

2010 SUMMER STIPEND PROGRAM

For the eleventh year in a row, Friends of Land Air Water (FLAW) will be awarding summer stipends to support public interest environmental law. Last year, FLAW awarded six stipends ranging from \$500 to \$3,600 dollars.

In order to be considered for a stipend, applications are **due by March 23, 2010**. Please submit applications electronically to reduce paper use, following the instructions for submitting an electronic application (below).

We are continuing our requirement that applications be anonymous to all voting committee members. The 2010 committee administrator, Zack Mazer, is not a voting member of the committee. Confirmation of receipt of your application will be sent to each applicant via email. If you do not receive confirmation of receipt of your application by 5:00 p.m. on March 24, 2009, or if you have other questions about the stipend process, please contact Zack Mazer at stipend.applications@pielc.org.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Only students who are Land Air Water members and who will be enrolled at the University of Oregon School of Law in the 2010-2011 academic year may apply. Students who received stipends from FLAW in the past are not eligible for stipends.

Your summer work must last for at least ten weeks and you must provide the number of hours you will work in your application for a stipend. The number of hours worked is likely to affect the amount of any stipend received. If you do not complete the ten weeks or the projected number of hours worked, you must reimburse Friends of Land Air Water on a pro rata basis for the time not worked. Exceptions may be made for severe illness, injury, or other emergency.

Please be aware that FLAW does not guarantee that stipends will be a certain dollar amount. The Stipend Committee, in its discretion, determines the amount of each individual stipend based on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the relative strength of each application, the available resources, and special needs of particular applicants. The Stipend Committee does not publicly or privately respond to inquiries as to how stipend amounts are determined.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applications submitted for consideration must include the following items:

1. In the body of the email to which you attach your application documents (see electronic application submission instructions, below), please include your name, address, telephone number, and preferred e-mail address (even if it is the same as the email from which you are submitting your application). **ASIDE FROM THIS EMAIL, DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME ON ANY OF THE APPLICATION MATERIALS YOU SUBMIT. THIS MEANS THAT YOU MUST CAREFULLY REVIEW THE LETTER FROM**

THE ORGANIZATION FOR WHICH YOU WILL WORK (SEE # 2) TO INSURE THAT ALL REFERENCES TO YOUR NAME HAVE BEEN REDACTED.

APPLICATIONS THAT FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT MAY BE REJECTED!!

2. A letter from the organization for which you will work. The letter must include the following information:

- An offer of employment (a letter stating only that you will be considered for employment is not sufficient).
- A statement of the maximum amount of money (if any) that the organization can pay you for your work.
- A general statement of the goals of the organization and a brief description of its work.
- A description of your job, including responsibilities, hours, and the amount of supervision by an attorney.

3. Answers to each of the seven questions set out below. *Answers must be no longer than one-half page for each question, font size must be no smaller than 12 point, and all margins must be at least one inch. "Criteria" indicates the criteria that selection committee members will use to evaluate your response; "Question" indicates the question that the applicant is expected to answer.*

(1) **Question** (worth up to 25 points): How will your project further the public interest? Include a description of the types of clients you will serve and the work that you will do.

Criteria: Is the applicant's project grounded in public interest environmental law?

Note: *Because of FLAW's limited resources, stipends will rarely be awarded for work with a government agency or entity. If you are applying for a stipend to perform government work, please include a compelling argument as to how your work will support environmental protection.*

(2) **Question** (worth up to 25 points): What is the nature of your work, i.e., what are your anticipated duties and responsibilities?

Criteria: Is the applicant's project primarily legal in scope and responsibility?

Stipend recipients may not work for an organization whose primary purpose is lobbying, and stipend recipients may not lobby. Stipend recipients must be supervised by an attorney.

(3) **Question** (worth up to 25 points): How much will the organization pay you for your summer work (including in-kind (e.g., housing)), and what resources do you have for your summer expenses if you do not receive a stipend?

Criteria: Does the organization have inadequate or no funding budgeted for the summer position, and does the applicant have access to other resources to support the position (i.e., including such things as housing)?

