

National Hispanic Environmental Council



WRITING YOUR APPLICATION ESSAY FOR THE

2021 NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL STEM INSTITUTE

AUGUST 6-15, 2021

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

NHEC is seeking mature, disciplined students who are passionate about the environment, love science, meet the academic/experiential criteria below, and are interested in potentially working this year or next for the U.S. Forest Service, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and/or U.S. EPA, the NM Institute's sponsors.

As for environmental experiences, it can include participation in a variety of environmental jobs and/or environmental science programs, projects or activities, either in school or out. This participation **must be sufficiently science-relevant** and adequately in-depth, as determined by NHEC. **Thus--the more specifics you give us about your past or present environmental involvement, especially in the sciences, the greater your chance of selection.**

WRITING YOUR ESSAY

An essay is required, with a maximum length of two pages. Please obey this; going beyond two pages is unfair to other applicants, and will ensure that we do not read it.

You must describe your qualifications for and interest in the Institute. This essay will be especially important in selecting students. **Your essay must specifically address the following:**

1. What is your name and current GPA—please state this in the first paragraph.
2. Tell us what school, what year you are in, and your current and future major.
3. Why do you want to attend the Institute?
4. Your qualifications. Tell us what kinds of environmental classes, science classes, major, programs, activities, jobs or more you have been involved in, past or present. Also describe the environmental-related research you have conducted, assisted with, or been involved with. If under the tutelage of a professor, please provide that name and school.
5. What environmental and/or natural resource issues interest you the most, and why?
6. If you have attended a previous NHEC event or Institute, state where and when. Also describe what you learned from the experience. State why you want to attend another NHEC Institute.
7. Describe your academic, science/research, and career goals as they relate to the environment, and especially if with the U.S. Forest Service, NRCS, or U.S. EPA, the Institute's sponsors.
8. You must state whether you are interested in a FS, NRCS, and/or EPA position in summer 2022.
If you already have another commitment set for summer 2022 and thus are unavailable, please state.
9. How can you now and in the future make a difference to our environment?
10. How may your race, ethnicity, gender, and/or culture play a role in helping the environment? Students may self-identify their race, ethnicity or other diversity factors.

SCAN AND EMAIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGE TO NHEC; DO SO AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AS SLOTS ARE GOING FAST

Send to Juan Rodriguez, NHEC Programs Coordinator at jrodriguez@nheec1.org or call him at 703-861-6064. Also copy the NHEC President, Roger Rivera, at rrivera@nheec1.org Or call the NHEC Office at 703-683-3956.