

Monitoring Technician Position Announcement

Job Description. This position supports the Estuary Program's Monitoring Program through fieldwork, equipment maintenance, and data management. They report to the Monitoring Projects Manager.

The Organization. The Morro Bay National Estuary Program brings the community, local governments, nonprofits, government agencies, and landowners together to protect and restore Morro Bay. The Estuary Program is a non-regulatory, not-for-profit organization that conducts monitoring and research, restores natural habitats, and educates residents and visitors on how to keep Morro Bay clean and healthy. The Morro Bay National Estuary Program is one of 28 national estuary programs around the country that are working to safeguard and improve the health of some of our nation's most important coastal waters. The Estuary Program achieves results by closely collaborating with many partners to accomplish our shared goals of protecting and restoring the estuary and the watershed. For more information about the program, visit www.mbnep.org.

Duties and Responsibilities.

- Monitoring Fieldwork: Conduct fieldwork to measure oxygen, temperature, pH, turbidity, flow, and other parameters at creek sites. Conduct fieldwork in the bay including basic water quality monitoring and eelgrass monitoring. Collect samples for analysis using sterile technique. Conduct freshwater bioassessment monitoring. Conduct maintenance and calibration of field equipment.
- Labwork: Analysis of water samples for nutrients and turbidity.
- Data Management: Manage monitoring and quality assurance data using spreadsheets and databases.

Minimum Qualifications.

- Junior/Senior standing or a degree in a BA/BS program focused on natural resources management, environmental science, biology, or related field
- Experience with environmental fieldwork in inclement conditions
- Ability to hike and work outside in inclement weather conditions
- Ability to swim
- Comfortable on the water in kayaks, paddleboards, or other watercraft
- Must be able to carry up to 50 lbs and traverse over rough terrain to remote field sites
- Must be detailed-oriented and able to manage multiple responsibilities



Preferred Qualifications.

- Experience in the technical areas of water quality monitoring and surface flows
- Understanding of basic hydrology and local ecology
- Experience with detailed data management using Excel and Access

Pay, Benefits, & Work Environment. This is a non-exempt, 20 to 24 hours per week temporary position with an hourly rate of \$18 to \$21/hour, depending on experience. The position will run from approximately March 31, 2025 through June 27, 2025, with some flexibility on the start and end dates to accommodate the academic calendar. The work takes place primarily during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) with occasional evening and weekend work. This position has a strong field component with at least a third of the time spent outdoors. Benefits package includes sick leave and work from home support. Position will have field, office, and work-from-home components. Estuary Program staff are employees of The Bay Foundation of Morro Bay, a nonprofit corporation that provides the administrative framework for the Estuary Program.

How to Apply. Submit a resume and cover letter to the Morro Bay National Estuary Program. Email submissions preferred. Please send to hiring@mbnep.org, subject line – Monitoring Technician Application. The Estuary Program would like to fill the position as soon as possible, and so the review and selection process will proceed as applications are received. Applications will be accepted until Friday, March 14 at 4 p.m. and will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Proof of valid driver's license, insurance, clean driving record, and a reliable method of personal transportation are required for employment and must be confirmed before a final offer is made. All offers of employment are contingent upon the successful completion of a background check (including a criminal records check). As parts of our organization work extensively with youth and students, all employees are required to meet Bay Foundation policies regarding working with minors.

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