Note: Please indicate whether you have submitted an application for an OLSPIF stipend, and if you know at the time you submit your Friends of Land Air Water stipend application, whether you have been awarded an OLSPIF stipend and the amount of that stipend. If you have been awarded an OLSPIF stipend it is highly unlikely that you will receive a FLAW stipend.

(4) **Question** (worth up to 25 points): What do you perceive to be the quality of the learning experience you will have at your summer position?

Criteria: Will the stipend applicant have a quality learning experience?

(5) **Question** (worth up to 10 points): How will your summer experience serve to further your commitment to public interest environmental advocacy?

Criteria: How does the applicant demonstrate a commitment to public interest environmental issues?

(6) **Question** (worth up to 15 points): How much time and in what capacity have you contributed to Land Air Water functions? (Discuss your contribution specifically, e.g., the hours served in each of your years at the Law School, and any specific jobs, with title, that you have held in the Land Air Water organization).

Criteria: How much time has the applicant devoted to Land Air Water?

(7) **Question** (worth up to 5 points): How will your summer work contribute to public interest environmental law in the state of Oregon? (Note that you do not have to work in Oregon to contribute to the advancement of public interest environmental law here, e.g., you could work in Washington D.C. on an issue of particular importance in Oregon).

Criteria: Will the applicant's summer work contribute to public interest environmental law in the State of Oregon?

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection committee is made up of local attorneys and/or law students, some or all of whom are FLAW board members.

Each question is worth a given number of points, as indicated above. Based upon the criteria listed above and the answers provided to each question, each selection committee member will assign points for each applicant's responses. Each applicant can receive up to 130 points from each committee member. The points awarded to each applicant by each selection committee member will be added up, and the pool of applications received will be ranked based on this total score.

The Board expects that applications for the FLAW stipend program will respond directly to the questions posed, include sufficient detail for the Board or its stipend committee to make an informed decision, and reflect the same attention to detail and high-quality writing expected from summer law clerks and University of Oregon ENR students, in particular. Attention to detail includes correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar, and adherence to any formatting requirements imposed by the Board. The stipend committee may deduct up to ten (10) points from the final score of any application that does not satisfy these standards.

Decisions will be announced no later than April 6, 2010.

STIPEND RECIPIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Applicants will be notified once the selection committee makes the summer stipend awards and recipients will be instructed as to how and when they will receive those funds.

No later than August 31, 2010, all recipients must submit a written summary of their summer work experience. In your summary, which should include both your name and the name of the organization you worked for, please address the following: (a) the types of tasks you completed over the summer (please be specific, but keeping in mind your duty of confidentiality); (b) how your summer work helped prepare you for being a lawyer generally, and a public interest environmental lawyer specifically; and, (c) how your work helped the environment, the public interest environmental community, your clients, and the organization for whom you worked.

This summary may be used in promotional materials (including FLAW's web site). Please indicate on the summary if you have any restrictions as to the use of this information and do not include any confidential or privileged information in your summary.

If you do not complete the ten weeks or the projected number of hours worked that was indicated on your application, you must notify FLAW. You may be required to reimburse FLAW on a pro rata basis for the time not worked (although exceptions may be made for severe illness, injury, or other emergency). Recipients should be aware that stipend awards may have federal and state tax consequences.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

All applications must be submitted electronically pursuant to these instructions.

(1) Applicants shall submit their question responses in either a Microsoft Word document or a “.PDF” document as an attachment to an email.

(2) Applicants are responsible for obtaining a letter from their prospective employer that meets the qualifications discussed above under Application Requirements and that can be submitted in electronic format also as an attachment to an email. The letter must be on the employer’s letterhead and must be redacted or otherwise written so as not to reveal the name or identity of the applicant. The FLAW Stipend Committee reserves the right to reject any application that is not properly redacted, at the Committee’s discretion.

(3) Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on the due date. The time of submission shall be determined in all cases by the time stamp of the receiving email account. Applications submitted after the due date will not be considered.

(4) Applications shall be submitted to the following email address:
stipend.applicatons@pielc.org.