



Sierra Club North Carolina Vidiri Futuro Fellowship

Please contact Erin Carey at erin.carey@sierraclub.org for application information

The Vidiri-Futuro Policy Fellowship is a paid, temporary, and full-time position for graduate students that spans eleven weeks focused on the work and mission of the NC Sierra Club. The Sierra Club creates opportunities for everyone to experience the transformative power of the outdoors. Fellows will have the opportunity to be certified as leaders within the Sierra Club's fabled outings program, and will plan and participate in outings designed and centered around one of the Chapter's many environmental advocacy campaigns. An outing could consist of a nature hike, a kayak trip, or a trash pick up event at a public park or university. These outings will be designed by the fellows to inspire and promote the appreciation, understanding, and protection of our natural world. Additionally, fellows will play a key role in supporting priority environmental policy work by assisting staff and allies with research, content creation, writing, and advocacy, and can gain experience working with government staff, environmental advocates and allies, as well as Sierra Club staff, members, and volunteers.

To better understand and inspire advocacy in others through their outing, Fellows will conduct research into their advocacy issue in order to conceptualize the associated science, policy, and legal elements of that issue, and allow them to create effective related social media or written content to promote public awareness.

The position also includes assisting Chapter and National staff in developing and executing strategies for environmental campaigns that center equity and environmental justice.

Fellowship:

- *Become a trained and certified outings leader as part of the Sierra Club outings program.*
- *Focus the design, planning, and execution of an outing on an environmental advocacy issue selected by the fellow, and approved by the chapter*
- *Assist Conservation Policy Director and other chapter and national Sierra Club staff with issue research, communications, and strategy*
- *Educate and engage Sierra Club volunteers, make presentations on policy issues as requested*
- *Create fact sheets and social media posts to educate and activate members*

Skills Required:

- A love for the environment and a personal connection to the outdoors

- Some knowledge of environmental issues in North Carolina and an understanding of current events and the political landscape.
- Strong communication skills
- Commitment to equity, inclusion, and justice, and an interest in working on intersectional environmental and justice issues.
- Self-motivation and independence
- Availability to work some flexible hours, including occasional evenings and weekends.
- Ability to communicate with Sierra Club staff and volunteers using phone and virtual platforms.

Preferred Skills:

- Experience with Google Docs, Google Sheets, Gmail, Zoom, WebEx, Facebook, Instagram

Skills Student Will Gain During Internship:

- How to plan and conduct Sierra Club outings as a certified outings leader
- Advocacy skills, greater understanding of environmental nonprofit work
- How to mobilize grassroots power to influence state policy
- How to communicate with different audiences in writing, in-person, and through digital platforms (e.g. lawmakers, the public, media, Sierra Club members, advocates and allies)
- How to leverage allyship and cooperation to build power and make change