

West Virginia Environmental Council Job Announcement | Lobby Team Positions

The West Virginia Environmental Council's mission is to facilitate communication and cooperation among citizens in promoting environmental protection in West Virginia, to assist in organizing grassroots groups, to facilitate interaction among established environmental organizations, and to correspond with all appropriate local, state, and federal agencies involved in the management of West Virginia's environment.

WVEC is seeking a lobby team for the 2017 legislative session to help us fulfill this mission. The team will consist of one Lobby Team Coordinator and two to four lobbyists. These are contract positions, so no benefits will be offered. Please see details and instructions on how to apply below.

Lobbyists

Description

WVEC is seeking two to four people to perform legislative lobbying during the 2017 regular legislative session, which runs from early February 2017 through mid-April 2017, on a part-time or full-time basis.

Lobbyists will be lobbying on a variety of issues. We will have a list of priorities our members have deemed to be the focus for the session prepared and ready before session begins. Member groups will offer lobbyists resources on these topics in the form of fact sheets, discussions, etc.

Lobbyists will be expected to write articles for our GREEN weekly newsletter regarding what's happening at the Capitol. These articles require the ability to simplify complex topics for the general population to be able to understand.

Lobbyists are also expected to meet as requested with the WVEC Governmental Affairs Committee to give updates and report backs on what's happening at the Capitol, including committee hearing reports, status of bills, etc.

Lobbyists are expected to work in a team environment under the direction of the lobby team coordinator and communicate regularly with WVEC member groups regarding how activists from the member groups can participate in supporting legislative efforts.

Requirements

- Political savvy and capacity for relating to and influencing a wide variety of elected officials, legislative staff, and state administration officials
- A broad range of familiarity with environmental issues impacting West Virginia
- Dedication to the cause and a thick skin (essential survival skills at the Capitol)

- Excellent writing skills, including the ability to make complex information from experts digestible to the general public
- Prior lobbying experience is not required, but is a plus

To apply

Please submit a resume, three references, one writing sample, and a cover letter (with the information requested below) to ciera@wvecouncil.org. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis till positions have been filled.

Cover letters should include the following:

- Relevant experiences
- Monetary expectations
- What you are able to commit weekly in terms of time (lobbying can often be a more than a typical 40-hour work week during the regular session)
- Indicate if you'd be interested in lobbying during the 2017 interim sessions after the regular session
- Answer the following questions:
 - How would you propose to facilitate the use of WVEC member groups and other supporters in assisting our lobbying efforts?
 - How would you propose to collaborate with other lobbying groups, such as teachers, social workers, organized labor, children's issue advocates, health issue advocates, etc. in coalition, as appropriate, to further enable WVEC to reach its environmental policy goals?

Lobby Team Coordinator

Description

WVEC is seeking one full-time lobbyist to both lobby *and* coordinate the lobby team during the 2017 regular legislative session, which runs from early February 2017 through mid-April 2017.

The Lobby Team Coordinator will be expected to begin work several months in advance of the legislative session, as requested by the WVEC Governmental Affairs Committee or the WVEC Board of Directors. This will include, but is not limited to, covering the final 2016 and initial 2017 interim session, attending the WVEC 2016 Fall Conference (10/21-10/23), and preparation work for the regular session.

Duties will include: Budget planning, fundraising, assisting with assembling and coordinating a lobby team, lobbying, and liaison as requested by the WVEC Governmental Affairs Committee and the WVEC Board of Directors.

The Lobby Team Coordinator will also be expected to write articles for our GREEN weekly newsletter regarding what's happening at the Capitol. These articles require the ability to simplify complex topics for the general population to be able to understand.

The Lobby Team Coordinator will be expected to work as a team leader creating an environment of support and instruction to the rest of the team. He/she will communicate regularly with WVEC member groups regarding how activists from the member groups can participate in supporting legislative efforts.

Requirements

- Political savvy and capacity for relating to and influencing a wide variety of elected officials, legislative staff, and state administration officials
- A broad knowledge of environmental issues impacting West Virginia
- Dedication to the cause and a thick skin (essential survival skills at the Capitol)
- Excellent writing skills, including the ability to make complex information from experts digestible to the general public
- Experience managing or coordinating a team; this can be a professional or personal experience and can be employees, volunteers, a committee, etc.
- Prior lobbying experience is not required, but is a plus

To apply

Please submit a resume, three references, one writing sample, and a cover letter (with the information requested below) to ciera@wvecouncil.org. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis till the position has been filled.

Cover letters should include the following:

- Relevant experiences
- Monetary expectations
- What you are able to commit weekly in terms of time (lobbying can often be a more than a typical 40-hour work week during the regular session)
- Indicate if you'd be interested in lobbying during the 2017 interim sessions after the regular session (note: this position will also be covering the December 2016 and January 2017 interim sessions before the regular session convenes)
- Answer the following questions:
 - How would you propose to facilitate the use of WVEC member groups and other supporters in assisting our lobbying efforts?
 - How would you propose to collaborate with other lobbying groups, such as teachers, social workers, organized labor, children's issue advocates, health issue advocates, etc. in coalition, as appropriate, to further enable WVEC to reach its environmental policy goals?