

National Hispanic Environmental Council



APPLICATION INFORMATION: HOW TO APPLY

THE MINORITY YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

“9 Days of Learning, A Lifetime of Experience”

September 10–19, 2004 • Glorieta, New Mexico

The **National Hispanic Environmental Council (NHEC)** is accepting applications from teens, aged 16–18, to attend its “Minority Youth Environmental Training Institute”, to be held September 10–19, 2004 at the beautiful Glorieta Lifeway Conference Center, in Glorieta, NM. The Institute is an exciting, intensive, motivational, and highly educational 9 day program, and is being funded by a number of federal environmental agencies. These include the U.S. EPA, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. BLM, and others. The following information will help students prepare their applications. **For detailed information on the Institute please read the “Fact Sheet” and other materials.**

If you are selected, NHEC will pay all your major costs to attend, including airfare, housing, all meals, educational materials, and related on-site equipment. There is no fee to apply, and only a \$35 registration fee (for the entire 9 days) if you are selected. NHEC will waive the \$35 fee for any student who is accepted into the Institute, but is unable to pay the fee due to financial hardship. The Institute is open to all youth aged 16 - 18, and all are welcome to apply. Hispanic youth are especially urged to send applications, given the severe underrepresentation of Latinos in environmental fields.

TO APPLY, YOU MUST

1. Read and complete all Forms, especially the Application Form. You must mail us all required forms and attachments for your application to be reviewed. Incomplete applications cannot be evaluated by NHEC. You can obtain all necessary forms by calling NHEC, or by going to the NHEC web page at www.nheec.org. However, you cannot apply on-line; you must mail us your completed application package.
2. Write a one page essay. This essay will be particularly important in selecting students for the Institute. See below for more details on what to include in your essay.
3. Include a copy of your latest school report card and/or transcript showing your classes and grades.
4. Apply as soon as possible, as early applicants will have a better chance of acceptance.

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Manuel Hernandez
Board Chairman, NHEC
and Chairman 9th Annual Conference
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106 N. Fayette Street
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WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

NHEC is seeking applicants with active experience (past or present) in the environment, and/or are strongly interested in pursuing an environmental or natural resource career in the future. If you have been actively involved in any kind of environmental program, class, project, or job, either in school or out, we urge you to apply. Remember—the more you tell us about your past or present activities in the environment, the greater the chance of being accepted for the Institute.

We are also interested in receiving applications from youth who may not have any prior experience in an environmental activity, but who are strongly interested in learning more about the environment, especially related careers and colleges. **But, you must be able to show us this strong interest —convincingly.**

Remember— the Institute is not a 9 day free vacation. It is for students who are seriously interested in learning more about the environment and related careers, and willing to diligently participate in a challenging, in-depth program for 9 days. Through your application packet we will be able to determine your interest, intent, and seriousness.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants from across the nation will be competitively selected, based on their application package and a variety of criteria. This criteria includes (but is not limited to):

1. students' academic background and achievements;
2. ability to show a genuine interest in the environment, especially as a future career;
3. experience in some environmental activity, program, class, project, or job, especially if associated with the U.S. EPA, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, or other agencies within the U.S. Dept. of Interior or Agriculture.
4. extracurricular and/or community activities that may not be related to the environment, but reflect upon you as an applicant, and you want NHEC to know about, and
5. Diversity by age, gender, geography, and other factors.

WRITING YOUR ESSAY

A one page essay is required with your application. You must describe—in your own words—your qualifications for and interest in the Institute. **This essay will be especially important in selecting students for the Institute.** Your essay should tell us:

1. Why you want to attend the Institute.
2. Your qualifications. Tell us what kinds of environmental activities, programs, classes, jobs, etc. you have been involved in.
3. Your future career and/or college goals, especially if they relate to the environment.
4. How can you now, and in the future, make a difference to our environment?
5. How might your race, ethnicity, gender and/or culture play a role in helping the environment?
6. Why should we select you to attend the Institute?

MAIL YOUR APPLICATION PACKAGE TO:

National Hispanic Environmental Council
Att: Minority Youth Environmental Training Institute
106 N. Fayette Street
Alexandria, VA 22314