

1. Name of Organization and Department, brief description

Climate Resolve is a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization that builds collaborations to achieve equitable climate solutions. We connect communities, organizations and policymakers to address the global climate problem with local action. Working with others, we develop practical initiatives that reduce climate pollution and prepare for climate impacts. Climate Resolve's purpose is a just and resilient future.

2. Senior Supervisor/Manager Name and Title (person student will report to)

Woodrow Covington, Grants & Proposals Director

3. Internship Assignment

How will the Intern serve the mission of the organization? What objectives would the Intern pursue, what tasks would the Intern perform, and in what ways would the Intern obtain a diverse set of firsthand experiences?

Climate Resolve is working on a variety of programs that are fostering solutions to climate change in Southern California. The Intern will work on more than one of these programs. Tasks may include conducting online research, interviewing local stakeholders, writing grant applications and reports, analyzing program opportunities/alternatives, and presenting key findings to Climate Resolve staff and other stakeholders.

4. Overall Job Description

Outline the activities and assignments that may be identified for the Intern – projects with a considerable level of autonomy and accountability. For example, project-based work may include policy research, design and application, as well as writing assignments such as speeches, reports, and funding proposals.

Climate Resolve is seeking a UCLA Luskin MURP or MPP student for a summer internship. Our ideal candidate has the following qualities:

- **Is a self-starter;**
- **Has some experience working with local municipalities, community stakeholders, and/or workforce development programs;**
- **Possesses excellent Microsoft Office and ArcGIS skills; and**
- **Exhibits a strong interest in climate policy planning, including the following areas:**
 - **Adaptation/resilience**
 - **Green infrastructure implementation**

- Public health
- Social equity
- Renewable energy
- Transit solutions

Grant writing and experience coordinating with engineering/design firms is preferred.

We currently anticipate that the Intern will work on at least three programs: (a) Climate Grant Writing Assistance Program, (b) Resilience Hubs, and (c) Extreme Heat Mitigation projects.

(a) With assistance from Southern California Edison (SCE) in 2019, Climate Resolve conducted an in-depth inventory of climate planning by approximately 200 municipalities and 15 counties in SCE's service territory. The findings of our research are published in a report, "[Ready for Tomorrow? A Snapshot of Climate Preparedness Planning in Southern California](#)" and accompanying [Matrix](#). Our research gave particular attention to municipalities with disadvantaged communities (DACs) and their barriers to start climate planning efforts. For example, many municipalities that include DACs need expertise and financial resources to write and obtain grants that would help them satisfy state-mandated climate planning laws.

Based on the results of that assessment, in 2020, Edison provided a second year of support to Climate Resolve to raise public awareness about our Report and Matrix with local stakeholders and to implement one of our Report's recommendations, which is to provide free climate-related grant writing assistance to benefit DACs. Between March 2020 and August 2020, we successfully assisted the municipalities of Compton, Commerce, and South El Monte to win grant awards totaling more than \$3.5 million for climate-related planning and adaptation infrastructure projects.

With additional funding from SCE in both 2021 and 2022, Climate Resolve has continued to grow its [Ready for Tomorrow Grant Writing Assistance Program](#). This year we are supporting municipalities within SCE's service territory in both Los Angeles County and Inland Southern California to pursue federal, state, and foundation grants for both climate-related planning and adaptation infrastructure projects. The program fits within the mission of SCE's environmental and climate adaptation funding areas.

With respect to this program, the Intern's scope of work may include the following:

- Researching grant opportunities and assessing which grants to pursue;

- **Conducting stakeholder interviews;**
- **Preparing grant applications with the municipalities; and/or**
- **Assessing the program and recommending improvements to strengthen the program in the future.**

(b) Climate Resolve is a recognized regional leader in the development of resilience hub facilities, which foster community resilience to local climate change impacts, support residents, coordinate communication, distribute resources, and reduce carbon pollution. The City of Los Angeles’s Chief Resilience Officer selected Climate Resolve as its lead partner for developing a resilience hub in the community of Boyle Heights. Climate Resolve is also working with nonprofit partners such as the Boyle Heights Arts Conservatory, US Green Building Council - Los Angeles, and the American Red Cross to develop this essential community resource.

One aspect of this resilience hub project consists of stakeholder engagement and coordination around how a resilience hub will function to strengthen and build community during events exacerbated by environmental stress. This will include but is not limited to:

- **Community engagement**
- **Asset mapping**
- **Coordination with local municipalities and utilities**
- **Energy and water system infrastructure implementation**
- **Operation manual creation**
- **Event simulation**
- **Site verification and coordination**

The intern will help to coordinate activities between Climate Resolve staff and the organizations involved with implementing this resilience hub project in Boyle Heights. This work will include but is not limited to coordination with both the property owner and the community based organization tenant that will host the resilience hub, as well as vendors that will implement the site’s resilience infrastructure, including photovoltaic solar, battery storage, and water storage. The intern will also help Climate Resolve to operationalize the activities associated with the resilience hub after substantial consideration of all community members living, working, and conducting business in Boyle Heights.

(c) Extreme heat events exacerbate local urban heat islands (UHI) that cause severe public health impacts among residents, particularly with those who live in inland communities that do not benefit from cooling ocean breezes. New high albedo building products, such as cool roofs and cool streets, reflect the sun’s energy back out to space and thereby mitigate UHI. Our extreme heat mitigation project currently consists of the implementation of cool paving materials in a 10 block area in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Pacoima.

The intern will help Climate Resolve coordinate with community stakeholders, research partners, and product suppliers. Activities the intern will assist with are but are not limited to:

- **Community engagement with residents, business owners, and other stakeholders in the Pacoima area.**
- **Research on and implementation of the evaluation methodology**
- **Materials procurement and implementation of street coatings and community murals**

Beyond these three exciting programs, Climate Resolve is working on many other projects that could utilize an Intern's capabilities, including outreach and communications advocacy. Through the intern candidate interview process, we may explore whether to involve the Intern in other projects that may resonate more with their interests and expertise. By matching our interns with projects that most interest them, Climate Resolve seeks to ensure that they experience professional fulfillment from their internships.

5. Skills, Knowledge, & Abilities

Identify knowledge and skill development opportunities such as increased awareness of the cultural, political, and economical infrastructures that influence policy-making; enhanced organizational, management, and leadership skills through mentorship and engagement with top-level executives; and practical experience performing research and analysis on local, regional, federal, and/or international policies affecting constituents

Given the projects outlined above, the Intern will certainly have opportunities to develop increased awareness of the cultural, political, and economical infrastructures that influence policy-making; enhanced organizational, management, and leadership skills through mentorship and engagement with top-level executives; and practical experience performing research and analysis on local, regional, federal, and/or international policies affecting constituents.

Moreover, the Intern will gain greater understanding of the challenges facing low-resource municipalities with respect to climate policy planning, and will help to identify and provide solutions to them. Through the process, the Intern will communicate with lead policy planners from various municipalities and regional planning organizations. The Intern will also gain familiarity with key economic arguments for investing in climate strategies, as well as practical pathways for advancing climate resiliency.

6. Beneficial Outcomes

Describe the benefit to the student and the type of product(s) and/or service(s) that the host organization will receive.

The Intern will experience aspects of grant writing, policymaking, planning, and implementing real-world solutions, and will acquire hands-on training to prepare for their career working on climate change solutions after graduation. Past internships have led to ongoing work with Climate Resolve. Beyond their summer internship, the Fellow may be able to continue working on these projects, either during school or after graduation, depending upon the specific terms of each project.

Either way, Climate Resolve seeks to help our interns to tap into our professional networks in order to identify meaningful job opportunities to continue working on climate change solutions. We believe that, “Once a Climate Resolver, always a Climate Resolver.”