

## **EcoFaith Recovery's Practicum Internship Supervisor Authorization**

The EcoFaith Recovery Practicum provides contextual leadership development for seminary interns who want to offer a courageous, faithful, and public response to the climate crisis and to systems that devastate marginalized human communities and ecosystems. The EcoFaith Practicum is incorporated into the seminary internship experience in a manner designed to deepen the intern's spiritual practice, enhance the relationship development that is at the heart of any vital ministry, and equip the intern to act with a faith community to express the community's values and commitments in the larger community. Practicum interns are accompanied for the duration of their internship by an EcoFaith Practicum Coordinator, a personal mentor, and a four to five-member cohort of interns serving diverse contexts across the country.

Along with their faith communities, interns participating in EcoFaith Practicums discern and develop a contextual, community response to climate injustice or to a local environmental justice issue. This community response takes the form of a project or campaign mutually identified by the intern and key congregational leaders. The Practicum intern takes a leadership role in this climate justice campaign or environmental justice project along with members of their internship congregation. The intern's engagement in this effort serves as their "internship project."

### **Practicum Characteristics and Expectations**

An EcoFaith Practicum is a core part of the overall seminary internship experience and lasts for the duration of the internship. It will require an average of 2.5 to 3 hours per week as follows:

#### **Each week from September 2019 to August 2020, Practicum interns will:**

- Reflect upon or pray about how they want to incorporate *The Practices for Awakening Leadership* and other spiritual and relational practices into their leadership, life or ministry
- Complete at least one relational conversation (one-to-one) with a different member of their internship community (45 - 60 minute relational conversation; 30 mins to prepare for the conversation and write about it afterwards)

#### **Each month from September 2019 to August 2020, Practicum interns will:**

- Meet online with EcoFaith's Practicum Coordinator and the rest of their Practicum Cohort for mutual leadership development (2 hours x 2 times before the Internship starts; 2 hours x 12 months during the Internship)
- Meet with a Practicum mentor. Although in some situations, an internship supervisor who has community organizing experience as well as experience organizing for climate or environmental justice could meet this requirement, most interns will seek out an additional mentor for this purpose who can enhance the intern's leadership growth and development in environmental/climate justice in specific ways (1 hour x 12 months)
- Submit a short written reflection to EcoFaith Recovery regarding how the Practicum intern is applying *The Practices for Awakening Leadership* to the internship experience and what is happening as a result of that application (1 hour x 12 months)

**Every other month from September 2019 to August 2020, Practicum interns will:**

- Facilitate the EcoFaith *Practices* in a meeting within their faith community and/or the larger community connected with their internship project (90 minutes x 6 months)
- Submit at least one leadership resource that highlights one of the seven *Practices for Awakening Leadership* which the intern has used or intends to use in leadership within their internship congregation OR one blog post (1 to 2 hours x 6 months)

**Once every quarter from September 2019 to August 2020, Practicum interns will**

- Participate in EcoFaith's National All Leader Gathering by Zoom at least 4 times during the course of the Practicum and hold some leadership role therein (2 hours x 4 months)

**Once before, during or near the conclusion of the internship, Practicum interns will**

- Meet online with key EcoFaith Recovery leaders and staff for orientation to the EcoFaith Practicum and in order to meet fellow Practicum interns (2 hours in April 2019)
- Participate in a 3-day EcoFaith Leadership Institute which will provide an immersion into *The Practices for Awakening Leadership* prior to beginning their internship and build community amongst the Practicum Cohort. (The 2019 Institute will take place Friday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m. - Saturday, April 27 at 5:00 p.m. and for three hours each from May through August. All gatherings will take place via Zoom.)
- Complete a final written *Reflection on the Practicum Experience* using guidelines provided (90 minutes to 2 hours)
- Engage in a conversation with key EcoFaith leaders about the written *Reflection on the Practicum Experience* (60 minutes)

**As supervisor for this intern, and on behalf of our internship site, I authorize this intern's participation in the EcoFaith practicum and acknowledge that the practicum commitments identified above will count as part of this seminarian's internship hours and responsibilities. The campaign or project that this seminarian identifies with key congregational leaders will meet any internship project requirements for our institution.**

Name of Intern \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how the congregation has or will extend support for the intern's engagement in the EcoFaith practicum by filling out Option A OR Option B below.

**Option A: A key leadership body with authority related to this internship (i.e. council or internship committee) has voted to support the intern's engagement in the EcoFaith Practicum as part of this internship.**

Name of Leadership Body \_\_\_\_\_

Chair of that Leadership body

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Option B: The following three key leaders from the internship congregation will work with the intern to identify and carry out some kind of climate or environmental justice campaign or project with the congregation:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Some of the times under consideration for our once a month online Intern Cohort gathering include the following. Please let us know if your community has any regular meetings or gatherings at these times that could present a scheduling conflict for your intern so both the intern and EcoFaith Recovery are aware of this in advance.

Day of Week, one time per month	Pacific Time	Mountain	Central Time	East Coast	Conflicts with Church Calendar?
<b>A Thursday</b>	4 - 6 pm	5 - 7 pm	6 - 8 pm	7 - 9 pm	
<b>A Saturday</b>	10 am - noon	11 am - 1 pm	Noon - 2 pm	1 - 3 pm	
<b>A Saturday</b>	Noon - 2 pm	1 - 3 pm	2 - 4 pm	3 - 5 pm	
<b>A Sunday</b>	4 - 6 pm	5 - 7 pm	6 - 8 pm	7 - 9 pm	

Please include any additional comments on back and *return this form to the Intern who will submit it to EcoFaith Recovery by May 7, 2019. If additional time is needed or if you have additional questions about this Practicum, please contact EcoFaith Recovery's Internship Coordinator, Sarah Holst at [sarah@ecofaithrecovery.org](mailto:sarah@ecofaithrecovery.org) or EcoFaith's Pastor/Organizer, Robyn Hartwig, at [PastorRobyn@ecofaithrecovery.org](mailto:PastorRobyn@ecofaithrecovery.org) or 503-765-6711. Thank you.*