



EDF Climate Corps

Build the business case for energy efficiency.

“This experience is better than any classroom case study...
It is definitely something I will be able to apply for many years.”

Carin Giga, 2009 EDF Climate Corps
Fellow at Houston Rockets

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

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

“McDonald’s has more than 32,000 restaurants worldwide. I can have a significant impact by identifying even a small savings potential if it can be applied across those restaurants. ”

– Koji Kitazume, Duke University,
2010 EDF Climate Corps
fellow at McDonald’s

Accelerating the energy revolution

If improving office energy efficiency were as simple as flipping a switch, companies could easily cash in on big cost savings and emission reductions. Instead, limited resources, information gaps, and organizational barriers prevent companies from taking advantage of smart energy investments. That’s where you come in. Become an EDF Climate Corps fellow and put energy efficiency into action.

The EDF Climate Corps Fellowship

Climate Corps is EDF’s innovative summer fellowship program that places specially trained MBA students from leading business schools in companies across the country to develop actionable energy efficiency plans. Working directly with company staff in operations, finance, and corporate sustainability, you will develop a customized energy plan that demonstrates the benefits of investing in energy efficiency.

As a fellow, you will spend 10-12 weeks working across company departments to:

- Understand your host company’s energy use;
- Model the financial impact of energy efficiency upgrades;
- Facilitate collaboration among energy efficiency stakeholders;
- Map out a clear strategy for energy efficiency investments and present your recommendations to management.

Climate Corps fellows have also helped their host companies develop a range of new policies and systems, such as “green” leases and decision-support tools to integrate energy efficiency into business strategy and operations.

SUCCESS STORIES



University of Michigan fellow **Ryan Whisnant** developed a plan to cut SunGard’s energy by 25%. If implemented across the company’s office space worldwide, the plan could cut SunGard’s energy bills by over \$5 million annually. **Ryan is now the Director of Sustainability at SunGard.**





Why become an EDF Climate Corps fellow?

- Gain professional experience in corporate sustainability. Climate Corps fellows are embedded in leading corporations where they deliver concrete, actionable recommendations to save money and help the environment.
- Deepen your skills. Climate Corps fellows leverage their analytical and technical abilities while proving their effectiveness as change agents.
- Build your professional network. By participating in Climate Corps, you'll see exponential growth in your network of sustainability professionals—including corporate contacts, other Climate Corps fellows and alumni, and EDF experts.

How it works

EDF recruits student and company participants for Climate Corps, and matches them based on fellow qualifications, company needs, and overall fit. EDF provides a mandatory three-day training on energy efficiency in May, online collaboration tools and expert resources, and an EDF project manager for support. Climate Corps host companies pay the fellows' salaries and reimburse travel expenses to the training, provide senior-level support and a day-to-day supervisor and access to energy use data. Host companies 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 November 1, 2010. Visit edf.org/climatecorps for more information.

Results to Date

Climate Corps has delivered impressive results to date. In the first three years of the program, fellows identified improvements in lighting, computer equipment, and heating and cooling systems that can:

- Save **\$439 million in net operating costs** over the project lifetimes;
- Cut the equivalent of **958 million kilowatt hours of energy** use per year—enough to power 85,000 homes;
- Avoid over **557,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas** emissions per year—equivalent to taking more than 86,000 SUVs off the road.

And it's working!

Companies are already implementing **84% of the energy savings** recommended by the fellows.

Cornell University fellow **Neelam Bhatia** evaluated lighting retrofits, energy management software and thermal energy storage tanks at Advanced Micro Devices (AMD). In total, she identified projects that **could save AMD up to \$1.3 million over their lifetime.**



Ryan Mallett, a fellow from Penn State, helped identify a thermal ice storage system at Verizon Communications that, along with other projects, could avoid 8,700 metric tons of CO₂ emissions and **save Verizon more than \$9 million.**

2011 EDF Climate Corps Program Details



- Fellow attends mandatory training in May
- Fellow works full time for 10-12 weeks at a leading corporation to build the business case for energy efficiency
- Fellow participates in EDF-convened expert calls, check-ins and regional events throughout the summer
- Company provides a supportive high-level sponsor and an accessible day to day manager
- Company pays fellow \$1,250/week and reimburses travel expenses for Climate Corps training

2010-2011 Program Timeline

INITIAL STEPS

September-December

On-campus recruiting events; see EDF website for schedule and details.

October 28-30

Meet the EDF team and hear more at the Net Impact Conference

November 1

Fellow application available online

EARLY DECISION DEADLINES

December 23

Company application deadline

January 11

Fellow application deadline

January-February

Interview and matching period*

March 15

Cohort confirmed

REGULAR DECISION DEADLINES

February 17

Fellow application deadline

March 18

Company application deadline

March-April

Interview and matching period*

April 29

Cohort confirmed

FINAL STEPS

April-May

Fellow works with company supervisor to draft summer workplan

May

Climate Corps training for fellows

June

Fellow begins work

September

Report results



* See edf.org/climatecorps for more details on the interview and matching process.

In partnership with



For more information, please contact Sitar Mody, (smody@edf.org) or visit edf.org/climatecorps

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