

YOUR NAME

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STATEMENT OF INTEREST

I am applying for a State Department summer internship with either OES or EAP. Majoring in Environmental Studies, Political Science and Chinese at the University of Pittsburgh and doing field work in Mongolia and China, underscored to me the need to address the serious environmental challenges we face through international cooperation. After graduation, as a Truman Fellow at the U.S. Department of Transportation, I was in charge of the Department's climate change work at the staff level. This brought me in frequent contact with OES, as I worked on preparations for major climate negotiations and the Asian Pacific Partnership. Since then, I have wanted to work for OES, particularly with the climate change team, and perhaps join the State Department after graduate studies.

After a year and a half working on high-level environmental policy, I traveled to India where I worked at a reforestation project and learned more about small-scale projects to decrease the effects of global warming. I then went to Australia to take an intensive certification course in Permaculture and learned sustainable design. I then returned to China to work with Conservation International on climate change initiatives, which included designing a Green Travel Campaign for the Olympics with a focus on reducing individual carbon emissions. I also worked on wildlife conservation, broadening my knowledge of the different environmental issues at play in the international arena.

I then entered the Master in Public Affairs degree program at Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School to improve my quantitative skills and ability to analyze policy options and make well-informed policy decisions. I will also receive a Certificate in Science, Technology & Environmental Policy when I graduate. My coursework includes Statistics, Economics, a course in Politics and Public Policy, and one specifically on climate change mitigation strategies taught by Prof. Robert Socolow. Before next summer, I will also have taken Prof. Michael Oppenheimer's course on Global Environmental Governance.

In EAP, I am interested in working on environmental issues at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. I speak Chinese at an intermediate level and would like to improve my language skills and understanding of diplomacy with China. I believe that my education, skills, and prior work experience could be a great asset to either of these bureaus; and I hope I will be afforded an chance to serve our nation next summer with State.

[Unless rules have changed, the State Department will only allow 2,500 characters with spaces on your statement of interest. Please be sure to check in advance]