

# 2025 Delaware River Watershed Fellowship at the Center for Aquatic Sciences

**Start date:** June 2, 2025 **End date:** August 22, 2025

**The Delaware River Watershed Fellowship** is a 12 week, paid summer job opportunity designed to introduce young people from local communities to careers in environmental education. Fellows are hired at one of 20 environmental education centers across the Delaware River Watershed. Fellows participate in training sessions to help prepare them for a summer of helping people connect with nature and informing their local communities about issues affecting the Delaware River, the source of drinking water for 13 million people living in the region.

The Center for Aquatic Sciences (CAS), a member of the <u>Alliance for Watershed Education (AWE</u>), is seeking to hire a Fellow from Camden, or the surrounding area, to help connect with local community members around protecting the Delaware River and its waterways.

**Position Location**: CAS is located inside of Adventure Aquarium at 1 Riverside Dr, Camden, NJ 08103. The Fellow will spend most of their time at the center and various parts along the river.

**Compensation:** Fellows are paid \$16.00/hr, 35-40 hours a week over the summer.

#### **AWE Duties:**

- Fellows will participate in a 3 day watershed education training, at the Pocono Environmental Education Center (overnight, June 11-13.) <u>http://www.peec.org/</u>
- Fellows will help their host Center lead programs and activities, whether in-person or virtually, for community members and visitors to their site.
- Fellows will attend virtual webinars as well as in-person meetings with Fellows from other AWE Centers.
- Fellows will be paired with mentors from AWE Centers as well as past Fellowship alumni.
  Fellows will check in with their mentors twice a month.
- With guidance from their supervisor and mentors, Fellows will focus their efforts on a specific Capstone Project and present their work at the end-of-program Summit event (August 15).
- Fellows will document their progress by completing a short log report every week.

#### **Center Duties:**

- Engage targeted communities in Camden and on Petty's Island through education, recreation and civic engagement.
- Engage residents in watershed and environmental education outdoor activities both virtually and in-person, including on-water kayak and fishing programs, along the Camden Waterfront and surrounding neighborhood communities.
- Collaborate with staff to research, design and implement virtual and in-person programs for the public that focus on both wildlife and watershed protection.



- Interact with trail users through roving naturalist activities, providing information on upcoming events, collecting evaluation data on best practices for engaging the public, and participating in lessons and field trips for Camden City youth during summer.
- Assist with site and equipment maintenance
- Assist with office tasks as needed.

### **Qualifications and Experience:**

- Age 18+ by June 2, 2025 start date.
- A background in environmental education is not required.
- Must be people oriented, work well with others, and professionally represent CAS and the Alliance for Watershed Education.
- Must have a positive attitude, willing to learn new things while working in a dynamic and flexible environment.
- Should be comfortable interacting with other people with a commitment to cultural diversity.
- Interest in learning video editing, social media, or art design are also a plus.
- Must be flexible to work evenings and weekend hours.
- Valid state driver's license and access to a reliable vehicle or proficiency with public transportation required.
- Must be able to lift 50lbs and be comfortable standing for long periods of time.
- Spanish speaking candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

#### **Essential dates:**

- June 2, 2024: Fellow start date at The Center for Aquatic Sciences
- June 11-13: Fellowship Orientation (overnight) at Pocono Environmental Education Center. (Meals, transportation and accommodations provided.)
- August 15: Watershed Fellowship Summit (location to be announced).
- August 22: Last day of Fellowship (Fellows may finish their term of service any time after the August 15 Summit as needed.)

#### How to apply:

Email a resume and cover letter to the Assistant Manager of Community Programs, Bill Plianthos, at <u>wplianthos@aquaticsciences.org</u>. Include "AWE Fellow for Center for Aquatic Sciences" in the email subject line.

Application Deadline: Friday, April 25, 2025

#### More about the Center for Aquatic Sciences:

The Mission of the Center for Aquatic Sciences is to provide unique learning experiences that empower youth to lead the way in understanding, appreciating, and protecting the environment. We believe that investing in young people, strengthening their connection to nature, and positioning them for success is our best hope for creating a better world for future generations. Our location at the confluence of the



Cooper and Delaware Rivers and our long-standing partnership with Adventure Aquarium gives us a deep appreciation of the importance of water as a life-giving resource and the urgency of protecting aquatic life and habitats. We are committed to the Camden community and supporting our neighbors in their efforts to increase residents' access to natural spaces and public waterways and advocate for environmental justice.

## More about the Alliance for Watershed Education

Organized in 2016, the Alliance for Watershed Education of the Delaware River is a regional initiative of twenty-three partnering environmental education centers, funded and supported by the William Penn Foundation. Each of these centers is located along the Circuit Trail or a major connecting trail, and on waterways throughout the Delaware River Watershed in Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. This position is made possible through the support of the William Penn Foundation.