

Partners in Pollution Prevention (P3) Intern Program Application Instructions

Application Requirements

1. Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited engineering or science program at a U.S. college or university.
2. Applicants must have at least Junior standing by the start of the summer. Preference is given to students with Senior standing.
3. Applicants must have completed coursework in chemistry and calculus (Math 106 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln [UNL]). Completion of an environmental engineering course is desirable.
4. Applications must be postmarked by **Monday, February 4, 2008**.

Instructions

1. Type or print all information requested on the application form. Electronic version of the application is available on the website.
2. Sign the application.
3. Answer the Supplemental Application Questions. Include typewritten answers and a resume (if you have one) with the completed form.
4. Include a copy of your university transcript(s) or a self-generated list of courses and grades.
5. Obtain two references using the forms provided. One should be a university faculty member; the other may be a supervisor or someone familiar with your work habits and personality. Please have the person providing the recommendation return the form directly to the address at the bottom of the form. Often students provide their reference person with a pre-addressed envelope.

If You are Selected to the P3 Program

1. If you are a non-UNL student, the procedure for admission to UNL as a Visiting Student is expected to be completed in a timely manner.
2. It is the responsibility of non-University of Nebraska students to gain approval for the transfer of credits and to pay any transfer credit fees at their home institution. A brief course description is included with the application packet to use in obtaining transfer credit.
3. Participants are required to have coverage under a health insurance plan and to furnish proof of such coverage at the start of the program. Health insurance fees are the responsibility of the participants.

Mail Your Completed Application to:

P3 Intern Program
c/o Dr. Bruce Dvorak
Biological Systems Engineering - UNL
234 L.W. Chase Hall
Lincoln, NE 68583-0726

General Information and Inquiries

Call: Dr. Dvorak at 402/472-3431
Stacey Hawkey, Program Coordinator at 402/472-2838



For more information on the P3 program, visit our website at <http://www.p3.unl.edu>.

Course Description

CIVE 422/822 – Pollution Prevention: Principles and Practices

Description: CIVE 422/822 – Pollution Prevention: Principles and Practices. Credit 3. An introduction to pollution prevention and waste minimization methods in a formal classroom setting (two weeks), followed by practical experience obtained by providing technical assistance to selected small businesses and industries (eight weeks). Two additional half-week refresher and report preparation periods are provided during the technical assistance period. Students are guided in the technical assistance phase by UNL faculty, graduate students, cooperative extension educators, and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality officials.

Reference: UNL Pollution Prevention Toolkits, UNL modular P2 educational program, selected portions of U.S. EPA Pollution Prevention manuals, and selected technical articles.

Coordinator: Bruce Dvorak, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering and Biological Systems Engineering
Phone: 402/472-3431
E-mail: bdvorak1@unl.edu
Fax: 402/472-6338

Goal: To provide junior and senior level students with formal training as well as practical experience in the application of pollution prevention and waste minimization techniques.

Topics discussed in the formal training:

The Waste Management Hierarchy and the benefits and rewards of P2 (1/2 lecture)
Familiarization with community groups and agencies involved in pollution prevention (P2) (1 lecture)
Resource management and sustainability (1/2 lecture)
Legislative and historical development of P2 (1 lecture)
Regulations (2 lectures)
Waste estimation (2 lectures)
Approaches and methods of P2/waste minimization (2 lectures)
Economics of P2, life cycle analysis, and total cost accounting (2 lectures)
Additional case studies (1 lecture)
Specialized training in small groups in preparation for technical assistance assignments (4 lectures)

Computer Usage: Use of word processors for preparation of reports, spreadsheets for waste assessment calculations, and the Internet for communications and research.

Special Projects: Each student is assigned to prepare a formal report on his or her technical assistance activities. The report will focus on documenting the impact of the student's technical assistance activities.

Estimated ABET Category Content:

Engineering Science: 1 credit or 33%
Engineering Design: 2 credits or 67%

Supplemental Application Questions

Resume

If you have prepared a resume (one page) for yourself, please include it with your application packet.

Description of Interest

Please provide a typed description of your interest in the P3 program on an additional sheet of paper by answering the questions below. Number your responses to each of the seven questions. Each P3 internship position is different. This information helps us learn about you and identify possible intern placements. In your response, please answer all of the following questions. Limit your answer to each question to no more than a paragraph. Several questions can be answered with a single sentence or phrase.

1. Why do you want to be part of the P3 program?
2. What qualifications do you have that will help you to succeed in the P3 program? These qualifications may include your course work, volunteer and work experience, work habits, personality traits, interests or hobbies away from school, environmental ethic, etc.
3. This program is unique in that it provides a number of different learning experiences. What are the top two or three areas/topics that you want to be personally challenged to improve by participating in the P3 learning experience? Briefly explain. Examples of topics include (but are not limited to): technical writing, applied research, interpersonal communications, time management, and presenting P2 educational presentations to civic and/or youth groups.
4. The P3 web site (www.p3.unl.edu), describes the different placement options. Indicate your preference (if any) for placement, i.e., a single client industrial placement; multi-client small business focus; no preference.
5. We place students throughout the state of Nebraska in both rural and urban areas. Do you have a strong preference as to where you would like to work in Nebraska? If so, please explain.
6. *Some* program participants will be required to travel within the community or the region that they are assigned. Do you have access to an automobile?
7. *Is there anything else about you that will help us in the selection process?*

Return Completed Application to: P3 Intern Program
c/o Dr. Bruce Dvorak
Biological Systems Engineering - UNL
234 L.W. Chase Hall
Lincoln, NE 68583-0726

Required attachments:

- Completed and signed Application form
- Resume (if you have one)
- Answers to Supplemental Questions (Description of Interest)
- Transcripts (**Note:** unofficial transcript(s), photocopies, or a self-generated listing of courses and grades will be accepted; official transcripts may be required prior to the program starting date.)

Recommendation for the Partners in Pollution Prevention Program

Name of Applicant _____

Name of Reference _____ Phone Number _____

Relationship of Reference to Applicant _____

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, university students have the right to inspect their files upon request. Please sign one of the following statements so that the person writing this letter of recommendation will know if it will be held in confidence or whether it will be open to your inspection upon request.

I retain my right to read this letter

I waive my right of access to this letter

Student Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

REFERENCE

Please complete the following information:

I would rate the applicant among the upper _____ % of previous students I have known.

For each qualification below, please circle the word that best describes the applicant:

Initiative/Self Starter:

Nearly all the time

Needs occasional stimulation

Needs frequent attention/motivation

Academic Ability:

Outstanding

Upper 10%

Upper 25%

Average

Below Average

Insufficient Info

Oral Communication with Teachers and/or Supervisors:

Excellent

Very Good

Average

Below Average

Quality of Written Reports:

Excellent

Very Good

Average

Below Average

Insufficient Info

Ability to Solve Open-Ended Problems:

Excellent

Very Good

Average

Below Average

Insufficient Info

The students in this program will work side-by-side with UNL Environmental Engineering Faculty, regulatory officials, and UNL Extension Educators to provide pollution prevention assistance to small businesses and industries in Nebraska. The technical assistance will involve significant oral and written components, require a student to be a self-starter, and require the student to work with a wide range of personalities.

Please describe any traits that the student has that might have an important influence on his/her success in this program. Comment either below or on an additional sheet.