

Seeking postdoctoral and post-master's applicants for the J. Philip Keillor Wisconsin Great Lakes Coastal Leadership Academy Fellow

Application Deadline: February 2, 2025

The Wisconsin Sea Grant College Program and the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program seek postdoctoral and post-master's candidates interested in tackling science and policy challenges related to increasing coastal community resilience across the Great Lakes region. Together, these programs will fund a state fellowship position, named in honor of a longtime Sea Grant coastal engineering expert Phil Keillor, to celebrate his legacy in building resilience in Wisconsin communities. The Fellow will work closely with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, Sea Grant's coastal engineer, local government representatives, and researchers from a variety of fields to tackle the important challenge of connecting science related to coastal hazards – including flooding, erosion, and storms – with communities that could benefit from the information.

This Fellowship position provides a unique educational and career opportunity for a recent graduate interested both in coastal resources and the policy decisions affecting those resources in Wisconsin. The fellow will be placed with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program full-time for 18-months. The Coastal Leadership Academy Fellow will bring technical and communications skills to address coastal issues while receiving valuable real-world science-policy experience from the resource professionals who serve as mentors. These mutual partnerships result in advancing science to support policy decisions as well as valuable training opportunities for new professionals entering the workforce. The fellowship provides strong mentoring and relationship-building with an emphasis on the Fellow's professional development and success.

The Fellow will help to establish a Wisconsin Great Lakes Coastal Leadership Academy (CLA), with an overarching goal to increase the resilience of Wisconsin's Great Lakes Communities to coastal hazards. The Coastal Leadership Academy will include in-person workshops targeted towards local officials, planners, and decision makers. These workshops are intended to provide practitioners the knowledge and tools needed to understand coastal processes and take action to improve their communities' ability to anticipate and respond to coastal hazards. The CLA workshops will leverage existing resources on coastal hazards resilience to create an engaging and interactive training module. The Fellow will serve as the project coordinator for the CLA and, in that role, will co-develop the CLA curriculum, incorporate feedback, recruit participants from existing networks, and co-organize the CLA workshops. The Fellow will also have flexibility to pursue other activities related to coastal resilience. Some specific opportunities include:

- Help implement the Wisconsin Coastal Leadership Academy (CLA). Efforts will include assisting with development of a coastal hazards and adaptation training module for local officials, planners, and decision makers; co-developing training materials; facilitating workshops throughout the coastal zone; producing outreach materials including case studies, videos, and other related tools or resources; facilitating project team meetings; and assisting with grant administration.
- Develop and submit progress reports on the CLA.

- Through the CLA, assist with outreach on Wisconsin Sea Grant's Coastal Processes Manual (3rd Ed). This manual demonstrates methods to assess the threat of hazards like flooding, shoreline erosion, and dangerous currents and waves to coastal properties and communities..
- Provide support and participate in activities of the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program related to coastal hazards and resilience.
- Provide support and participate in activities of the Wisconsin Sea Grant Program including attending team meetings, assisting with research, fellowship, internship, or outreach projects.
- Explore opportunities to collaborate with Keillor Fellows in other state agencies (e.g., Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources) on topics such as adaptive management, climate resilience, and coastal resilience.
- Communicate coastal resilience science and policy work at state, regional, and national conferences.

Expected outcomes of the CLA include enhanced community capacity to address coastal hazards; strengthened communication within and between communities, and initiated local action to address coastal hazards.

It is expected that a successful applicant will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, an ability to manage projects, an ability to both work independently and collaborate effectively, and a familiarity with or interest in learning about coastal community resilience.

This Fellow will be stationed in downtown Madison with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program at the Department of Administration, and will work with researchers from across the state, region and country, as well as stakeholders and policy-makers in Wisconsin. The fellowship mentor team will include Kate Angel and Lydia Salus (Wisconsin Coastal Management Program) and Drs. Adam Bechle and Jennifer Hauxwell (Wisconsin Sea Grant). The position requires occasional travel, including overnight stays. Most WCMP staff members work hybrid schedules, and a similar work arrangement may be available to the fellow, with the expectation that the fellow is regularly available for in-office work and meetings.

