

## STUDENT TRAINING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (STEP)

<https://www.midwestrenew.org/step>

The Student Training for Environmental Protection (STEP) is designed to give students the skills they need to become effective environmental advocates. It is an intensive course facilitated by a multifarious crew of some of the best youth organizers in the U.S and Puerto Rico. **The program focuses on environmental justice and anti-oppression and the workshops and activities reflect that.** During the week participants learn how to create (or strengthen) successful and diverse groups that will be able to run effective environmental campaigns on their campuses or in their communities.

The program is appropriate for people with no organizing experience as well as folks that are looking to build upon existing skills. Specifically, STEP provides its participants the skills, knowledge, and motivation they need to create the change that will turn passion for the environment into action that will protect it. Participants can expect to be surrounded by a wide array of people from across the country while learning how to organize in an inclusive manner. **We strongly encourage people from historically marginalized groups, i.e. people of color, LGBT folks, to apply.**

Some of the workshops that are covered include:

### **Organizing skills**

Recruiting, Leadership Development, Coalition Building, Campaign Planning, Event Planning, Facilitation

### **Communication Skills**

Public Speaking, How to Get Media Attention, Message Development, Lobbying

### **Anti-Oppression**

Dismantling Racism, Undoing Patriarchy, How To Be An Ally

### **Issues**

The Climate Crisis, Mountaintop Removal, Hydro-fracking, Tar Sands, Overdevelopment and Sprawl

Additionally, the Student Training for Environmental Protection program allows participants to:

- Connect with fellow young people and build community to build power and sustain involvement for the long-term.
- Strengthen the bonds between student organizers while being trained and empowered with the skills needed to be part of the movement that solves climate change, environmental injustice, and economic failure.
- Understand the magnitude of both the challenges and opportunities presented by the climate crisis and explore the capacities to create transformative change.

### **Heartland STEP- Thursday, June 20th through Sunday, June 23th in central Wisconsin:**

[Apply Now!](#)

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*This program is hosted by the Midwest Renewable Energy Association as part of their [Annual Energy Fair!](#) It is supported in part by the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education.*

The subsidized cost for this program is \$135\* and includes admission to the Energy Fair, camping, and a ticket for the Networking Dinner. Meals will be available for purchase and will be the responsibility of the participant. We estimate the total cost for meals will be approximately \$75.