



Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act – Job openings

March 3, 2022

Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act – New Positions at Oregon DEQ

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is filling several new positions to implement the [Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act \(SB 582\)](#). Consider joining the team!

Materials play a significant role in our *health* and the *health* of the *planet*. DEQ's [Materials Management Program](#) plans and implements policies and programs to reduce the impacts of materials and products throughout their full life cycle, from design and production through distribution, consumption and use, and management at end-of-life.

Product stewardship is an environmental management strategy in which all parties involved in the design, production, sale, and use of a product take responsibility for minimizing environmental and human health impacts. DEQ supports product stewardship as a way to reduce overall environmental impacts throughout the product's full life cycle; increase reuse and recycling; reduce toxics and waste generation; and internalize and more equitably distribute the costs of products, including managing those products at the end of their useful life.

DEQ is a leader in product stewardship and extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs. Oregon has the oldest deposit and redemption program for beverage containers, which has operated (and been significantly expanded) since 1972. Since then, Oregon has adopted and successfully implemented EPR programs for electronics, paint, and most recently, unwanted medicines. In 2021, Oregon became one of the first states in the nation to pass legislation requiring producers of packaged products, food serviceware, and printing and writing paper to take responsibility for effective recycling and management of their products. Oregon's landmark Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act establishes numerous precedents aimed at reducing environmental impacts and improving social outcomes across the life cycle of materials.

To implement the Recycling Modernization Act, DEQ will be looking for creative and driven problem solvers to fill 5 new positions on our innovative team in 2022:

- Program Plan Lead
- Recycling Program Analyst (limited duration)
- Recycling Program Specialists (two openings)
- Recycling Program Implementation Lead

Current and future openings:

Position	Recycling Program Specialist
Classification	Operations and Policy Analyst 2
Position number	4059
Recruiting timeline	March or April 2022
Target Start Date	May 2022
Salary Range	27 (\$4,547/month - \$6,959/month)
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene and manage DEQ's collaboration with a new Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council (ORSAC) • Conduct other program planning related to the finances of the program • Establish fees and manage third-party contractors • Develop legislative reports

Position	Recycling Program Implementation Lead
Classification	Natural Resource Specialist 4
Position number	4023
Recruiting timeline	Spring 2022
Target Start Date	July 2022
Salary Range	30 (\$5,233/month - \$8,043/month)
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical subject matter expertise to RMA programs • Perform research to inform establishing processor commodity risk fee • Oversee study to evaluate cost of contamination at MRFs • Perform research on contamination management fee • Work with program team and stakeholders to establish and maintain statewide recycling collection list • Establish goals for plastics recovery and measure progress toward goals • Respond to ORSAC recommendations • Oversee education aspects of program • Lead other program research and analysis

Position	Recycling Program Specialist
Classification	Operations and Policy Analyst 2
Position number	4057
Recruiting timeline	Spring 2022
Target Start Date	July 2022
Salary Range	27 (\$4,547/month - \$6,959/month)
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with local governments and other regional stakeholders • Manage project to study equity in the recycling system • Design required procedures and forms that regulated entities will use • Develop requirements and programs related to local governments and multifamily properties

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide other program development and implementation as needed
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Previously posted, now closed:

Position	Program Plan Lead
Classification	Program Analyst 4
Position number	4060
Recruiting timeline	Feb 2022
Target start Date	April 2022
Salary Range	31 (\$5,483/month – \$8,440/month)
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop program guidelines for producer responsibility organizations (PROs) • Write rules related to program plan requirements and other RMA implementation • Review PRO program plan, amendments, and annual reports • Support legislative efforts related to extended producer responsibility

Position	Recycling Program Analyst – limited duration
Classification	Program Analyst 3
Position number	4088
Recruiting timeline	Feb 2022
Target Start Date and End Date	April 2022 - June 30, 2023 (DEQ will request Legislature to make permanent)
Salary Range	29 (\$4,990/month - \$7,663/month)
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead rulemaking process for rules related to program plan requirements, local government compensation, and statewide recycling acceptance lists • Engage with Rules Advisory Committee • Perform research • Develop information for local government compensation

About the Product Stewardship team

The new team members hired in 2022 will also work closely with members of a broader team at DEQ, including staff statewide with decades of experience in sustainable materials management and product stewardship. The team's experience spans innovative policy, legislative, research, measurement and stakeholder engagement work.

Contact Product Stewardship Program Manager, Cheryl Grabham at Cheryl.grabham@deq.oregon.gov with questions about these positions.

Alternate formats

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.