Workforce Training to Advance Career Opportunities in the Clean Energy Industry

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) promotes workforce training investments to serve disadvantaged communities and priority populations, including individuals who are low-income, veterans, disabled, formerly incarcerated, and residents of environmental justice communities.

By funding Climate Justice Fellowships for individuals looking for high-quality employment in the clean energy industry, NYSERDA is helping ensure green job opportunities are available to all New Yorkers.

Climate Justice Fellowship (PON 4772)

NYSERDA will fund and provide professional development training/mentoring to support full-time, year-long Climate Justice Fellowships for individuals currently residing in disadvantaged communities or from priority populations.

Fellows will collaborate with organizations and businesses to advance climate justice and clean energy priorities as well as encourage community engagement activities, partnership building, clean energy start-ups, and project development.

NYSERDA will work with state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and other partners to leverage existing resources, wrap-around services, training, and professional development opportunities.

Goals to Achieve Climate Justice

- Encourage and support participation in decision-making by using fair and accountable processes through open communication.
- Require transparency in decision-making and policy implementation.
- Ensure that solutions are developed to prioritize communities facing the greatest barriers perpetuated by systemic and structural racism.
- Promote mutual learning to achieve understanding and acceptance across all partnerships.
Incentives and Funding
- Total funding available for this solicitation is $6 million. NYSERDA anticipates funding approximately 150 fellows over three years.

Eligible Host Employers
- Will commit to hiring and providing professional development training/mentoring for a year-long fellowship.
- Must currently be working to advance climate justice and clean energy priorities in disadvantaged communities and ensure fellows assist in furthering these objectives.

Eligible Fellow Candidates
- Must commit to the entire 12-month fellowship and the goal of assisting the employer in advancing climate justice and clean energy priorities.
- Must currently reside in a disadvantaged community or be from a priority population in New York and able to work full-time in the State for 12 months.

Fellowship Requirements
- A successful fellowship program supports a range of activities, including study in a specific field, research to advance work on a particular issue, developing a new community-based initiative, and training to expand the fellow’s growth and employment opportunities.

NYSERDA’s Workforce Development and Training programs provide incentives and additional support for businesses hiring and training priority populations and members of disadvantaged communities as well as for minority, woman, and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses. Current definitions of priority populations and maps of disadvantaged communities can be found on the NYSERDA Workforce Development website.

For more information on NYSERDA’s Workforce Development and Training Programs, please visit nyserda.ny.gov/wfd or email winfo@nyserda.ny.gov