

# Focus on: Spills Program Fellowships

Spills Prevention, Preparedness & Response

# Perspective on fellowships

Fellowships are important opportunities for the Spills Program to contribute to the development of future marine policy professionals. Our fellowship opportunities are designed, with intent, to place the interests and professional development goals of the Fellow at the forefront of planning. To support this, each fellowship opportunity includes three foundational elements:

- Project Work
- Professional Development
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)

These elements provide the template from which a fellowship opportunity can be tailored, in collaboration with the Fellow, to meet their specific professional development goals and interests, as they complete a high-profile project in a professional workplace and gain real world experience in marine policy and spill prevention, preparedness, and response.

The responsibility for a successful fellowship is shared across the entire Spills Program Team. The main project work may be supervised and based in any section of the Program, but the professional development and DEI elements are opportunities for the full team to help Fellows have a rewarding and impactful experience early in their career.

#### **Foundational elements**

The project work, professional development, and diversity, equity, and inclusion foundational

elements of the Spills Program fellowship opportunities are designed to meet the broad requirements of Washington Sea Grant fellowship programs while creating consistency within the Spills Program for how fellowships will be successfully developed, managed, and completed.

### **Project work**

A wide variety of projects could be developed into fellowship proposals. Projects should align with the focus and specific goals for the WSG fellowship program to which the host office application will be submitted. Past projects have been associated with statutory requirements and budget provisos, but this is not a requirement.

## **Professional development**

Fellows will be encouraged to be proactive and creative in identifying their professional development goals. Opportunities to meet professional development goals exist inherently in agency and program work, including but not limited to internal and external training courses and workshops, shadowing Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and leads, and participating in conferences, hearings, drills and exercises, and policy and legislative activity.

#### Diversity, equity, and inclusion

Fellowship opportunities with the Spills Program should include pathways for Fellows to learn about and make contributions to social justice, DEI, and environmental justice while working as part of the Spills Program.



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