



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Environmental Policy and Program Intern Winter/Spring January 26, 2017

The Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) seeks a passionate, self-motivated, highly organized individual with a keen interest in reducing waste and pollution to join our team of dedicated, collaborative environmental stewards this fall. This is an excellent opportunity to learn and be part of a fast-paced organization that has been at the forefront of the product stewardship movement in the U.S. for the past 16 years.

Application Due Date: Applications are reviewed on a **rolling basis**. Applicants are encouraged to apply ASAP.

Time Commitment: Approximately 12 -20 hours per week.

Compensation: Unpaid. Internships under Praxis funding or for course credit welcome.

PSI works with diverse stakeholders to reduce the health, environmental, and economic impacts of a [wide array of consumer products](#) including paint, batteries, mercury thermostats and lamps, electronics, pesticides and other HHW, carpet, mattresses, packaging, and pharmaceuticals. Best known for our collaborative approach to developing both voluntary and legislated solutions to recycling and waste management issues, PSI has a long history of successes, including:

- Conceived of, and facilitated, the multi-stakeholder dialogue process that led to the **first industry-run paint recycling program in the country**, now operating by law in eight states and the District of Columbia;
- Initiated the national e-waste management discussion that resulted in **electronics recycling laws in 25 states**;
- With Staples and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, **piloted the first voluntary retail-based computer recycling program in the country**, which became a model for Best Buy and related programs;
- Helped Connecticut develop and pass the **first mattress recycling law in the U.S.**, becoming a model for similar laws passed in California and Rhode Island; and
- Led a national coalition that **changed the federal law and subsequent regulations** to allow pharmacies to collect controlled prescription drugs, increasing consumer convenience and lowering costs.

As an intern with PSI's passionate and collaborative team, you will assist staff on a variety of projects including: educate and help local governments around the country to implement product stewardship programs for mercury thermostats, batteries, paint, and pharmaceuticals; conduct research on product stewardship approaches to pesticides management; help conduct other research, analyze data, and develop educational resources to minimize the negative environmental, public health, and financial impacts of waste consumer products (e.g., pharmaceuticals, electronics, fluorescent lamps, batteries) and their packaging.

Qualifications

- Undergraduate or graduate degree (or degree candidate) in planning, public policy, natural resources and waste management/ materials management, political science, natural science, environmental science/studies, or a related field
- Passion for waste reduction and recycling, corporate environmental responsibility, and circular economy philosophies
- Excellent research, analysis, and communications skills (both written and oral)

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- Ability to quickly synthesize and evaluate information and data
- Strong time management and organizational skills
- Self-starter with a positive attitude who shares ideas and actively tries to identify solutions to problems rather than just identifying the problems or waiting for someone else to provide the solutions

Please send a resume, cover letter, and two writing samples (preferably one short and one long) to: amanda@productstewardship.us. Additional work samples welcome.

Please address all of the following in your cover letter:

- Are you able to reliably meet the minimum time requirement?
- Why are you interested in working on product stewardship issues?
- Why are you interested in interning for PSI?
- What makes you uniquely qualified for this position?
- What value do you think can add to the PSI team?
- What do you hope to gain from this experience?

The Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) is a national, membership-based nonprofit committed to reducing the health, safety, and environmental impacts of consumer products across their lifecycle with a strong focus on sustainable end-of-life management. Headquartered in Boston, Mass., we take a unique product stewardship approach to solving waste management problems by encouraging product design changes and mediating stakeholder dialogues. With 47 state environmental agency members, along with hundreds of local government members from coast-to-coast, and more than 100 corporate, business, academic, non-U.S. government, and organizational partners, we work to design, implement, evaluate, strengthen, and promote both legislative and voluntary product stewardship initiatives across North America. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/ProductStewardship. Follow us on Twitter [@ProductSteward](https://twitter.com/ProductSteward).

The Product Stewardship Institute, Inc. is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer.