

## **Summer Research Assistant - Environmental Chemistry**

Are you interested in researching how seagrass can combat environmental pollution and developing laboratory skills in chemical analysis?

The [UConn Gas Biogeochemistry Lab](#) in the Marine Sciences Department at the UConn Avery Point campus in Groton, CT is hiring a paid position for an undergraduate UConn student or recent graduate to work on a project investigating how seagrass and other marine plants contribute to reducing nitrogen pollution (eutrophication) beginning in May 2026. They will work with a PhD student to collect seagrass in the field, monitor the seagrass in a seawater facility, collect water samples to measure the gas production from the seagrass, and perform sample analysis in the laboratory.

The student will learn how to use analytical chemistry instrumentation that may include a mass spectrometer, automated titrator, nutrient analyzer, and gas chromatograph, will learn how to use and calibrate water quality sensors, and will perform quality control of the data generated.

Previous research experience is not required. The student should be detail-oriented and prepared to work independently following appropriate training. Most of the student's time is expected to be spent performing chemical analyses in a research laboratory. Additional tasks will include sample collection and water quality monitoring at the seawater facility, and participation in multiple field trips to collect seagrass.

Full-time or part-time work is available, depending on the candidate's availability. Work must be completed in person at the Avery Point campus.

Pending satisfactory performance, the person hired will have an opportunity to continue part time work beginning in September 2026.

Wage will follow the [UConn Student Pay Scale](#) and be influenced by the candidate's level of relevant prior experience.

### **Application procedure:**

Submit your application via email to Prof. Cara Manning <[cara.manning@uconn.edu](mailto:cara.manning@uconn.edu)> and PhD student Kelsey Ward <[kelsey.ward@uconn.edu](mailto:kelsey.ward@uconn.edu)> with the subject line

### **Application for Summer Research Assistant Position**

Please include:

- a cover letter explaining why you are interested in the position, describing any relevant work or academic experience, and providing the dates you expect to be available to work between May–Aug 2026, and whether you are available for full- or part-time work
  - a resume or CV that includes contact information for at least two references
  - unofficial transcripts from any universities and colleges you have attended
- Prof. Manning will respond to applicants who may be a good fit to set up an interview.

**Application deadline:** April 6, 2026. Applications will be reviewed as received.