



# UNH Sustainability Institute

## Sustainability Fellowship Climate Action Data Analysis Dedham, MA

Dedham is a small (pop 24,000) New England town located just outside of Boston, with a vibrant downtown and active community. The town has one full-time sustainability staff person responsible for supporting Dedham's work on wide range of issues from recycling to energy (including its work as a [Massachusetts Green Community](#)) to land conservation and transportation improvements. Dedham's current goal is to achieve 20% reductions of GHG emissions below 2009 levels, and its GHG inventory and energy reduction plan need to be updated to advance achievement of that goal.

The Climate Action Data Analysis Fellow will engage deeply in data collection and analysis to support Dedham's climate action efforts. Specifically, the fellow will be tasked with the following:

- Update the GHG inventory information. This will involve reviewing the Mass Energy Insight (MEI) software; researching historic gasoline and diesel files for Dedham's vehicle fleet; and working to correct errors that are known to the Environmental Coordinator
- Create an updated climate action plan for Dedham, using the current Energy Reduction Plan, the Sustainability Committee goals, and a recent ESCO report as points of reference. This will involve reviewing other communities' climate action plans to get a sense for possible gaps or missed opportunities in Dedham's current plan, analyzing the impacts of potential mitigation strategies, and developing recommendations to inform capital planning efforts in the future.
- As time permits, collect and analyze data to provide a high-level assessment of Dedham's climate vulnerabilities. This may be included in the updated climate action plan.
- Present findings to the Dedham Sustainability Committee meeting at the end of the project.

This is an excellent opportunity to inform and help shape the climate leadership efforts of the Town of Dedham, develop in-depth expertise around effective approaches to community GHG mitigation, and to get a first-hand sense of what it means to work on sustainability for a small municipal government. The Fellow will be able to point to the updated climate action plan as part of his/her professional portfolio of work.

**Location:** Town of Dedham, MA

**Time commitment:** 40 hours per week, June 5-August 18, 2017

**Compensation:** \$6000 stipend

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Fluency in carbon accounting protocols and concepts, and, ideally previous experience in conducting GHG-inventories
- Ability to understand mechanical systems, and to converse with facility directors and staff from across municipal departments
- Demonstrated excellence and fluency in quantitative analysis
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- High levels of motivation and self-direction
- Academic or experiential background in environmental science, community planning, policy, and/or energy all extremely helpful
- A sense of humor and upbeat, outgoing personality always appreciated

**UNHSI Sustainability program eligibility:**

Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates are eligible. We will encourage, but not require, an academic sponsor or reference for each fellow, and where possible we will ask that course credits are awarded.

**Supervision, Training, Mentoring and Evaluation**

This fellow will receive supervision from Environmental Coordinator Ginny LeClair, as well as mentoring and extensive professional development offerings from UNHSI.

Fellows will be expected to participate in three MANDATORY events:

- A three-day, two-night orientation in Durham, NH, May 31<sup>st</sup>- June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lodging and food are provided; Fellows are responsible for any associated travel costs.
- Midterm project presentations to UNHSI staff, faculty and relevant project partners (can be done remotely).
- A summative evaluation and feedback session at the end of their placement.

**Apply by February 17<sup>th</sup>** at [www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows](http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows)