



Rising Sun Center for Opportunity

Job Opening: Energy Specialist (ES)

About Us

We're deeply rooted at the intersection of equity, climate, and good, sustainable careers. In 1994, Rising Sun Center for Opportunity began as Rising Sun Energy Center in Santa Cruz, California. Much has changed as we've adapted and innovated to respond to the needs of our participants and communities, but today, we remain rooted in our origins, preparing people throughout the Bay Area and Central California who have been locked out of prosperity for good jobs and green pathways that offer economic equity and mobility while building a climate-resilient future for all. Learn more about who we are www.risingsunopp.org

The Climate Careers Program

Climate Careers uses a social enterprise model to combine home energy and water-saving services with youth development. Our no-cost Green House Call service consists of energy and water use assessments, installation of efficiency devices, and client education. Youth program participants deliver this service to thousands of homes every summer while growing personally and professionally, advancing on to paid externships in the fall with organizations doing climate-related work to increase their career exposure and experience.

Job Details (Schedule, Pay & Office Locations)

The Energy Specialist (ES) designed for emerging climate leaders ages 15-22 from low-income households who meet program eligibility requirements. In the summer, ESs will conduct Green House Calls (GHCs), which includes assessing and installing simple energy and water efficiency measures such as light bulbs, showerheads, and sink aerators, while also educating clients on household energy and water usage. ESs will participate in recurring professional development workshops, explore career pathways and make connections. ESs will report directly to Summer Program Managers at their respective site.

Upon successful completion of the summer Green House Call program, ESs may be eligible to continue paid employment with Rising Sun as Externs through a Fall externship program, that places them with a trusted partner organization to gain additional career exposure to the green economy as they build their professional network and resume. Externs will report directly to the Youth Development Manager.

- **Contract Length:**

- **Summer:** June 15, 2026 - August 3, 2026
- **Fall Externship*:** August 4, 2026 - November 20, 2026

**After successfully completing the GHC program, you may be eligible to participate in an externship. Externship placements are offered as available and are determined by program capacity and alignment with host site opportunities, including interests, skills, and scheduling*



needs. By submitting your application, you are committing to being available and interested in both the summer and externship portion of the program.

- **Compensation:**
 - **Summer:** \$19.00/hour, 35 hours/week;
 - **Fall Externship:** \$22.00/hour, 8-20 hours per week (exact hours will be determined based on host hours agreed upon).
- **Sick time:** Accrual of 1 hour for every 30 hours worked beginning after 30 days of employment, up to a maximum accrual of 80 hours. Sick leave becomes available for use after 90 days of employment, in accordance with the terms of Rising Sun's sick leave policy.
- **Reimbursements:**
 - **Monthly phone:** Phone (\$30) June through August
 - **Monthly internet:** Internet (\$20) August through November, if externship is virtual or hybrid
- **Locations :** Stockton, Lathrop, Madera, Merced, Fresno, and Visalia

The Energy Specialist Position

June 15th - August 3rd, 2026 (Video: [Green House Call Program](#)):

- With a partner, visit 2-3 homes in your community per day (*by appointment*) to provide a Green House Call service.
- Conduct follow-up phone calls to residents who have received Green House Calls to provide additional resources or gather feedback to improve the program.
- Participate in eco-literacy and professional development workshops to establish a professional portfolio which includes a resume and cover letter, as well as learning strategies to network and to perform well on interviews after your time at Rising Sun.
- Participate in Externship related activities throughout the summer program including: Interview Day, Alumni Panel, and Externship Overview.
- Other duties as assigned.

August 4th - November 20th, 2026 (Externship Program):

- Complete up to 140 hours of paid work experience with host organization; 8-15 weeks for at least 8-20 hours per week
- For up to 45 additional hours, participate in weekly professional development workshops and weekly check-in meetings with Rising Sun supervisors i.e Youth Development Manager.
- Fulfill externship site host requirements/responsibilities as it pertains to the position description and complete 3 informational interviews.
- Submit feedback through program evaluations in a timely manner that will be reviewed to enhance the program in the future.
- Meet with hosts and Rising Sun supervisors to discuss projects, develop goals and learning plan.
- Create Externship Final Presentation highlighting accomplishments with the host organization.

Requirements

- Must be within 15-22 years of age by the start of the program (June 15th)
- Be able to travel to and from Climate Careers site offices for in-person Green House Calls
- Proof of low- income status (or signed affidavit)
- If over 18 years, be able to pass a background check

- If under 18 years and a high school student, be able to provide a guardian/parent-signed authorization to work and a school-issued work permit
- Adhere to all Rising Sun policies, public safety regulations, and/or best practices
- Have reliable phone access to make and receive calls and to download and use work-related mobile applications
- Be able to lift up to 25 pounds and walk up to half a mile at a time
- If applicable, be able to complete virtual Mandated Reporter and Sexual Harassment trainings within the first week of training
- Maintain confidentiality of all program participants and all files and records pertaining to clients
- Be available to work weekly late days.

READY to Apply?

Fill out the online application here: <https://risingsun.tfaforms.net/f/CCrecruitment>

We are accepting applications on a rolling basis until all positions have been filled. If you have any questions, please contact us at ccjobs@risingsunopp.org

Rising Sun is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Rising Sun is committed to diversity and considers all applicants for all positions without regard to color, ethnic background, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, and disability status. Equal Opportunity Employer/Affirmative Action; women and individuals who are Black, indigenous, and/or people of color are encouraged to apply.

