

NEW YORK CITY

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY

The Flood Insurance Analysis Internship is available during January through May 2015.

Organization Description:

In March 2014, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the establishment of the Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resiliency (ORR). ORR leads the City's efforts to increase the City's resiliency by implementing recommendations laid out in *A Stronger, More Resilient New York*. The plan builds on the foundation of public collaboration and rigorous analysis set forth by *PlaNYC*, New York City's sustainability plan. ORR's mission is to guide the City in strengthening coastal defenses, upgrading buildings, protecting infrastructure and critical services, and making homes, businesses, and neighborhoods safer and more vibrant. To learn more about the City's resiliency initiatives, please visit: www.nyc.gov/resiliency

Position Description:

ORR is seeking an intern to assist with data analysis around flood insurance and mitigation options for New York property owners. New York City is deeply concerned about the increase in flood insurance premiums and the resulting implications for home ownership affordability and neighborhood stability. Premiums are increasing due to two factors: The first is rate changes that result from flood insurance reform and the second is the expansion of the floodplain, as seen in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s updated Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) released in December 2013. The new maps do not have an immediate impact on flood insurance requirements. However, the final FIRMs, likely to go into effect in 2016, are expected to be consistent with the Preliminary FIRMs and will expand the floodplain to nearly double the number of structures, triggering insurance purchase requirements for many New Yorkers. FEMA currently only recognizes elevation as a mitigation action that can reduce flood insurance rates. Unfortunately this is not feasible for many buildings in New York City given the age and design of the building stock.

Responsibilities:

Internship responsibilities may include, but are not limited to:

- Utilize data available on City's buildings and flood insurance claims to study what potential partial mitigation credits a property might receive to reduce flood insurance costs
- Conduct data analysis and GIS mapping related to the following:
 - Sandy damage assessments
 - National Flood Insurance Program claims data
 - Geographic concentrations

Qualifications:

Eligible candidates must have a bachelor's degree by the start of the internship. Applicants must have a proven record demonstrating GIS proficiency; project management; analytical, communication, and leadership skills; and ability to work in a team environment. Strong written, verbal, and presentation skills are a plus.

A background in environmental policy is not required, but the successful applicant will likely have one of the following: an understanding of issues related to environmental policy in a large urban setting; New York City's government and policy context; hazard mitigation; and climate change science and/or policy.

The intern will work under supervision of a Senior Policy Advisor and Policy Advisor. The internship is unpaid and part-time, with 12-15 working hours within 9AM to 5PM, Monday through Friday. The intern will start at her/his earliest availability in January 2015, and end in May 2015.

To Apply:

Please submit to planycinternships@cityhall.nyc.gov the following:

- The subject line "Flood Insurance Analysis Internship Application – Full name"

- A one page cover letter highlighting aspects of your experience that are relevant for this position, including volunteer service, and explain why you are interested in working with our office
- A one page resume

Deadline:

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The City of New York is an Equal Opportunity Employer.