



### **Connecticut Climate and Clean Energy Fellow**

A major barrier to widespread policy adoption of climate and clean energy solutions are concerns about the affordability of new strategies, including uptake of electric vehicles and heat pumps, use of grid-scale renewable and clean energy sources and energy storage, shared clean energy programs, and meeting Renewable Portfolio Standards.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) Office of Climate Planning is seeking a talented individual to serve as a **Climate and Clean Energy Fellow** to support planning with a focus on addressing the affordability of climate and clean energy solutions for people with a low or moderate income. The fellow will identify challenges, barriers, and pathways to improving affordability and access to individual and community level climate and clean energy solutions.

#### **Activities, Responsibilities, and Primary Deliverables**

- Support policy development and communication methods to the public on energy affordability, with a focus on equity and environmental justice concerns of Connecticut's low-income communities.
- Conduct a review and identification of affordability issues with respect to existing Connecticut climate policies and programs.
- Identify affordable climate policies and strategies for the [Comprehensive Climate Action Plan \(CCAP\)](#) and the [Integrated Resources Plan \(IRP\)](#), which may include procurement of grid-scale renewable and clean energy sources and energy storage, clean energy deployment and adoption methods and policies, Shared Clean Energy Facility program review, meeting Renewable Portfolio Standards, renewable thermal energy, building electrification, and transportation decarbonization strategies.
- Lead DEEP's engagement with community-based organizations (CBOs) and constituencies with a focus on understanding issues of climate and clean energy affordability in low- and moderate-income communities in Connecticut.
- Conduct direct outreach with CBO staff and stakeholders to be identified by CBO staff, DEEP's Office of Environmental Justice, and the Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council, along with public meetings and engagement sessions as needed.
- Use analyses of greenhouse gas modeling and economic benefits outputs from CCAP and IRP development and any other ongoing policy and economic research at DEEP to identify specific measures that meet both affordability needs and climate policy goals.
- Assist DEEP's Climate Office with compiling research on affordability of climate and clean energy strategies and preparing policy solutions and associated talking points.
- Prepare affordable climate and clean energy policy solutions as part of DEEP's regular development of concepts that are shared with the Governor's Office and the state's Office of Policy and Management.



### **Skills and Experience**

- Nine (9) years of experience or equivalent education and experience in clean energy, climate or environmental fields, with a track record of achievement and ability to work independently in fast-paced work environments and lead projects from start to finish, is preferred.
  - A Bachelor's degree in the clean energy, climate or environmental fields may be substituted for four (4) years of experience
  - A Master's degree in clean energy, climate or environmental fields may be substituted for an additional one (1) year of experience
  - A law degree or doctorate in clean energy, climate or environmental fields may be substituted for an additional three (3) years of experience.
  - An advanced degree is preferred.
- Considerable knowledge of environmental protection and energy principles, practices and issues and ability to interpret and apply relevant state and federal environmental, energy, climate change mitigation, public utility, conservation and/or environmental justice or equity programs laws statutes, and regulations.
- Demonstrated experience with engaging diverse stakeholders across a range of technical subjects and meaningfully incorporating feedback into work products.
- Proven ability to work comfortably across teams and among a diversity of stakeholders.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

### **Application Requirements**

This is a competitive opportunity. ***Email the following documents to [Rebecca.French@ct.gov](mailto:Rebecca.French@ct.gov) by the application deadline of 11:59 PM (EST), on Thursday October 30, 2025.***

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Writing sample (climate change mitigation or clean energy related is preferred)
- Three references

### **Timeline**

The fellowship is expected to start as soon as possible, but no later than December 1, 2025. The fellowship will end no later than December 31, 2026. Total compensation under the contract for the fellow is not to exceed \$150,000. The fellow may have the potential to extend beyond their initial contract period, if additional funds become available.

This fellowship is supported by non-federal funds. Do note this is a contract position and does not include state benefits. All residents of Connecticut have access to Connecticut's Health Insurance Marketplace, Access Health CT. Please contact the DEEP Director of the Office of Climate Planning, Rebecca French at [Rebecca.French@ct.gov](mailto:Rebecca.French@ct.gov) with any questions.



## About us

CT DEEP is charged with conserving, improving and protecting Connecticut's natural resources and environment as well as making affordable, clean and reliable energy available for the people and businesses of the state. The agency is also committed to playing a positive role in building Connecticut's green economy and fostering a sustainable and prosperous economic future.

DEEP's Office of Climate Planning is located in the Office of the Commissioner and as such advises agency leadership on plans and policies to equitably and affordably plan for Connecticut's transition to a decarbonized economy and to enhance the climate resiliency of our natural and built environment. The Office works in partnership with the Energy, Environmental Conservation, and Environmental Quality branches of DEEP to meet the state's statutory emissions reduction goals of 45% by 2030, 65% by 2040 and net zero by 2050 provided there is at least an 80% emissions reduction by 2050 and a zero-carbon electric supply by 2040; as well as addressing the impacts of climate change on the state and its communities.

The Office takes a leading role on interagency and public participation in the climate planning process, including administering the [Governor's Council on Climate Change](#), the [EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Climate Action Plans](#), providing the annual [GHG Inventory](#), and coordinating the implementation of climate policy through legislation, executive orders, and government plans and programs. The office participates in the implementation of federal grants - primarily through EPA, DOE, NOAA, and FEMA – with funding investments of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. The office conducts these activities with a focus on equity and environmental justice to ensure the costs and benefits of climate change mitigation are shared and that vulnerable communities are prioritized in climate adaptation and resilience strategies.

The Office also coordinates Connecticut's commitments to national and international climate action, including representing the state in the US Climate Alliance.