We welcome applications from underrepresented candidates and anyone passionate about using science to better serve Wisconsin's Great Lakes communities. Diversity is a source of strength, creativity, and innovation for UW-Madison. We value the contributions of each person and respect the profound ways their identity, culture, background, experience, status, abilities, and opinion enrich the university community. We commit ourselves to the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, outreach, and diversity as inextricably linked goals. The University of Wisconsin-Madison fulfills its public mission by creating a welcoming and inclusive community for people from every background - people who as students, faculty, and staff serve Wisconsin and the world. Wisconsin Sea Grant is committed to fostering a diverse, equitable, inclusive and anti-racist workplace. Applications from Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) individuals, LGBTQ+ and non-binary identities, women, persons with disabilities, military service members and veterans, and anyone passionate about our mission are strongly encouraged.

More detail on the fellowship is below. If you have any questions, please contact: Jennifer Hauxwell at jennifer.hauxwell@aqu.wisc.edu.

Eligibility

Please note that successful applicants are responsible for ensuring their eligibility to work in the United States (i.e. a citizen or national of the United States, a lawful permanent resident, a foreign national authorized to work in the United States) on or before the effective date of appointment. University

sponsorship is not available for this position. Any work-eligible student or postgraduate who will have graduated in the past five years with a Master's or Doctorate degree in an applicable field (see above) is encouraged to apply. Fellows must have completed all degree requirements before starting the fellowship.

Stipend and Expenses

Annual stipends are dependent on the Fellow's academic background, with post master's Fellows earning \$45,000 and postdoctoral Fellows earning \$59,000, both with additional benefits (see - <http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/benefits/new-emp/grad.aspx>). The Fellow will be allotted funds to cover anticipated fellowship-related travel. Additional travel associated with the fellowship may be covered by the host agency at the agency's discretion.

Application Requirements

Application packages should be sent to jennifer.hauxwell@aqua.wisc.edu at the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute and should include:

1. A personal statement that describes your background and abilities, your expectations from the fellowship experience and how this experience fits with your career goals (2 pages or fewer)
2. Curriculum vitae with relevant educational, professional and volunteer experience (no length limit)
3. Copies of all undergraduate and graduate student transcripts
4. Up to 4 writing samples, both formal and informal (e.g., journal articles or other technical documents, popular articles, web resources, etc.)
5. A list of two professional references with contact information, including a faculty member from your graduating institution familiar with your academic record

Please use the naming convention "Last name – description of file" for all files associated with the application (e.g. "Yang – cover letter", "Yang – cv", "Yang – transcripts", etc.).

Selection Process

Wisconsin Sea Grant and Wisconsin Coastal Management staff will identify a short list of candidates for interviews. Interviews will be conducted by a panel with representatives from both programs to determine the best fit for the position. It is expected that applicants will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, an ability to manage projects, an ability to both work independently and collaborate effectively, and a familiarity with or interest in learning about coastal community resilience.

Length of Assignment

The length of assignment is 18 months with an anticipated start in the spring or early summer of 2025. This timeline may be adjusted to accommodate academic semester needs or the needs of the candidates or funding institutions.

Host Agency Description

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) is a state program within the Department of Administration, focused on coastal resources around the Great Lakes. They are federally funded through the National Coastal Zone Management Program which is administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The aim of WCMP is to preserve and improve access to the natural and historic resources of Wisconsin's Great Lakes coasts. WCMP works with a network of federal, tribal, state, and local partners to support communities as they build resilience to coastal hazards. WCMP

serves to connect coastal communities with resources and technical assistance through their extensive network of partners and provide financial assistance directly through their annual grants program. To learn more about WCMP, see: <http://coastal.wisconsin.gov>.

Timeline

February – Interviews

March to June (approx.) – Fellowship begins