

Greenovate Energy Efficiency Research Fellowship

Greenovate Boston is the City's initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 and prepare for the impact of climate change. It is a community-wide movement that seeks to engage all Bostonians in achieving these goals, while continuing to make Boston a thriving, healthy, and innovative city. Boston has over 800 large multifamily buildings (five or more units) that currently use electrical resistance heating. Not only is this environmentally unsustainable; it is economically unsustainable.

The City has done extensive outreach driving residential energy efficiency for buildings with four or fewer units. However, if it is to reach its GHG reduction goals, it must tackle larger multifamily buildings, and the tenant/landlord split incentive. The Greenovate Boston Energy Efficiency Research Fellow will research “best practice” policies and programs across the U.S. for driving energy efficiency upgrades in multifamily buildings. Specifically, the fellow will:

- Review policies and programs that incentivize landlords and property management companies to invest in building upgrades that increase the energy efficiency and property value of the building.
- Research examples of successful tenant/landlord energy efficiency improvement agreements in Boston and elsewhere.
- Provide a summary of the research, as well as recommendations for next steps in Boston, including specific program targets.

Location: City Hall, Boston, MA

Time commitment: 40 hours per week, June 1-August 14, 2015

Qualifications:

- Enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program. Academic background in environmental science or policy, engineering, building science and/or energy financing preferred.
- Research and writing skills
- Excellent communications skills
- Experience in energy efficiency and/or public policy
- Basic understanding of building science
- Knowledge of energy efficiency programs and policies in Massachusetts
- Analytical ability, creativity and flexibility
- Demonstrated ability to work well independently and on a team
- Experience with Microsoft Office applications (*e.g.*, Word, Excel, Powerpoint)

This fellowship is an opportunity for a highly skilled and motivated student to contribute to a unique and exciting model effort. Fellows can anticipate gaining the following:

- An in-depth knowledge of energy efficiency programs and policies in MA
- Program development
- Local government
- Experience working on one of the greatest barriers to widespread energy efficiency improvements across the country.
- Opportunity to interact and work with state and local government officials
- Help launch a project that, if successful, will provide a model for all U.S. cities.