

JOB POSTING
Summer Student Positions 2024
Legal Research Assistants

East Coast Environmental Law invites applications to join our summer student team as a Legal Research Assistant. There are two positions available, each funded by the Canada Summer Jobs program.

About the Positions

East Coast Environmental Law is an environmental law charity that delivers public-interest environmental law services throughout Atlantic Canada. We envision a future in which laws and legal systems protect ecological health and promote environmental and climate justice in our region. To that end, we advocate for progressive environmental laws and policies, provide public legal education on environmental laws, and share our legal skills to support individuals, communities, and organizations that are working to prevent or redress environmental harms.

Legal Research Assistants will work with East Coast Environmental Law staff to conduct legal research, analysis, and writing on environmental law issues that staff will be addressing throughout the summer. Research topics may include laws pertaining to coastal adaptation and protection, environmental law jurisprudence in Atlantic Canada, or environmental assessment and decision-making processes. Research topics will be chosen and adjusted as needs arise.

Applicant Qualifications and Job Requirements

The Legal Research Assistant positions require legal research training. Applicants must have completed at least one year of law school and be current law students or recent law school graduates.

East Coast Environmental Law staff work remotely from separate locations and have regular virtual meetings to collaborate and connect. Legal Research Assistants will also work remotely, and there are therefore no job requirements pertaining to city/province of residence.

Legal Research Assistant responsibilities will include:

- **Legal research and analysis:** conducting research on legislation, case law, and scholarship on environmental law topics.
- **Legal writing:** summarizing and synthesizing legal research and analysis by working on briefs, memos, or other written materials—possibly including public-facing materials intended for public audiences without legal knowledge or training.
- **Collaboration:** engaging with staff, other students, clients, and project partners during meetings and calls.
- **Independent work management:** working independently from home or in a suitably private public space (such as a law library); effectively managing time and work tasks; attending virtual meetings to report to and check in with supervising staff.

- **Reflection:** preparing a written reflection to be published as a blog post on the East Coast Environmental Law website at the end of the work term, summarizing legal research and job experiences.

Because this position is funded through the Canada Summer Jobs program, applicants must conform to the program's eligibility requirements. The successful candidates must: be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment; be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* for the duration of the employment; and, have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations. International students are not eligible.

Employment Periods and Remuneration

The employment period for each Legal Research Assistant position will be **twelve (12) weeks**.

There is some flexibility concerning start dates, but the positions would ideally begin in the first week of June.

Remuneration is for **35 hours per week** at **\$16.50 per hour**.

Application Details

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume **combined as a single PDF document** to admin@ecelaw.ca. Applications should be addressed to:

Lisa Mitchell, Executive Director and Senior Lawyer
East Coast Environmental Law Association
6061 University Ave., PO Box 15000
Halifax, NS B3H 4R2

The application deadline is **Monday, May 6th, 2024, at 5:00 PM (Atlantic)**.