

PROGRAM ASSOCIATE, SUN CORRIDOR PROGRAM

Who we are

Sonoran Institute is one of the West's leading and most innovative environmental organizations. Founded in Tucson in 1990, we are the lead organization for on-the-ground restoration in the Colorado River Delta, are leading the charge for the restoration of the Santa Cruz River, and are working on innovative approaches to increase renewable energy generation and promote smart growth. We celebrated our 25th Anniversary in 2015 and are in the midst of a robust marketing and fundraising effort to support the launch of our 2040 Vision.

The Sun Corridor Legacy Program focuses on addressing a variety of complex challenges that surround the megapolitan region that includes the cities of Tucson, Phoenix, and Prescott. As the largest and fastest growing populated area in the Intermountain West, the Sun Corridor presents opportunity for the Sonoran Institute to discover new ideas that will bridge sustainability, economic growth, and the unique culture of the region. Currently, the program works in a wide variety of areas including healthy communities, river restoration using reclaimed water, regional mitigation planning, renewable energy advocacy, landscape-level conservation initiatives, and a few others. The diversity of the program provides excellent opportunity for motivated professionals to engage in meaningful work in a huge assortment of arenas while honing their skills in advocacy, planning, conservation, energy development, community design, and environmental policy, among others.

General Overview

The Program Associate position provides support for a wide range of projects and activities in the Sun Corridor program. This position will involve research, data analysis, product development, GIS mapping and analysis, and presentations associated with projects and program activities. On occasion, field work will be required, which may include monitoring environmental indicators, site visits, photography trips, and interviewing members of the public, among other tasks. The Program Associate will collaborate in a team-oriented work environment and will be expected to work under limited direct supervision on tasks assigned. In response to our need to be effective in the growing Latino communities in Arizona, this position requires a person with fluent Spanish speaking, writing, and reading skills. A number of upcoming projects are expected to use these abilities.

Key Responsibilities

- Provide program support by performing research, data analysis, field work
- Presentation preparation and delivery
- Communicate with stakeholders and community leaders as related to the program
- Provide support to program with budgeting, project scheduling, and financial management for assigned projects
- Communications support for preparation of proposals, reports, and other materials in order to promote the program to target audiences

Education & Experience

A Bachelor's degree in Urban or Regional Planning, Ecology, Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Sustainability, Political Science, GIS, or Environmental Sciences; or similar, with at least two years relevant work experience; OR a Master's Degree. Candidate must be bi-lingual, fluent in English and Spanish (speaking, writing, and reading). Candidate will be experienced and comfortable with public speaking and will have strong writing skills. This position requires proficiency in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). It is important for the candidate to have a basic understanding of the Sun Corridor region including development trends, development regulation, federal and state land issues, and current trends in sustainability. A workable understanding of local and state government, urban and regional planning, federal and state land policy, and public engagement is preferred.

What Sonoran Institute Offers Employees

We offer our employees a comprehensive benefits program that includes: employee only medical 100% paid, dental base plan 100% paid, employer paid life and LTD, flexible spending account, retirement plan with employer match, paid holidays, paid time off (20 days first year), and also voluntary vision, STD, and life insurance.

This position will be located at Sonoran Institute's Phoenix, AZ office.

How to Apply

Please submit cover letter and resume to careers@sonoraninstitute.org or fax to 520-917-5004.