



# EDF Climate Corps

Become a change agent for energy efficiency.

“I gained a set of skills that will help me make the business case for environmental initiatives, wherever my career takes me.”

Debbie Breisblatt, Duke University,  
2010 EDF Climate Corps fellow at City of Raleigh

# Accelerating the energy revolution

“EDF Climate Corps gives tomorrow’s leaders the chance to change the world today.”

– Gwen Ruta, VP of Corporate Partnerships,  
Environmental Defense Fund

“I was able to make an impact at Facebook by working with energy experts, engineers and architects to ensure energy efficiency was incorporated into plans for its new headquarters building and woven into its corporate culture.”

– Naveen Lakshminpathy,  
University of Michigan,  
2011 EDF Climate Corps fellow at Facebook

If improving building energy efficiency were as simple as flipping a switch, organizations could easily cash in on big cost savings and emission reductions. Unfortunately, limited resources, information gaps, and organizational barriers prevent many from taking advantage of smart energy investments. EDF Climate Corps can help. That’s where you come in.

## EDF Climate Corps Fellowship

Climate Corps is Environmental Defense Fund’s innovative summer fellowship program that places top-tier graduate students in companies, cities and universities to build the business case for energy efficiency. Working directly with staff in operations, finance and corporate sustainability, you will develop customized energy management recommendations that demonstrate the financial and environmental benefits of investing in energy efficiency.

**As a fellow, you will spend about 10 weeks working across departments to:**

- Understand your host organization’s energy use;
- Model the financial gains from energy efficiency improvements;
- Facilitate collaboration among multiple energy efficiency stakeholders;
- Identify and help dismantle organizational barriers; and
- Map out a clear strategy for energy efficiency investments and present your recommendations to management.

EDF Climate Corps fellows have also helped their hosts develop a range of new policies and systems—such as employee engagement campaigns, “green” leases and decision-support tools—to integrate energy efficiency into core business operations.

## SUCCESS STORIES



At the adidas Group, Yale fellow **Elizabeth Turnbull** identified energy opportunities for the Reebok World Headquarters in Canton, Mass. and an adidas Group distribution facility in Spartanburg, SC. With an NPV of more than \$1.5 million, her identified projects could avoid 2,360 metric tons of GHG emissions annually. **Elizabeth is now Senior Environment Manager for the adidas Group.**





### Why become an EDF Climate Corps fellow?

- Gain professional experience in energy and sustainability. Climate Corps fellows are embedded in leading companies, cities and universities where they deliver concrete and actionable recommendations to save money and help the environment.
- Deepen your skills. EDF Climate Corps fellows leverage their analytical and technical abilities while proving their effectiveness as change agents for sustainability.
- Build your professional network. By participating in EDF Climate Corps, you'll see exponential growth in your network of sustainability professionals—including key decision makers in the public and private sectors, other EDF Climate Corps fellows and alumni, and EDF experts.
- Boost your career. After graduation, many fellows accept positions working on energy and sustainability issues in the business, academic and non-profit sectors as a direct result of their tangible sustainability experience through EDF Climate Corps.

### How it works

EDF recruits host organizations and fellows for EDF Climate Corps, and matches them based on fellow qualifications, host needs and overall fit for the program. EDF provides a mandatory training on energy efficiency in May, online collaboration tools and expert resources, and an EDF project manager for support. Host organizations provide senior-level support, a day-to-day supervisor and access to energy use data. Hosts commit to reducing their energy use and acting on fellow recommendations where feasible, and provide updates on implementation of energy efficiency measures at six and eighteen months following the fellowship.

### Join EDF Climate Corps

Applications will be available starting October 15, 2012. Visit [edfclimatecorps.org](http://edfclimatecorps.org) for more information.

### Results

In just five years, EDF Climate Corps fellows have uncovered efficiencies in commercial buildings that could:

- Save **\$1.2 billion in net operating costs** over project lifetimes;
- Cut the electricity use of **150,000 homes**—more than the entire city of Pittsburgh; and
- Avoid yearly carbon dioxide emissions equal to the pollution from **200,000 cars**.

On average, fellows have found **\$1 million in energy savings** for each of their host organizations.

The New York City Housing Authority could **reduce its annual energy costs by \$58 million** by implementing a plan developed by Duke fellows **Amy Kochanowsky** and **Harrison Thomas**.



**Neal Tsay**, a fellow from UCLA, helped Target develop a plan to earn ENERGY STAR for 75% of its U.S. buildings and improve energy efficiency in bottom performing stores that could eliminate 50,000 metric tons of GHG emissions each year and **generate several million in annual energy savings**.



# 2013 EDF Climate Corps Program Details



- Fellow attends mandatory four-day training in May
- Fellow works full time for about 10 weeks at a leading company, city or university as a change agent for energy efficiency
- Host organization provides well-scoped energy efficiency projects and experienced supervisor for the fellow
- Fellow participates in EDF-convened expert calls, check-ins, online forums and regional events throughout the summer
- Fellows are paid \$1,250/week and reimbursed for travel expenses incurred during EDF Climate Corps Training and Fall Network Event

## 2012–2013 Program Timeline

### INITIAL STEPS

#### September-December

On-campus recruiting events; see EDF Web site for schedule and details

#### October 15

Fellow application available online

#### October 26

Meet the EDF team at the Net Impact Conference Expo and attend our reception at the Alewife Bar & Grill that evening.

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

#### January 11

Fellow application submission deadline

#### February 28

Host application submission deadline

#### February-April

Interview and matching period\*

#### April 30

2013 EDF Climate Corps fellows confirmed

### FINAL STEPS

#### April-May

Fellow works with host supervisor to draft summer workplan

#### May

EDF Climate Corps training for fellows

#### June

Fellowship commences

#### October

Results reported

“Climate Corps uncovered energy efficiency opportunities that could save the university millions of dollars and cut our carbon footprint by half.”

– Chancellor Charlie Nelms, North Carolina Central University, 2009 EDF Climate Corps host



\* See [edfclimatecorps.org](http://edfclimatecorps.org) for more details on the interview and matching process.

For more information, email [edfclimatecorps.apply@edf.org](mailto:edfclimatecorps.apply@edf.org) or visit [edfclimatecorps.org](http://edfclimatecorps.org)

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