



MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Sierra Club Michigan Chapter – Political Internship

What is the Sierra Club?

The Sierra Club's members and supporters are more than 1.3 million of your friends and neighbors. Inspired by nature, we work together to protect our communities and the planet. Founded in 1892, the Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. Our mission is to: (1) Explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; (2) Practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; (3) Educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and (4) Use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

Internship Responsibilities

In this internship, you will directly assist candidates running for public office that the Sierra Club has endorsed. The Sierra Club has an extremely rigorous endorsement process and focuses on the most competitive races with the best environmentally-minded candidates. In this internship, we will train you on the basic skills of campaign organizing, educate you about environmental issues that play in politics, and then deploy you to be part of a candidate's campaign for two-three months. Potential responsibilities include: helping organize fundraisers for a candidate, coordinating voter contact, organizing phone banks, recruiting Sierra Club members to volunteer for a candidate, helping coordinate press conferences and press releases for a candidate, helping with a candidate's earned media strategy as well as social media, assisting with policy or campaign research, and performing data entry and office work as needed.

Qualifications

The ideal applicant will have an interest in politics, a knowledge or interest in environmental issues, and be proficient in Microsoft Office applications. Applicants must be able to take direction on projects, work independently, be flexible, and be prepared for a fun and fast-paced campaign environment.

Logistics

Internship positions are available for the Fall (September-November) semester, and are able to be shortened or extended as needed. This internship can come with a small stipend to offset the cost of food and gas and can also earn you class credit (you will need to work this out with your academic advisor). The internship is coordinated through our Lansing office, and there will be an internship training in Flint, however, you will be deployed to work for a campaign that will likely be near where you are located. Internships can be arranged for between 10 to 40 hours per week, with flexible scheduling.

Application Instructions

To apply, send your resume to Mike Berkowitz at mike.berkowitz@sierraclub.org, with a brief (one-two paragraphs) statement describing your interest in this internship. The application deadline is Monday, September 8th. Interns must be available to attend a full-day training on Saturday, September 13th.

Mike Berkowitz, Legislative & Political Director
Sierra Club Michigan Chapter

109 E. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906
Office: (517) 484-2372 Ext. 13



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