

§ 5506. Environmental internships and fellowships**(a) Postsecondary students and in-service teachers**

The Administrator shall, in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management and other appropriate Federal agencies, provide for internships by postsecondary level students and fellowships for in-service teachers with agencies of the Federal Government.

(b) Purpose

The purpose of internships and fellowships pursuant to this section shall be to provide college level students and in-service teachers with an opportunity to work with professional staff of Federal agencies involved in environmental issues and thereby gain an understanding and appreciation of such issues and the skills and abilities appropriate to such professions.

(c) Minimum number of internships and fellowships

The Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, support not less than 250 internships each year and not less than 50 fellowships each year.

(d) Management of programs; eligible agencies

The internship and fellowship programs shall be managed by the Office of Environmental Education. Interns and fellows may serve in appropriate agencies of the Federal Government including, but not limited to, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Council on Environmental Quality, Federal natural resource management agencies, the Department of Agriculture, and the National Science Foundation.

(e) Length of internships and fellowships; funding

Interns shall be hired on a temporary, full-time basis for not to exceed 6 months and shall be compensated appropriately. Fellows shall be hired on a temporary full-time basis for not to exceed 12 months and shall be compensated appropriately. Federal agencies hiring interns shall provide the funds necessary to support salaries and related costs.

(f) Eligible individuals

(1) Individuals eligible for participation in the internship program are students enrolled at accredited colleges or universities who have successfully completed not less than four courses or the equivalent in environmental sciences or studies, as determined by the Administrator.

(2) Individuals eligible for participation in the fellowship program are in-service teachers who are currently employed by a local education agency and have not less than 2 years experience in teaching environmental education, environmental sciences, or related courses.

(g) Applications

Individuals shall be selected for internships and fellowships based on applications which shall be in such form as the Administrator considers appropriate.

(h) Geographic, cultural, and minority representation

In selecting individuals for internships and fellowships, the Administrator shall provide for wide geographic, cultural, and minority representation.

(Pub. L. 101-619, § 7, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3331.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 5503 of this title.

§ 5507. Environmental education awards**(a) National awards**

The Administrator shall provide for a series of national awards recognizing outstanding contributions to environmental education.

(b) Required awards

In addition to such other awards as the Administrator may provide for, national environmental awards shall include—

(1) The “Theodore Roosevelt Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding career in environmental education, teaching, or administration;

(2) The “Henry David Thoreau Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding contribution to literature on the natural environment and environmental pollution problems;

(3) The “Rachael Carson Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding contribution in print, film, or broadcast media to public education and information on environmental issues or problems; and

(4) The “Gifford Pinchot Award” to be given in recognition of an outstanding contribution to education and training concerning forestry and natural resource management, including multiple use and sustained yield land management.

(c) Nomination by Environmental Education Advisory Council

Recipients of education awards provided for in subsection (b) of this section shall be nominated by the Environmental Education Advisory Council provided for in section 5508 of this title.

(d) President's Environmental Youth Awards

The Administrator may provide for the “President's Environmental Youth Awards” to be given to young people in grades kindergarten through twelfth for an outstanding project to promote local environmental awareness.

(e) Cash awards for elementary and secondary education teachers and local educational agencies

(1) The Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, on behalf of the President, is authorized to develop and administer an awards program to recognize elementary and secondary education teachers and their local educational agencies who demonstrate excellence in advancing environmental education through innovative approaches. One teacher, and the local education agency employing such teacher, from each State, including the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, are eligible to be selected for an award pursuant to this subsection.