



MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL

INTERNSHIP

In partnership with the University Honors Program at The University of Kansas, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) seeks two student interns for the Fall of 2024 with a possible option to extend through the Spring of 2025, depending on funding.

This MARC internship is an exciting opportunity for undergraduate students involved with the University Honors Program at The University of Kansas looking to gain experience working in a multi-faceted regional nonprofit organization on environmental issues. Interns will work under the supervision of the program managers/directors for the specific available areas depending on alignment of interest outline below. This internship can satisfy the Professional Development & Social Entrepreneurship Enhanced Learning Experience (ELE) as part of the University Honors Program graduation requirements. Students who intern for 8-10 hours each week during the semester will receive an Honors Opportunity Award for up to \$2,000.

If selected, students will focus on one of the specific areas listed below. (Please indicate which areas you are most interested in in your cover letter – you are welcome to indicate interest in more than one).

Solid Waste Management District (SWMD): The SWMD fosters collaborations across the KC metro region with local government, businesses, and not for profits to divert waste from landfills.

- The internship will provide numerous opportunities to network, learn, and help organizations on hazardous household waste events, food waste diversion, composting, recycling and reuse activities.
- We are conducting several studies to benchmark recycling efforts in communities, so map the reuse ecosystem, to plan for development of manufacturing locally to utilize waste end products to make or remake.
- We are working to transition to a circular economy at all points in the waste hierarchy. Join us and help on these projects and learn more about what is taking place in our region.

Water Quality Planning and Education: The Water Quality program workplan includes green infrastructure, stormwater, climate resilience, and public engagement and training projects. The water quality team seeks assistance with the following areas as part of this internship opportunity:

- Assist with materials research and support the development of a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Maintenance training program
- Support neighborhood resilience grant project to foster development of neighborhood scale climate action projects

- Co-develop scope of work and coordinate with MARC Research Services to update [Green Region Explorer](#) content
- Research content for region-wide public engagement materials, including updates to the [cleanwaterkcmetro.org](#) website and MARC Water Quality project webpages
- Respond to information requests from members of the public about MARC materials and projects
- Support Water Quality program meetings and activities: notetaking, scheduling assistance, meeting preparation

WAY TO GO Regional Commuter Resource Program: The [WAY TO GO intern](#) would work under the supervision of the WAY TO GO Program Coordinator and Climate and Air Programs Manager to further the program vision of creating a region where sustainable transportation options (transit, carpooling, biking and walking) are the best way to connect people to places.

Intern activities can include event planning assistance, community outreach, or communications tasks related to WAY TO GO's commuter and employer programs.

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program:

The [CPRG](#) program intern would work under the supervision of the CPRG Project Manager and Climate And Air Programs Manager to support MARC's work in developing a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan through EPAs Climate Pollution Reduction grant program.

Intern activities could include developing a stakeholder inventory, community engagement support, data retrieval and analysis and developing content for a monthly newsletter, social media and other communications.

Compensation:

Students will be compensated at the rate of \$18/hour to cover their involvement for 8-10 hours per week for the semester. We anticipate interns starting in September and wrapping up in December. Specific schedules will be negotiated with the appropriate program managers/directors.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Undergraduate student in the University Honors Program majoring in environmental science, communications, geography, or other relevant studies
- Students must meet the qualifications for good academic standing and progression for the University Honors Program.
- Environmentally aware and passionate
- Excellent communication, organizational and time management skills.
- Ability to work independently and multi-task effectively.
- Dependable, positive attitude and a sense of humor.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office programs.
- Ability to work remotely and self-motivate.

Deadline: Priority applications will be reviewed on September 1 with a potential start date of September 16. MARC will conduct the interviews, without oversight from the University Honors Program, to ensure equity and fairness in the onboarding process.

How to Apply:

Please submit your resume and a cover letter to Amanda Graor at agraor@marc.org

About MARC:

The Mid-America Regional Council is a nonprofit association of city and county governments and the metropolitan planning organization for the bistate Kansas City region. Governed by a Board of Directors made up of local elected officials, we serve nine counties and 119 cities. We provide a forum for the region to work together to advance social, economic and environmental progress.

As a voluntary association of local governments, MARC convenes partners and coordinates planning efforts on a wide range of issues that are important to communities in the metro, including aging services, early learning, health care, community development, homeland security, emergency services, the regional 911 system and much more. We work with cities, counties and other entities to identify common objectives and achieve our collective goals. MARC has no taxation or regulatory authority.

MARC is funded by federal, state and private grants, local contributions and earned income. A major portion of our budget is passed through to local governments and other agencies for programs and services.