



PACIFIC INSTITUTE

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Research Assistant Position

Adapting Water Systems to Climate Change

Applications Open (September 2019)

About the Pacific Institute

Founded in 1987, [The Pacific Institute](http://www.pacinst.org) is a global water sustainability think tank in Oakland, California that combines science-based thought leadership with active outreach to influence local, national, and international efforts in developing sustainable water policies. Our mission is to create and advance solutions to the world's most pressing water challenges. From working with Fortune 500 companies to disenfranchised communities, we lead local, national, and international efforts in developing sustainable water policies and delivering meaningful results.

About the Position

In 2019, The Boris Mints Institute awarded Dr. Peter Gleick, co-founder of the Pacific Institute, with [the 2019 BMI Prize](#), which includes funds for a student researcher to work on projects under the auspices of the Pacific Institute. The goal of the current project is to evaluate successful international efforts to integrate climate change into sustainable water planning and management for both agricultural and urban water use. We seek a senior-level undergraduate or early graduate student with skills and interests in environmental sciences, economics, and policy who can work to identify and evaluate a series of case studies on adapting water systems to climate change.

The Research Assistant will work under the mentorship of Peter Gleick and other Institute staff; build skills in research, outreach, and leadership; have the opportunity to network with other professionals in the sustainability field; and accomplish a specific project that also contributes to her/his career goals. Research Assistants at the Institute gain experience working in a nonprofit research organization, including such tasks as reading and analyzing academic reports and other literature, analyzing data, writing reports and

related materials, conducting Internet and field research, assisting with outreach, giving presentations, and connecting with others in the field.

Details:

RAs will work approximately 15 to 20 hours per week beginning in mid-October 2019 for approximately 40 weeks. Compensation is equivalent to a graduate student research rate of \$20.00 per hour, along with valuable nonprofit work experience, professional development and mentorship from skilled researchers, and the opportunity for exposure to a diverse set of water issues.

Project work varies but may include (1) conducting primary and secondary research on climate adaptation efforts in the water community; (2) developing case study summaries; (3) analyzing energy and water data; and (4) creating graphics.

Qualifications:

A successful candidate will:

- Demonstrate through coursework and or activities her/his interest and experience in environmental sustainability, freshwater, and climate.
- Be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program.
- Have strong writing and computer skills.

The Institute seeks staff underrepresented in the professional environmental field and research sector (including but not limited to people of color, the educationally, physically, or economically disadvantaged, and/or with life circumstances, experiences, skills, or talents that will enrich our understanding and perspectives on environmental sustainability and justice.

To Apply:

Please send a **Letter of Interest** of no more than two pages detailing:

- Your experience and/or interest in environmental sustainability and water;
- Your interest in the work of the Pacific Institute;
- A summary of your qualifications as noted above; and
- Any other information you consider important that we know.

2. **Resume**, with contact information for **two references**.

3. **Email** these items to the attention of Dr. Peter Gleick at: jobs@pacinst.org by October 1. No phone calls please.

If you are selected for an interview, you will be contacted by October 20th.