

Title: Undergraduate Eco-Ambassador Fall 2026-Spring 2027

Job Description: UMBC's Office of Sustainability (OoS) seeks to employ responsible and dependable **undergraduate** students in the UMBC Eco-Ambassadors program. The program cultivates environmental responsibility by training student leaders to promote sustainable practices at the university and encouraging environmentally responsible behaviors among peers.

Eco-Ambassadors are responsible for building strong relationships with campus stakeholders and students to build community, and partnering to create impactful change on campus. Eco-Ambassadors are resources and educators for daily lifestyle choices that are within the control of individual students, such as waste reduction, energy efficiency, transportation, conservation, and sustainable food choices.

Eco-Ambassadors will report to the OoS and will, as a collaborative effort, conduct outreach campaigns each semester. All Eco-Ambassadors will implement these campaigns simultaneously across campus. Eco-Ambassadors serve in introductory student leadership roles and are vital members of the UMBC sustainability effort.

Eco-Ambassadors are expected to commit between 3 and 5 hours of work per week (on average), during the semester, and will be required to attend bi-weekly team meetings that will take place on Mondays during free hour (12-1 PM). Hours of commitment typically occur between 8 AM and 4:30 PM Monday to Friday.

If selected, Eco-Ambassadors will choose a specific role to fill within the team. Each role will complete specially assigned projects and campaigns, above and beyond the shared group projects. These roles include but are not limited to:

- Green Retriever Group (GRG) Coordinator(s)
 - The GRG Coordinator is responsible for coordinating with student organizations to collaborate on events, encourage them to grow and continue their sustainability efforts, recruit new groups to certify with OoS, and plan the end of year celebration for certified organizations. This role will help build networking and communication skills.
- Zero Waste Coordinator(s)
 - The Zero Waste Coordinator will work with OoS to identify and coordinate a project or program focused on waste reduction on campus. They will propose a project or educational campaign to help influence and inform students of the importance of waste management and diversion, and how to use the different diversion streams we have at UMBC. They will also represent sustainability issues at Student Dining Advisory Committee meetings (3-5 times a year). This role will help build networking, communication, and program implementation skills.

- Campus Ecosystem Coordinator(s)
 - The ecosystem coordinator will work with OoS and the UMBC Grounds team to coordinate and execute a project to improve sustainable land management practices on campus, and lead the planning efforts for invasive species removal events. This role will help build field work, networking, and program planning skills.
- Civic Engagement Coordinator(s)
 - The Coordinator will work to incorporate civic and community engagement into Eco-Ambassador programming and outreach, including but not limited to policy advocacy, connecting students with local opportunities, and identifying improvements to internal environmental policies.
- Build Your Own Position
 - Do you see potential for collaboration in a role not already defined? Work with OoS to help develop a position catered to your interests within your role as an Eco-Ambassador.

Responsibilities:

1. Role Execution: Work with campus partners to tailor programming for each role. This includes creating, advertising, executing, and measuring each program with the guidance of your manager and help from your teammates.

2. General Sustainability Support: Eco-Ambassadors are often called on to help support campuswide or department-specific sustainability initiatives. Eco-Ambassadors are expected to sign up for shifts to help as needed. This includes attending meetings, tabling for relevant events, and attending work-group meetings.

3. Peer-to-Peer Education: Eco-Ambassadors are expected to lead with examples of sustainable lifestyle choices in order to encourage environmentally responsible behaviors among peers.

4. Relationship Building: Serve as the point of contact for your students and clubs interested in sustainability and act as a resource for your peers.

5. Communications: Work with the OoS to clearly communicate sustainability related activities on campus. Produce fun and informative content for social media and monthly newsletters. Solicit feedback from our campus community and identify opportunities for improved sustainability efforts. Write assigned reflections (1 per semester).

6. Active Participant: Attend all scheduled meetings and training sessions. Complete supplemental assignments and projects on time. Actively participate in outreach and campaign work. ***When assigned work is not completed or meetings are missed, it places additional burden on other Eco-Ambassadors, limits their ability to fully engage with the program, and is not fair to those who consistently meet their responsibilities.***

Qualifications:

1. A sophomore, junior, or senior who will be on campus for the duration of the academic year. Graduate student applications cannot be considered.
2. Ability to attend group meetings on Mondays during free hour (12-1 PM).
3. Commitment to sustainability and desire to improve sustainability/eco-friendly behaviors on campus.
4. Commitment to representing the University in a positive and productive manner.
5. Basic understanding of Climate Change.
6. Interest in the relationship between sustainability and one, or more, of the following areas: Energy, Transportation, Research/Education, Environmental Justice, Ecosystem Services, Waste Reduction/Recycling, Environmental Policy.
7. Ability to cooperate and engage with others.
8. Demonstrates that they are reliable and responsible.
9. Ability to maintain academic performance (minimum GPA of 2.8 required).

Compensation:

Stipend: \$750.00 per semester (\$1,500.00 per year)

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