builds the capacity of Washington ocean and coastal management organizations through access to talented individuals at the beginning of their careers and facilitates development of the next generation of ocean and coastal leaders. Read more about the fellowship and current and past WSG State Fellows at <https://wsg.washington.edu/students-teachers/fellowships/wsg-state-fellowship/>.

Fellows are teamed with mentors in a government or nonprofit host office for one year, working on ocean and coastal science and management issues. Prospective hosts are expected to supervise and provide opportunities for fellows to be involved in substantive issues that support their professional and educational

goals. The experience provides fellows with a unique perspective on building marine policy and allows them to share their academic expertise with their host offices. Fellows are expected to work full-time, on site and with other staff or leadership, as appropriate.

HOST OFFICE APPLICATION INFORMATION

The WSG State Fellowship program welcomes participation by state, tribal and federal agencies and nonprofit organizations in Washington State with programs in coastal or marine research, policy, or management. Interested host offices are invited to submit an application to WSG.

Each application must include the following:

1. Host location and contact information.
2. Names of fellowship supervisor(s).
3. Point(s) of contact for Washington Sea Grant, prospective fellows, and finalists.
4. Position description (not to exceed two pages, singled spaced). If selected as a participating host, this description will be made available as submitted to prospective fellowship applicants.
5. Level of financial support.

Please submit host applications to sgfellow@uw.edu by April 30, 2018.

Acceptance of a host application will be based on the following criteria:

- The perceived quality of the fellowship opportunity.
- The level of educational benefit for the fellow.
- The level of financial commitment. Hosts are required to provide at least 75 percent of the entire cost of the 12-month fellowship (stipend, travel, other fellowship costs and Sea Grant program support).

WSG will review applications and notify hosts regarding their acceptance the first week of May 2018.

SELECTION OF 2018-2019 FELLOWS

In 2018, WSG plans to select up to eight State Fellows (depending on size of candidate pool and number of host offerings). Fellowship applications will be submitted to WSG, and a review panel will be convened to recommend finalists based on an evaluation of academic background, employment history, career and education goals, community and extracurricular activities, interest in the fellowship, as well as personal characteristics such as initiative, leadership, adaptability, communication and analytical skills.

WSG currently plans to hold a mandatory matching workshop in Seattle on July 17 and 18, 2018, that will serve as the basis for placement of fellows in host offices. During the two-day workshop, hosts and finalists will participate in interviews and presentations. Final host placement assignments will be based on ranking of preferences by both the hosts and selected finalists with possible subsequent discussion as necessary.

The length of a fellowship assignment is 12 months and is not renewable. For this year's competition, the fellowship will begin at a mutually agreed upon date between mid-September and mid-October 2018.

WSG will administer monthly stipend payments for each fellow, including funds to purchase health insurance, and reimburse travel and other fellow expenses. Once placements are confirmed, hosts are expected to work with Washington Sea Grant and the University of Washington Office of Sponsored Programs to put into place a cooperative or interagency agreement for each fellowship award prior to the start of fellowships in Fall 2018. Fellows **may not start work** until the funding agreement is completed.

2018-2019 FELLOWSHIP EXPENSES

Each host office is expected to contribute at least 75 percent of the total costs of the fellowship award (stipend, travel, other fellowship-related costs and administrative support).

Costs for hosting a 2018-2019 WSG State Fellow will be as follows:

1. Fellowship award: Each fellow will receive an award of \$51,500, including a stipend of \$48,000 to cover living costs and health insurance and \$3,500 for travel and other fellowship-related expenses.
2. Sea Grant program support: \$6,500
3. Cost to Hosts: \$43,500-58,000

TIMELINE

April 30:	Host applications due.
May 4 (approximate):	Participating hosts selected, and host applicants notified; request for fellowship applications issued.
June 1:	Fellowship applications due.
June 22 (approximate):	Sea Grant screening of fellowship applications to select finalists completed. Finalists are notified, and applications distributed to participating hosts.
July 17-18:	Mandatory host placement workshop in Seattle.
Early August:	Fellowship matches completed.
Mid-September to mid-October:	Fellowships begin.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information or if you have questions about becoming a fellowship host, please contact Washington Sea Grant at 206.543.6600, sgfellow@uw.edu

