

Yale University

President's Public Service Fellowship

Proposal for Fellowship Placement Summer 2023

Organization information

<i>Name of organization</i>	City of New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability
<i>Full street address</i>	165 Church St 2nd Floor Annex, New Haven, CT 06510
<i>Website or link to social media page</i>	www.newhavenct.gov/climate

PPSF Fellow's direct supervisor

The supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis.

<i>Name</i>	Steven Winter
<i>Title</i>	Executive Director of Climate and Sustainability
<i>Cell phone number</i>	(475) 331-3769
<i>E-mail address</i>	swinter@newhavenct.gov

Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 30, 2023 through Friday, August 11, 2023)

The placement dates are flexible

Are placement dates flexible? Are there any dates on which your Fellow must work?

Yes, the placement date are flexible.

Proposed work schedule (*work week should equal and not exceed 37.5 hours per week*)

9am to 5pm Mon- Friday with 1 hour lunch (35 hrs/week)

Organization description (*mission statement, population served. 1,000 characters or less*)

The Office of Climate and Sustainability works with City departments, community organizations, and New Haven residents to advance and coordinate city-wide climate and environmental sustainability policies, practices, and initiatives. The Office seeks to implement climate mitigation and adaptation solutions that intersect with and address the immediate challenges facing our residents: from finding safe and affordable housing, to accessing quality employment opportunities, to improving air quality and respiratory health. Our work is particularly focused on addressing the health and economic impacts of climate change in underserved communities that have been hit the hardest by COVID-19 and are still overcoming the legacy of redlining.

Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting (500 characters or less).

The Fellow will co-manage the City's application to Sustainable CT. Tasks include tracking progress on sustainability goals, outreach to partner organizations, researching specific actions, and creation of communications materials. The Yale Fellow will gain an understanding of the breadth of sustainability work being conducted in the City.

Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow.

The City of New Haven released its Climate and Sustainability Framework in January 2018. The Framework defines six strategies- Electric Power, Buildings, Transportation, Materials Management, Food, and Land Use and Green Infrastructure- to tackle climate change and sustainability. Under each strategy are goals and actions that the City and its citizens can take to create a sustainable and resilient New Haven. In 2019, the City formally recognized the urgency of the climate crisis through the declaration of a climate emergency and in 2021 the City set an end-of-2030 goal for electrifying City-owned buildings and vehicles. Sustainable CT offers a platform for municipalities to track progress on sustainability initiatives and gain certification for those efforts. Each year, the organization accepts applications for certification from municipalities. Last year, the City of New Haven achieved the highest certification available within Sustainable CT (silver) but was not one of five communities selected to receive Sustainable CT's climate leader designation. This year a new certification level (gold) is available. The City seeks to update its application, document new initiatives taken by the City and its partners in the last year, and achieve the climate leader and gold designation.

The Fellow would be working directly with the Executive Director of Climate and Sustainability on this project. The Fellow's tasks include project tracking and management, outreach to partner organizations, creation of communication materials, and research on sustainability and climate focused actions. Outcomes from this work will contribute to the next update on the Framework through Sustainable CT.

The Fellow would be able to conduct this work remotely if necessary. The Sustainable CT application is hosted on their website and accessible with login credentials which will be provided to the Fellow. Zoom will be used for remote meetings and check-ins. Partner organizations can be contacted through email and/or phone calls. Any previous documentation will be provided to the Fellow electronically. Research can be conducted remotely.

This is a great opportunity to get an inside look at how lofty sustainability goals are implemented at the municipal level. This is an exciting time to get involved and we hope you will join us!

List specific skills/experience required for the project

No specific skill is required but interest in and knowledge of environmental and sustainability issues is preferred.

Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement.

N/A

Briefly describe any work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.

During the summers of 2018, 2019, and 2022, the City's Engineering Department hosted Fellows that worked on the implementation of the City's Climate and Sustainability Framework. The Fellows assisted the City in achieving certification through the Sustainable CT platform, a voluntary certification program for CT municipalities. The City of New Haven was awarded silver certification (the highest possible) in 2019 (achieving the most points of any certified community in the state!) and was again awarded the silver certification in 2022. The team at the City has been very pleased with the

initiative and enthusiasm displayed by our Fellows and look forward to working with another Fellow this summer!