The Alaska Sea Grant Community Engaged Fellowship (CEF) program aims to broaden participation in coastal and marine sciences and related fields in order to make them inclusive and representative of the many cultures, ethnicities and identities of students in Alaska. CEF does this by providing training and mentorship to early-stage university and community college students as well as recent graduates from high school or college who identify as indigenous, non-traditional students, as a minoritized or underrepresented group, and/or from a rural community.

CEF students are paid a stipend of $7,500.

Alaska Sea Grant Community Engaged Fellows will be part of a national cohort, and so will the mentors. We ask that each student be paired with a mentor, who will engage with other mentors through the following:

- mentor training provided in the spring preceding the summer fellowship
- networking opportunities with other mentors during the summer
- professional development sessions via videoconference with students and other mentors
- peer discussions with other mentors in the cohort using Slack or other online platforms
- an in-person graduation ceremony with students to celebrate accomplishments and network with peers and other professionals
- pre- and post-evaluation activities

Joi Gross, an environmental science undergraduate at the University of Alaska Southeast, worked with Alaska Environment for her CEF project. Joi sampled waterways across Southcentral Alaska for microplastics and shared her findings with the public.

Simon Friday and Willow Jackson both worked on the ocean monitoring team for the Kake Climate Partnership for their CEF experience. The partners work together to conduct climate research and adaptation planning that provides tangible benefits to the community. The CEF program allowed Simon and Willow to spend the summer working in their hometown, while receiving training and gaining skills to advance their career development.
To inquire about being a CEF host and mentor, please reach out to Brooke Carney, Alaska Sea Grant Deputy Director, by March 1 of the year you would like to participate as a CEF host and mentor. We will be interested in knowing the following information.

- A description of your organization and how the CEF program fits with your organization's goals and culture;
- How you can provide mentoring to a student;
- Whether you have a student you would like to work with (not required);
- Any plan to recruit students;
- Any details about housing availability for students;
- If you have funds available to fully or partially support the student stipend.

The Alaska Sea Grant CEF committee will approve mentors for the CEF program by April 1.

About the Community Engaged Fellowship

The Community Engaged Fellowship is a national program sponsored by Sea Grant. The goal of this paid fellowship program is to provide training and mentorship to the next generation of scientists, decision makers and citizens. Fellowships can vary based on the diversity of focus areas at Alaska Sea Grant. Fellows assist mentors with field work, analyses, research, or outreach and public engagement. Students will be placed at a Sea Grant office or with a partner organization.

Program goals are to recruit, retain and engage diverse students in place-based research, extension, education and communication that respects and integrates local knowledge systems to address coastal and marine issues. We also hope to encourage students to seek careers in marine and coastal professions and offer coaching to each student on career exploration.

https://seagrant.noaa.gov/community-engaged-internship/

https://alaskaseagrant.org/cef

seagrant.fellowships@alaska.edu

alaskaseagrant.org/cef