Getches-Wilkinson Center Water Law Fellows

Position Announcement

The Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy and the Environment (GWC) at the University of Colorado Law School is seeking two outstanding — early career — attorneys to serve as the next GWC Water Law Fellows. Fellows will work on the most pressing water law reform issues of the day under the guidance of the GWC and in partnership with leaders from the non-profit, government, and private sectors.

The overarching objective of the Fellows Program is to create a matchless educational and mentoring experience that will prepare the Fellows to become leaders in the field. The intensive two-year program will immerse the Fellows in the real-world challenges of water law and policy. During the program, Fellows will be actively engaged in water law reform in the public interest and will hone their leadership, communication, advocacy, and research skills. The Fellows will work with GWC faculty and staff, and with partner organizations on a wide array of emerging issues. This work will be done at every level — federal, state, tribal, county, city, and international — and could include developing proposed legislation/regulations, policy implementation, and filing amicus briefs. Fellows will be expected to attend and participate in major meetings, conferences, and hearings; publish white papers and law reform recommendations; perhaps offer testimony at hearings and make public addresses; draft media content on emerging issues; and work on projects that develop in-depth expertise in water law.

Housed in the GWC at Colorado Law, the Fellows will have full access to the extraordinary resources and institutional support of the Law School. To encourage multi-disciplinary solutions, the Fellows will be able to draw on expertise in departments across the University and nearby national laboratories. Under the guidance of the GWC, Fellows will work with experts in NGOs, government, and the private sector. Each Fellow will have a law faculty mentor as well as the opportunity receive professional development and leadership training.

Terms, Salary, and Benefits

Fellowship terms
- Two year Getches-Wilkinson Water Law Fellowship position
- Salary $68,000 annually
- Travel and training budget
Benefits
The University of Colorado offers excellent benefits, including medical and dental healthcare coverage, and an ECO (transit) Pass. The University of Colorado Boulder is one of the largest employers in Boulder County and offers an inspiring higher education environment. Learn more about the University of Colorado Boulder.

What we require
- J.D.
- Minimum of three years relevant practical experience since receiving your J.D.
- Excellent writing skills

What we would like you to have
- Demonstrated experience or background in water law or related field.
- Demonstrated experience in environmental research.
- Commitment to serving diverse and underrepresented communities.

Application Instructions:
Our next round of Water Law Fellows will begin in November, 2024. Application instructions will be posted during Summer 2024.

Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy and the Environment
The Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy and the Environment endeavors to serve the people of the American West, the nation, and the world through creative, interdisciplinary research, bold, inclusive teaching and innovative problem solving in order to further true sustainability for our use of the lands, waters, and environment. Major programs and initiatives focus on natural resources, water and public lands issues in Colorado and the West; energy and environmental security in the developing world; electricity regulation and energy policy; climate change law and policy; and native communities and environmental justice. The name comes from the contributions of two iconic figures in the law school’s environmental law history, David Getches and Charles Wilkinson.

Learn more about Colorado Law